The Department has focused its efforts on being smarter and more efficient in how it protects Florida's environment. Rule and staffing changes haven't compromised the Department's mission or ability to protect the state's natural resources. The Department currently employs nearly 4,000 employees dedicated to protecting the environment and those efforts are showing. For instance, nearly half of the basin management action plans developed in the history of the Department to address impaired waterbodies have been developed during the last 24 months and our regulatory compliance rates are at a five-year high.

Patrick Gillespie Press Secretary Florida Department of Environmental Protection