



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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Commission Meeting
September 2 – 3, 2015
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Minutes

*A digital recording of the entire meeting is available upon request. Please contact the Community Relations Office at (850) 488-4676 for additional information.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) held its regular meeting September 2 – 3, 2015, at the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Marina, located at 1881 SE 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale. Chairman Brian Yablonski called the meeting to order with the following members in attendance:

Ronald Bergeron, Fort Lauderdale
Chuck Roberts, Tallahassee

Aliese Priddy, Immokalee
Robert Spottswood, Key West

Bo Rivard, Panama City

Senior and Presenting Staff:

Nick Wiley	Executive Director
Eric Sutton	Assistant Executive Director
Bud Vielhauer	General Counsel
Colonel Curtis Brown	Director, Division of Law Enforcement
Ernie Marks	Director, South Region
Thomas Graef	Director, Southwest Region
Steve Shea	Director, Northwest Region
Shannon Wright	Director, Northeast Region
Chris Wynn	Director, North Central Region
Diane Eggeman	Director, Division of Hunting and Game Management
Tom Champeau	Director, Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management
Jessica McCawley	Director, Division of Marine Fisheries Management
Gil McRae	Director, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Dr. Thomas Eason	Director, Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Jackie Fauls	Director, Legislative Affairs
Melissa Recks	Section Leader, Division of Marine Fisheries Management
Martha Bademan	Section Leader, Division of Marine Fisheries Management
Kipp Frohlich	Deputy Director, Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Charlotte Jerrett	Chief Financial Officer
Kristen Sommers	Section Leader, Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Dan Ellinor	Biological Administrator, Division of Marine Fisheries Management
Major Richard Moore	Section Leader, Division of Law Enforcement

There were eighty-two individuals registered to speak to the Commission during the two-day meeting.

Meeting Opening

Chairman Yablonski called the September 2 – 3, 2015 meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mrs. Diane Eggeman, Director of the Division of Hunting and Game Management, gave the invocation then Commissioner Bergeron led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Minutes

Upon a motion by Commissioner Priddy, seconded by Commissioner Roberts and carried, the June 2015 minutes were approved as written.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bergeron, seconded by Commissioner Spottswood and carried, the September 2015 Meeting agenda was approved as amended to hear agenda item 7B, 2016 Budget Requests, after item 13, Awards and Recognition.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Upon a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Priddy and carried, the September 2015 Consent Agenda items were approved.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Nick Wiley, Executive Director, highlighted the following items from the Executive Director's report:

- Recent FWC law enforcement officer incident in Panama City, Florida.
- Posthumous recognition of M.C. Davis, Association of Fish and Wildlife Association award winning private landowner in Florida.
- 2015 International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades hosted in Orlando, Florida.
- Introduction of South Region Partnership Coordinator for the Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network.

Special Guest Speaker

Chairman Yablonski introduced the special guest speaker, Mr. Dan Ashe, Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). He noted the importance of discussions between state wildlife organizations the federal wildlife organizations.

Executive Director Wiley introduced the partnership efforts between FWC and USFWS. He highlighted several state level programs that include a coordinated effort with the USFWS to ensure proper management of species throughout the state. Finally he commented on the Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Program which provides support to state wildlife agencies for many of the agency wide programs essential to conservation and resource use for the public.

Ms. Cindy Dohner, Southeast Regional Director of the USFWS, commented on the great coordinated effort between FWC at all levels from leadership to staff in the field. She noted the success stories of this coordinated effort for the benefit of conservation in Florida and across the country. She highlighted the strong joint effort on the Landscape Conservation Cooperative. Regional Director Dohner spoke of the concentrated efforts for at-risk species in the State of Florida to reduce the need for those at-risk species to be added to the endangered species

list in the future. Finally she noted the leadership that FWC staff provide on many national panels and organized task force efforts to help conservation at a higher level.

Director Ashe thanked the Commission for the opportunity to participate in the discussion today. He provided a brief history of his connections to the State of Florida throughout his life. He noted the importance of coordinated Law Enforcement (LE) efforts in Florida due to the multi-jurisdictional areas that FWC LE and USFWS LE manage. Director Ashe added that he looks forward to improving the working partnership between USFWS and FWC.

Chairman Yablonski asked about the national level issues USFWS currently faces.

Director Ashe responded with some of the species currently under review and also the joint task force discussions on issues that have a wide ranging effect across multiple states.

Commissioner Bergeron stated what a great honor it is to have Director Ashe at the meeting. He noted specific interactions with USFWS and added the great coordination on issues such as the Everglades. Commissioner Bergeron thanked the regional and state level USFWS staff for their efforts. Finally he commented that if you protect the environment, wildlife will take care of itself.

Chairman Yablonski asked about the concept of innovative opportunities related to species recovery.

Director Ashe replied that the opportunity for innovation related to the at-risk species is greater than for the endangered species. He commented on the high success rate of keeping species from extinction, but innovation will be important when it comes to the delisting process for the species which successfully recover.

Regional Director Dohner commented on the innovative ideas applied to the Habitat Conservation Plan process for conservation of species on private lands throughout Florida and Georgia. The use of certified Best Management Practices (BMPs) by private landowners is a prime example of new measures which can be used in relation to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) enforcement.

