

MEMORANDUM



To: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners

From: Diane Eggeman, Director, Division of Hunting and Game Management

Date: April 13, 2016

Subject: Consent Item: Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations, 2016-2017

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to update the Commission on changes in federal frameworks and staff's proposed rule change for the 2016-2017 migratory bird seasons.

Summary:

Migratory bird hunting regulation frameworks are established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These frameworks provide the foundation of Florida's migratory bird hunting rules. Changes in the federal frameworks generally necessitates conforming action by the Commission to modify Rules 68A-13.003, F.A.C., Hunting Regulations for Ducks, Geese, and Coots or 68A-13.008, F.A.C., Hunting Regulations for Migratory Birds Other than Ducks and Coots. The only change to the federal frameworks for the 2016-17 migratory bird hunting season is a decrease in the daily bag limit of eiders and long-tailed ducks from six to four; therefore, it is recommended that the Commission take action to amend Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C. to accommodate this change.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff is requesting Commission approval to advertise the proposed rule amendment and file for adoption as soon as possible. If the rule amendment is approved for both advertisement and final adoption, Commission staff will file the rule for adoption as allowed by s. 120.54(3) Florida Statutes, without further public hearing.

Staff Contact:

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