

## **ADAM GELBER**

Director, Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives

U.S. Department of the Interior

Adam Gelber is a lifelong Floridian, holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Miami in Wildland and Wildlife Management and is the Director of the Department of the Interior's, Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives. Adam began his 26-year career working in the Everglades at Biscayne National Park where he worked as a Biological Technician. Adam then served as the senior scientist and manager for 18 years with a large engineering firm where his focus was working on environmental projects throughout Florida, the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. Adam has served as a manger on all forms of environmental studies, permitting, and natural resources studies and evaluations. As a former WRAC (Water Resources Analysis Coalition) Member and a commissioner with Florida Department of Environmental Protection on the Environmental Regulation Commission, Adam is familiar with the complex and in-depth environmental and infrastructure issues facing the Everglades and South Florida. As a member of the Environmental Regulation Commission, Adam was part of a 7-member board selected by the Governor to represent agriculture, industry development, local government, the environmental community and the scientific and technical community. The Commission set standards to protect Floridians and the environment based on sound scientific and technical validity and economic impacts while considering risks and benefits to the public and Florida's natural resources. As a member of the WRAC, Adam was part of the advisory body to the South Florida Water Management District's Governing Board as well as the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force, working to improve public participation and decision-making regarding the many complex water resource issues in Central and South Florida. As an avid shallow water angler, Adam kicked off a fishing tournament that occurred in Everglades National Park in 2001. This event was the first of its kind to donate 100% of the proceeds to the South Florida National Parks Trust for the benefit of Everglades National Park.