Chairman Yablonski asked about specifics related to the gopher tortoise and use of BMPs.

Regional Director Dohner replied with the current status of the use of BMPs for the gopher tortoise in Florida.

Director Ashe thanked the Commission again for support of FWC staff and leadership in this partnership.

Vice Chairman Priddy recognized Representative Hazelle P. Rogers of the Florida House of Representatives representing District 95 which includes portions of Broward County.

Representative Rogers welcomed the Commission and the USFWS staff to Fort Lauderdale. She commented on the importance of protecting and conserving native wildlife in the State of Florida.

Vice Chairman Priddy recognized Ms. Lea Padron, special assistant from Senator Marco Rubio's office, who was in attendance.

Break

Chairman's Report

Chairman Yablonski commented on the current state of the Commission in regards to conservation and some of the goals he sees in the next year under his Chairmanship.

Commissioner Bergeron echoed the importance of the achievements that FWC has made up to this point for the environment and habitat to help in conserving the species in Florida for the benefit of the people and the many visitors who choose to spend time in the state.

Strategic Discussion Follow-Up

Future of Fish and Wildlife Conservation – Pythons

Mrs. Kristen Sommers, Section Leader within the Division of Habitat and Species Conservation, presented information on the Burmese python, an invasive species. She also provided details on the 2016 Python Challenge™.

Commissioner Priddy asked for the information to be translated into Spanish.

Ms. Sommers agreed to work with staff on translation of documents related to the Python Challenge™.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this agenda item:

Mr. Newton Cook, Executive Director of the United Waterfowlers of Florida (UWF), member of the Board of Directors for the Future of Hunting in Florida, member of the FWC Deer Management Technical Advisory Group, and chair of the South Florida Water Management District Water Resources Advisory Commission Recreation Group, addressed the Commission. He noted participation by UWF in the inaugural Python Challenge™ event in 2013 and that UWF will continue support for any future python events.

Mr. Mike Elfenbein addressed the Commission and thanked everyone for taking initiatives to deal with invasive species. He noted concern for Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve being closed to python hunts.

Mr. Matthew Garske addressed the Commission in thanks for meeting in Fort Lauderdale. He noted the 2013 Python Challenge™ was a success and commented that the lack of access to specific lands is crippling the ability to expand the success of this effort.

Mr. Matthew Schwartz with the South Florida Wildlands Association addressed the Commission. He commented on the difference between national parks compared to state lands and Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). He stated the impacts of opening up the national parks for this type of activity need to be analyzed.

Ms. Caroline McLaughlin with National Parks Conservation Association addressed the Commission. She noted support for eradication of invasive species with effective tools. She noted concerns about any activities from the Python Challenge™ that may have negative impacts on the resources in the national parks and other public lands.

Executive Director Wiley commented on the goals and strategies of the 2016 Python Challenge™ that help alleviate some of the concerns of possibly allowing removal efforts on federal lands.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Priddy commented that the concern of the impacts from pythons on the habitat and species in the environment far surpass any negative impacts in the national parks.

Commissioner Bergeron echoed Executive Director Wiley's comments on working with the National Park Service to complete a thorough examination of the possibility to access national park lands for this type of eradication effort. He added that public awareness is a major aspect of this process.

Future of Fish and Wildlife Conservation – Waste Management Efforts

Dr. Thomas Eason, Director of the Division of Habitat and Species Conservation, presented information on waste management efforts related to human-bear conflict reduction.

Commissioner Bergeron noted the importance of the Commission and stakeholders putting effort into this measure which will have the greatest effect on nuisance bear issues. He asked for an update on the harvest of saw palmetto berries.

Dr. Eason confirmed that harvest of saw palmetto berries has been halted on public state conservation lands.

Chairman Yablonski mentioned details on a projected Legislative Budget Request which would supplement the cost of this effort.

Dr. Eason responded that the additional funding would be a substantial increase for FWC support of this program and it would be focused on bear resistant trash cans, dumpsters, and other conflict abatement measures.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this agenda item:

Ms. Jennifer Hecker with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida addressed the Commission. She requested that the Commission adopt a timeline to meet the goals of the waste management efforts.

Ms. Elizabeth Fleming with Defenders of Wildlife addressed the Commission. She commended the Commission for opening the doors to some aspects of the waste management efforts related to nuisance wildlife.

Mr. Manley Fuller with the Florida Wildlife Federation (FWF) addressed the Commission.

Mr. Matthew Schwartz addressed the Commission regarding nuisance wildlife being a major problem in the state.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Bergeron commented on the positive response from the waste management companies in this effort moving forward.

Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida

Update

Chairman Yablonski invited Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida (FWFF) Chairman Rodney Barreto to address the Commission.

Chairman Barreto commented on recent actions to save the bent range marker in South Florida. He introduced other Foundation members present at the meeting, former FWC Chairman Kathy Barco and former Ducks Unlimited Executive Director Mr. John Pope. He mentioned the upcoming BlueGreen event and the announcement of awards for Conservation Leadership to Mr. Carlton Ward and Youth Volunteer of the Year Award to Mr. Bishop Wright.

