



Estus Whitfield

Senior Advisor

For more than 20 years, Estus personified Florida's dedication to protecting the state's environment and natural resources while serving several governors.

From 1979 to 1999, Estus served as principal environmental advisor to four Florida governors. He represented governors and the State of Florida before the State Legislature and Congress, and oversaw the policy and budgets for the State's Departments of Environmental Regulation, Transportation, Community Affairs and its five water management districts.

Earlier in his career, Estus helped establish the state's environmental impact statement review process. He administered this program from 1971 to 1999. He also administered the Florida Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Program at its inception and oversaw approvals of federal and federally funded projects in Florida.

With Governor Bob Graham, Estus co-created Florida's Save Our Everglades program in 1983, which evolved into the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP). He was principal staff person in the development and implementation of Florida's notable environmental land acquisition programs – Conservation and Land Acquisition (CARL), Save Our Rivers, Save Our Coasts, and Preservation 2000.

In 2011 he co-created, with former Florida Governor and US Senator Bob Graham, the Florida Conservation Coalition, consisting of all major Florida conservation organizations, over 40 affiliate organizations and thousands of people dedicated to protecting Florida's water and natural resources.

Education

BS, Troy State College
MA, University of Florida

Memberships and citations

Florida Wildlife Federation Special Conservation Award
Florida Audubon Society Conservationist of the Year
Everglades Coalition (First) Conservation Award
University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award
Member, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chief of Engineers Advisory Board
Department of the Army – Commander's Award for Public Service
University of Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute Award
Everglades Coalition (Jim Webb) Award
Florida Wildlife Federation Conservationist of the Year

Major practice areas

Sustainable land use

Contact

ewhitfield@dawsonassociates.com