



## Estus Whitfield

### Senior Advisor

For 28 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.

During this tenure, Estus was involved in all major Florida environmental and conservation programs and issues. Early in his career, he helped establish Florida'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 from its inception; and oversaw state 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 over 2,000 individuals dedicated to protecting Florida's water and natural resources.

#### OTHER INFORMATION:

\* U.S.. Navy active duty 1966 - 1969; Lt... U.S. Navy Reserve Captain, retired 1991.

\* Coordinator of State's role and position on the Corps of Engineers Central and Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study.

#### 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](mailto:ewhitfield@dawsonassociates.com)