Commissioner Bergeron thanked Foundation Chairman Barreto for his leadership and the former Commissioners who chose to stay involved in the goals and efforts of FWC through the Foundation.

Lunch break

Resolution

Chairman Yablonski announced a proposed resolution to honor Mrs. Mariana Jones who was heavily involved in conservation both locally in the South Region and throughout the State of Florida.

Commissioner Bergeron commented on some of the conservation efforts of Mrs. Jones.

Commissioner Priddy read the proposed FWC/FWFF joint resolution.

The resolution was approved by the Commission and adopted with the effective date of September 3, 2015.

Habitat Conservation Management – Florida Panthers

Mr. Kipp Frohlich, Deputy Director of the Division of Habitat and Species Conservation, presented information on the Florida panther.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this agenda item:

Mr. Larry Williams with the USFWS addressed the Commission. He noted support for the edits to this position paper and highlighted specific areas that USFWS will focus on.

Mr. Cliff Coleman with Black Boar Ranch addressed the Commission with concern over the high populations in Hendry County.

Ms. Megan Sorbo addressed the Commission in support of the Florida panther. She asked the Commission to be careful with decisions related to this species.

Mr. Newton Cook addressed the Commission in support of the revised position paper. He commented on the need to re-evaluate the USFWS recovery plan related to the number of panthers needed for a recovery of the species.

Mr. Paul Carlisle, County Administrator for Glades County, addressed the Commission. He noted support for working with adjacent states to analyze the ability to meet the current recovery goals. He commented on the discrepancy between different counties and thanked the Commission for taking comments from the previous Commission meeting and incorporating them into this version of the position paper.

Ms. Jennifer Leon addressed the Commission in opposition of the new version of the position paper. She stated it does not incorporate the comments of those that opposed the initial version.

Ms. Carole Baskin, Founder and CEO of Big Cat Rescue, addressed the Commission. She suggested the Commission ban hunting in natural habitat for the Florida panther which would allow recovery of the prey base for this species.

Ms. Kate Macfall, on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), addressed the Commission. She noted support for some aspects of the position paper, but commented on the aspects that HSUS does not support.

Ms. Nancy Payton representing the FWF addressed the Commission. She referenced a comment letter which was provided to the Commission that listed specific suggestions of edits to strengthen and clarify the position paper. She added that panther recovery should include a partnership with the Florida Association of Counties.

Mr. Charles Palmer addressed the Commission echoing the comments of the loss of prey base for the Florida panther. He asked the Commission to address the issue being raised by the South Florida Water Management District regarding land use.

Mr. Andy Pis addressed the Commission.

Mr. Mike Elfenbein addressed the Commission and suggested the Commission relieve the USFWS of the management of the species in the State of Florida.

Mr. David Severns addressed the Commission with concern of the proposal to move the Florida panther north into adjacent states.

Mr. Matthew Garske addressed the Commission with comments of the disappearance of small game which has an effect on multiple species. He noted the need for FWC to manage the lands and species in the state.

Ms. Jennifer Hecker addressed the Commission with examples of instances of support from the Southwest Conservancy of Florida for FWC related to panther recovery. She noted opposition to certain aspects of the position paper. She suggested that any changes to the management of this species should be science based. Ms. Hecker suggested providing these comments to the Florida Panther Recovery Implementation Team (FPRIT) to come up with a joint position paper regarding panthers.

Mr. Dwayne House addressed the Commission.

Mr. John Rosier with the Everglades Coordinating Council addressed the Commission in support of this position paper. He requested the Commission be the lead managing agency for this species.

Mr. Byron Maharrey addressed the Commission with concern of the approach of single species management.

Mr. Darryl Rutz with the local Sierra Club addressed the Commission. He commented on the tourism opportunity for trips out to these private lands to see all the panthers that the speakers have mentioned today. He expressed concern over how quickly this position paper took form.

Ms. Elizabeth Fleming addressed the Commission with appreciation of revisions to the document taking public comment from the June 2015 Commission meeting into consideration. She added the need to continue education and outreach to landowners north of the Caloosahatchee River.

Mr. Manley Fuller addressed the Commission.

Mr. Matthew Schwartz addressed the Commission with concerns over habitat improvement in South Florida. He noted several projects currently being developed in prime panther habitat and the lack of comments regarding the habitat loss for this species. He requested the Commission work more to comment on the necessary habitat for the species.

Commissioner Bergeron commented on the position paper on the Everglades Restoration which relates to habitat restoration.

Mr. Schwartz asked for a copy of that paper and Executive Director Wiley confirmed that he would make sure he receives that.

Mr. Jerry Flint addressed the Commission with concern of introducing panthers north of the Caloosahatchee river due to the private landowners not being willing to deal with the negative aspects of having this species on their land.

Ms. Lisa Selenke addressed the Commission with concern over the loss of prey base in South Florida for the Florida panther.

Ms. Stefanie Nellett addressed the Commission with a suggestion to implement a program similar to the ridge ranger program in the Everglades. She noted the Florida panther needs to be preserved.

Mr. Bradley Cornell on behalf of Audubon Florida addressed the Commission. He thanked the Commission for the edits to this version of the position paper. He noted the need to speed up the approval process for the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) program.

Ms. Rhonda Roff, Director for the Sierra Club Calusa Group, addressed the Commission.

Mr. Bishop Wright representing the Florida Airboat Association addressed the Commission with support of the position paper.

Mr. Wayne Jenkins, president of the Collier Sportsman and Conservation Club, addressed the Commission. He noted the lack of details in the position paper about balancing the food supply for this species.

Mr. Jim Handley with the Florida Cattlemen's Association addressed the Commission.

Mr. Todd Hallman, president of the Florida Sportsmen's Conservation Association (FSCA), addressed the Commission. He thanked Mr. Williams with the USFWS for his comments today. He added support for the position paper.

Mr. Stanley Pannaman, conservation chair of the Broward Group of the Sierra Club, addressed the Commission. He noted that the Florida panther was never granted critical habitat status which caused a major issue.

Mr. Steven Bagenski addressed the Commission with opposition to focusing on one population south of the Caloosahatchee River.

Mr. Jonathan Ullman with the National Sierra Club addressed the Commission with comments on the draft position paper. He requested that the Commission reject the proposed position paper.

Mr. Raoul Bataller addressed the Commission with a request for leadership to begin discussions with all the stakeholder groups on how to approach this issue which causes major conflict.

Mr. Albert Bryan addressed the Commission noting the change in small game in South Florida due to the increase in panther population.

Mr. Donny Crawford addressed the Commission in support of the position paper as a good step forward to try to alleviate some of the issues FWC faces with management of an increased panther population.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Bergeron presented a video on the Florida panther that he created. He commented on the intent of the position paper to be a guideline for staff resources and not as an avenue to delist the species. He echoed the public comments about the need for compensation to ranchers and cattlemen regarding loss of livestock. He provided several additions to the position paper for Commission consideration.

Vice Chairman Priddy presented a video of the Florida panther that was created on her property. She commented that there is a major concern that this species is not necessarily the shy cat of the past. Some panthers are showing signs of loss of fear of humans. She added there are a lot of moving parts and pieces to panther recovery and this paper will help guide the Commission with resource use and direction. Vice Chairman Priddy noted the importance of making strides forward in the recovery of this species. She provided a summary analysis on the habitat range needed to support a panther population at current recovery goals. She noted the current framework is not viable anywhere in South Florida or the Southeast.

Chairman Yablonski stated that the goal of the discussion today is to review the proposed position paper and see if it meets the sentiments from the stakeholders on the issues at hand. He noted that this document is a living document which could be approved and revisited in one year to analyze the effectiveness to see if edits are needed.

Commissioner Bergeron commented that making decisions on whether or not the recovery goals are attainable require the data from the teams which FWC sit on.

Commission Action

Upon a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Vice Chairman Priddy and carried, the Commission approved the position paper with Commissioner Bergeron opposing.

Vice Chairman Priddy recognized Legislative Assistant Debon Campbell and District Secretary Frankie Rosso, staff members from Representative Shevrin Jones' office in attendance at the meeting.

Items Requiring Action

Bear Harvest Objectives

Mrs. Diane Eggeman, Director of the Division of Hunting and Game Management, presented proposed harvest objectives for the 2015 bear hunting season.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this agenda item:

Ms. Megan Sorbo addressed the Commission in opposition of approving the harvest objectives and requested the Commission replace the terminology "harvest" with the word kill.

Ms. Kimberlee Norton addressed the Commission in opposition to the hunt.

Mr. James Woodard addressed the Commission with thanks to Commissioner Bergeron for opposing the hunt.

Ms. Maritza Miranda addressed the Commission in opposition to the hunt.

Mr. Newton Cook addressed the Commission with support of the staff proposal based on the biological studies presented over the course of the last three Commission meetings.

Ms. Vivienne Handy addressed the Commission in thanks to the tribute for M.C. Davis earlier in the meeting. She noted opposition to the hunt and recommended analysis of the timeline of an approved hunt.

Ms. Jennifer Leon addressed the Commission and questioned why there was a minimum of two days for the season.

Ms. Lynda Cozart addressed the Commission in opposition to the harvest objectives and the hunt.

Ms. Lee Cook addressed the Commission in opposition to the harvest objectives and the hunt.

Ms. Kate Macfall addressed the Commission in support of Commissioner Bergeron's leadership in opposition to the hunt and the FWC staff effort regarding waste management over the last few months.

Mr. Chuck O'Neal with Speak Up Wekiva, Inc. addressed the Commission in opposition to the harvest objectives and the hunt.

Ms. Jennifer Hecker addressed the Commission in opposition to the hunt and requested the Commission delay a vote on the harvest objectives until the complete population estimate is complete. She commented on the South Bear Management Unit (BMU) harvest objective needing to be reduced to account for several identifiable differences compared to the other BMUs.

Mr. Byron Maharrey addressed the Commission in support of the harvest objectives due to the limited hunt methods approved at the June 2015 Commission meeting.

Mr. Anthony Rogers-Wright, Policy Director of the Environmental Action Agency, addressed the Commission in opposition to the harvest objectives and the hunt. He noted that staff used sound science to come up with the data being used in this decision, but that the rules for this approved hunt are too vague.

Mr. Karl Ambrose addressed the Commission and suggested that deer feeders are being used to condition bears prior to the hunt. He requested the Commission stop the hunters from domesticating Florida wildlife.

Ms. Jamie Dos Santos addressed the Commission in opposition to the approved hunt.

Ms. Susan Hargraves addressed the Commission in opposition to the approved hunt.

Mr. Ralf Brooks addressed the Commission in opposition to the rules of the approved hunt and the proposed harvest objectives.

Mr. Howard Knepper, president of Florida Mortgage Bankers, addressed the Commission in opposition to the approved hunt. He requested the Commission reconvene on the approved hunt and reverse the decision to move forward.

Mr. Robert Ruderman, Wildlife Coexistence Director with Animal Hero Kids, addressed the Commission in opposition to the approved hunt.

Mr. Jonathan Ullman with the Sierra Club addressed the Commission in opposition of the approved hunt.

Mr. Sebastian Acosta addressed the Commission in opposition of the approved hunt.

Ms. Susan Caruso member of the Broward Sierra Group addressed the Commission. She requested the Commission take additional time before approving the harvest objectives and reversing the decision for an approved bear hunt.

Mr. Todd Hallman addressed the Commission in support of staff recommendation.

Mr. Stanley Pannaman addressed the Commission and thanked Commissioner Bergeron for opposing the bear hunt during the June 2015 Commission meeting.

Mr. Steven Bagenski addressed the Commission in opposition of the approved hunt.

Mr. Bill George addressed the Commission in support of the harvest objectives.

Ms. Leslie Sardinia addressed the Commission in opposition of the approved hunt.

Mr. Gary Ostrow addressed the Commission in opposition of the approved hunt.

Mr. Albert Bryan addressed the Commission in support of the staff proposal.

Commission Discussion

Chairman Yablonski asked Dr. Eason to explain again the science based data that led the Commission to the discussions on bear hunts and the proposed harvest objectives.

Dr. Eason provided brief points on the history of bear management in Florida and noted that the Bear Management Plan provides guidelines for addressing conflicts and hunting as an option for managing the population. He noted that Florida has the most scientifically rigorous data for two of the BMUs than any of the other states use for implementing their hunts. He added that the approach by FWC is conservative and there are many safeguards in place to ensure the population is not at risk with moving forward with the proposed harvest objectives.

Commissioner Spottswood asked about the ability to manage the hunt to ensure the harvest objective does not exceed the capacity that any specific BMU could handle. He asked that the Executive Director be granted the authority to close the hunt if the harvest objective is met on day one of the hunt.

Mrs. Eggeman responded that the two-day minimum hunt duration was in the approved rule language.

Mr. Bud Vielhauer, General Counsel, noted that even though it was in rule, the Executive Director would have the authority to close the season by executive order.

Commissioner Bergeron commented that his objection to a hunt and any quota approval is based on the fact that all of the BMUs do not have recent population estimates completed. If the data was complete and showed a sustainable population which is greater than the environment can handle then he would support conservative hunting as a management tool. He reminded everyone that waste management is the most effective tool to help with this issue.

Commission Action on Bear Harvest Objectives

Upon a motion by Vice Chairman Priddy, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, the Commission approved the staff recommendation with dissenting votes by Commissioner Bergeron and Commissioner Spottswood.

Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

The following individuals registered to speak on items not listed on the agenda:

Mr. Matthew Garske addressed the Commission regarding the Rotenburger WMA.

Mr. John Rosier, president of the Dade County Fulltrack Conservation club, addressed the Commission thanking them for putting together a committee to review the alligator permitting process.

Mr. Byron Maharrey addressed the Commission regarding Amendment One. He also asked the Commission to review Gag Grouper.

Mr. Bishop Wright addressed the Commission regarding youth camp improvements.

Mr. Todd Hallman addressed the Commission and thanked them for their passion for serving on the Commission.

Mr. Bill George addressed the Commission with a request to review the rules related to lifetime licenses.

Mr. Jerry Sansom addressed the Commission with thanks for addressing the issue of the stone crab traps via the consent agenda. He commented on the Legislative package being presented on day two of the meeting.

Mr. Manley Fuller addressed the Commission regarding water flow and water quality issues in Florida Bay.

Mr. Albert Bryan addressed the Commission regarding airboat ramps needing repair. He also requested the Commission provide preference to in-state alligator permit applicants compared to out of state permit applicants.

Commissioner Exchange

Commissioner Bergeron noted the Commission dealt with several tough issues today and he commented on the respect for the other Commissioners and their viewpoints. He was disappointed that the panther staff did not participate in the discussion on panthers.

Chairman Yablonski thanked staff for the effort put into all of the agenda item topics.

Recess Wednesday's Portion of the Meeting

Chairman Yablonski adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m. to reconvene at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, September 3, 2015.

Thursday, September 3, Reconvene

Chairman Yablonski reconvened the meeting at 8:42 a.m.

Awards and Recognition

Mr. Vielhauer presented the Prosecutor of the Year Award to Mr. Andrew Sando, Assistant State Attorney of Palm Beach County.

Mr. Todd Hallman, president of the FSCA, presented the FSCA Wildlife and Resource Management Award to Mr. Bill Cline with the Division of Hunting and Game Management.

Special Recognition

Vice Chairman Priddy recognized Corey Staniscia, Legislative assistant for Representative George Moraitis, who was in attendance at the meeting.

Awards and Recognition

Colonel Curtis Brown presented lifesaving awards to Officer Roberto Rodriguez and Investigator Rene Taboas for their recent actions in reviving a young child who was unresponsive.

Commissioner Roberts thanked the officers for their actions.

Commissioner Bergeron commented on the wonderful comments he receives from the public and stakeholders about FWC law enforcement officers.

Items Requiring Action

2016 Budget Requests

Ms. Charlotte Jerrett, Chief Financial Officer, presented the 2016 Legislative Budget Requests.

Vice Chairman Priddy requested additional detail on the Legislative Budget Request related to WMA enhancements. She requested the full detail on that specific request.

Ms. Jerrett responded that WMA funding has been reduced by approximately 50% over the past several years, which put many management activities on hold. The request will specifically address enhancement activities on WMAs and support many actions such as prescribed burning and other priorities. She confirmed that she will provide the full request to Vice Chairman Priddy.

Commissioner Spottswood asked for additional coordination with Ms. Jerrett to learn more about the budget process for FWC.

Ms. Jerrett responded that she will set up some time to walk through the steps of this process and answer any questions for Commissioner Spottswood.

Commissioner Rivard thanked FWC staff for providing the detailed information to assist him in learning this process. He commented that after reviewing all of the details, it was reassuring to know what an efficient job staff do with the resources available. He echoed the comments of Commissioner Bergeron regarding law enforcement officers who do not necessarily have the salary to compete with other law enforcement agencies.

Commission Action

Upon a motion by Commissioner Spottswood, seconded by Vice Chairman Priddy and carried, the Commission approved staff recommendation.

Vice Chairman Priddy recognized District Secretary George Fossett, from Representative Katie Edwards' office, who was in attendance at the meeting.

2016 Legislative Requests

Ms. Jackie Fauls, Legislative Affairs Director, presented the proposed 2016 Session Legislative Requests, which modify some of the penalties for primarily recreational hunting and fishing violations.

Commissioner Spottswood asked if some of the purpose behind these requests is to help clarify understanding for the public.

Ms. Fauls confirmed that as an objective.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this item:

Mr. Todd Hallman addressed the Commission requesting an increase in the non-criminal infraction fine of \$50.00 to over \$100.00 for destruction of state land.

Executive Director Wiley commented that there is another law that allows a higher penalty for this type of violation, but he will ask law enforcement to confirm this and coordinate with Mr. Hallman.

Commission Action

Upon a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Vice Chairman Priddy and carried, the Commission approved staff recommendation.

Habitat Conservation and Management

Mr. Ernie Marks, South Regional Director, presented details on FWC efforts related to restoration of the Florida Everglades.

Commissioner Roberts asked about potential effects of low water in the Everglades. He asked if FWC is looking far enough down the road to deal with a possible lack of water to support the population in times of drought.

Mr. Marks responded that there will be periods of dry spells, but of highest concern are periods of high water that could cause severe damage to the environment. He noted that if the planned projects are completed to remove obstructions and put in place better structures that can help redistribute the water, it will assist in placing the water where it is needed.

Commissioner Bergeron commented on the importance of restoration to the Everglades and summed up some of the points made by Mr. Marks. He commented that if you have a healthy environment, the wildlife will take care of itself. He noted the need for the USFWS to get a response to the position paper from FWC on high water.

Commissioner Spottswood asked if the timeline for the new flow pattern was 30 years.

Mr. Marks noted that the original plan was scheduled for 30 years, but due to funding issues and federal permitting issues there have been delays.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this item:

Ms. Dawn Shirreffs with the Everglades Foundation addressed the Commission with thanks for this presentation. She commented that Florida Bay has a lot of negative impacts from the lack of freshwater flowing through the Everglades. She added the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced allocation of \$2 million toward restoration of dams in Cape Sable from funding from Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

Mr. John Rosier addressed the Commission with thanks for taking a lead role and a strong position in restoration of the Everglades.

Ms. Jennifer Leon addressed the Commission with thanks for the progress on restoration of the Everglades.

Mr. William Wickers with the Key West Charter Boat Association addressed the Commission regarding the importance of water quality.

Mr. Rick Murphy addressed the Commission with concerns for water releases in Florida Bay and other areas.

Mr. Manley Fuller addressed the Commission.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Rivard asked if the biggest obstacle is achieving the water quality standard or if it is completing the infrastructure.

Mr. Marks responded that there are a lot of moving pieces for this plan as a whole, but that they are both equally complicated and we are making progress on both.

Executive Director Wiley thanked Commissioner Bergeron for his passion toward this effort and also thanked Mr. Marks. He commented on some future opportunities to get the message out via television media on Everglades restoration.

Chairman Yablonski noted that since Commissioner Bergeron joined the Commission that FWC has a bigger seat at the table of discussions on getting this important project moving forward. He requested a briefing on the northern portion of the Everglades project that has completed some significant work.

Staff Report- Lionfish

Ms. Jessica McCawley, Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, and Mr. Dan Ellinor, Biological Administrator within the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, presented a report on the first annual Lionfish Removal and Awareness Day held on May 16, 2015.

Public Comment

The following individual addressed the Commission on this item:

Ms. Pam Anderson, First Vice President of Panama City Boatman Association, fisheries representative for the Bay County Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee, and Operations Manager for Captain Anderson's Marina in Panama City, addressed the Commission with a request for an aggressive eradication program for dealing with this issue in the Gulf of Mexico, more specifically Bay County waters.

Commission Discussion

Chairman Yablonski thanked staff for the efforts on this which was not even on the radar for the Commission a few years ago.

Lunch break

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC) Report

Ms. Martha Bademan, Section Leader within the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, presented a report on actions taken at the GMFMC meeting on August 10-13, 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Topics included final action on red snapper sector reallocation, modifications to gag grouper management measures, and changes to king mackerel management based on the latest stock assessment. Staff requested direction on the Gulf gag grouper recreational season and whether to support the Council's current preferred alternative, which would set the season at July 1 through Dec. 31 or to seek a longer season that potentially could encompass Florida's Gulf state waters season.

Executive Director Wiley commented on red snapper sector reallocation noting that it was a big decision and there was some pushback from different stakeholder groups. He noted that Commission direction on these Council items is important. He added that the concept of regional management still needs some work before coming before the Commission.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this agenda item:

Ms. Pam Anderson addressed the Commission with thanks to the Commission and Ms. Bademan for voting in support for reallocation of red snapper at the recent Council meeting. She stated support for electronic data collection with tools such as phone applications. She also stated support for regional management of red snapper. Finally, she stated the importance having the gag grouper season open through the end of December to benefit anglers along Florida's west coast.

Mr. Eric Mahoney addressed the Commission with concerns over the health of the gag grouper stock. He requested raising the size limit to 24 inches which would allow the season to be open through the end of December. He opposed including federally-permitted for-hire vessels in regional management.

Mr. Trip Aukeman with the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) of Florida addressed the Commission in support of a 24 inch minimum size limit for gag grouper. He also noted CCA's support of extending the gag grouper season through the end of December and opening the season on April 1. He noted thanks to the Commission for supporting red snapper reallocation at the recent Council meeting.

Mr. Eric Brazer, Deputy Director of Reef Fish Shareholders Alliance, addressed the Commission. He noted that Shareholder's Alliance opposed reallocation for red snapper, but acknowledged that the decision was already made. He asked the Commission to ask for more transparency in the Council process, noted the for-hire sector's opposition to regional management, and suggested increasing the minimum size limit on gag grouper to address problems in that fishery.

Mr. Brad Gorst, representing the Clearwater Marine Association, addressed the Commission. He noted support for a gag grouper season which would run July 1 through December 31. He also asked the Commission support options in regional management that would leave for-hire vessels out of regional management.

Mr. Justin Grubich with Pew Charitable Trusts addressed the Commission stating support for increasing the minimum size limit for gag grouper and extending the season through December 31, but suggested leaving the opening date of the season July 1 due to concerns over the health of the stock.

Commission Discussion

Vice Chairman Priddy stated her support of the April 1 season opening for gag grouper to allow additional fishing opportunities for those in Southwest Florida. She asked if staff needed direction on the commercial yellowtail snapper circle hook requirement issue.

Ms. Bademan responded that staff are currently working with the industry on the use of circle hooks for the commercial fishery. She added that different methods of fishing are used in the commercial fishery compared to the recreational fishery.

Chairman Yablonski asked about the general feedback on the gag grouper season that staff has received from stakeholders.

Ms. Bademan noted that there are concerns for the health of the stock and strong support for the having the season open through the end of December because fish are inshore and people have time off to fish during the holidays. There were mixed responses to season start date.

Commissioner Rivard noted support for an April 1 through December 31 season.

Executive Director Wiley noted that it may be helpful to Ms. Bademan to give her the flexibility on agreeing to an opening date of July 1 or April 1 depending on how the Council seems to be leaning during discussions.

Commissioner Roberts commented that due to concerns over the health of the stock this should be a conservative approach with a July 1 through December 31 season while also increasing the minimum size limit to 24 inches. He added that the Commission could change the start date at a later time either through regular rulemaking or through executive order.

Commissioner Spottswood added his support for the minimum size limit increase to 24 inches and extending the season through the end of the year.

Commission Action

The Commission directed Ms. Bademan to support increasing the gag grouper minimum size limit to 24 inches and a season of July 1 through December 31 with the ability to adjust to the earlier April 1 start date if the Council is in support of that option.

Chairman Yablonski asked Ms. Bademan about the timeline for review by the Council on regional management. He asked when the Commission would see any sort of proposal on this topic.

Ms. Bademan replied that there will be public hearings on the topic in late October 2015. She stated that she will represent FWC at these meetings and provide feedback to stakeholders on FWC's role in this process and how the Commission plays a role in this decision moving forward. She noted that staff will bring feedback from these meetings back to the Commission in November for review and discussion. She added that final action on regional management is slated for January 2016.

Executive Director Wiley commented that Ms. Bademan will send out meeting details to Commissioners.

Item Requiring Action – Draft Rule: 68D-24.020 Suwannee and Santa Fe River Boating Restricted Areas

Major Richard Moore, Section Leader within the Division of Law Enforcement, presented a proposed rule amendment for boating restricted areas.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this topic:

Ms. Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson, Policy Director for Our Santa Fe River and President for Save our Suwannee, addressed the Commission. She thanked FWC staff for adding the additional public meeting to discuss the public opinion on this issue before bringing this to the Commission for discussion. She noted concern for increased motorized vessel use on this waterway which causes safety issues and environmental degradation. She provided a petition signed by 150 individuals regarding keeping the no wake level the same.

Chairman Yablonski asked law enforcement to coordinate further with Ms. Malwitz-Jipson.

Major Moore confirmed that staff will continue to work with Ms. Malwitz-Jipson and provide additional guidance on authority to address issues other than public safety which is what FWC is working to address with this proposal.

Commission Action

Upon a motion by Commissioner Spottswood, seconded by Commissioner Bergeron and carried, the Commission approved staff recommendation.

Special Recognition

Chairman Yablonski recognized Senator Maria Sachs for being in attendance and invited her to address the Commission.

Senator Sachs addressed the Commission. She welcomed the Commission to Fort Lauderdale and thanked the Commission for providing assistance in her effort to establish requirements for parasailing businesses. She also mentioned her planned coordination with FWC on boating safety throughout the state, specifically in South Florida.

Item Requiring Action – Final Rule: Great Barracuda

Ms. Melissa Recks, Section Leader with the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, presented a proposed final rule for great barracuda. Staff recommended approval of a new rule chapter for barracuda to include a recreational bag limit of two fish per person, a commercial daily trip limit of 20 fish per person, a commercial vessel limit of 20 fish per vessel per day, and a harvest slot limit of 15 to 36 inches fork length. Staff recommended that these new rules apply only in South Florida (Collier to Martin counties) where localized declines are likely to have occurred.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Commission on this topic:

Mr. Aaron Adams, Director of Bonefish & Tarpon Trust, addressed the Commission with support of staff proposal. He noted that he opposed the allowance of a trophy fish over the proposed slot.

Mr. Luke Kelly with Lower Keys Guides Association addressed the Commission with support of staff proposal. He noted that he opposed the allowance of a trophy fish over the proposed slot.

Mr. Trip Aukeman addressed the Commission in support of staff proposal.

Mr. Justin Grubich addressed the Commission in support of staff proposal.

Mr. Brett Fitzgerald addressed the Commission in support of staff proposal.

Mr. William Wickers, Jr. with the Key West Charter Boat Association (KWCBA) addressed the Commission with concern that the minimum size limit of 15 inches for this species does not go far enough. He suggested the Commission consider a 28 inch minimum size limit, a one fish recreational bag limit, and prohibiting sale of the species.

Mr. Richard Gomez with KWCBA addressed the Commission with concern that the proposed slot limit would protect large fish but not the small fish, and the commercial bag limit is too high. He suggested the Commission

consider a two fish bag limit for both recreational and commercial fishermen, and allow the harvest of trophy fish over the slot limit.

Mr. Craig Gioviani with the KWCBA addressed the Commission and echoed the comments of the two previous speakers. He recommended making barracuda a sportfish only species. He also recommended the bag limit drop to one per person with a maximum of six per vessel.

Mr. Richard Houde with KWCBA addressed the Commission and suggested a two fish bag limit for commercial fishermen. He also echoed concern that the proposed 15 inch minimum size limit was too low.

Ms. Betty Bauman with Ladies Let's Go Fishing addressed the Commission in support of the staff proposal and suggested a vessel limit be applied to recreational anglers.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Spottswood commented with concern that the proposal does not go far enough for conservation of this species. He voiced support for designating the species as a sportfish and making it catch and release only.

Ms. McCawley commented that there is no official sportfish or gamefish designation by FWC. She noted that some stakeholders refer to no commercial sale of a species as gamefish.

Commissioner Spottswood asked if FWC could modify the proposed action to implement additional conservation measures.

Ms. Recks responded that staff are open to direction from the Commission. She added that the staff recommendation attempts to balance the requests from a variety of stakeholders.

Commissioner Rivard asked if there were any regulations for the species at this time.

Ms. Recks confirmed that the only restrictions for harvesting barracuda are the standard recreational bag limits for species in Florida which do not have a specific regulations.

Commissioner Rivard noted that the Commission is considering the staff proposal for a limited restriction as to not take too drastic of an action considering there are no current regulations for this species.

Chairman Yablonski noted that this item was workshopped, brought to the Commission as a draft rule prior to this meeting, and that the Commission might need to go back to the beginning if they were interested in making dramatic changes.

Executive Director Wiley commented that based on the stakeholder meetings on this topic that the staff proposal is a compromise for those on both sides of the spectrum of interest for this species. He advised that if the Commission is contemplating going in another direction it would be beneficial to take that direction back out to additional stakeholder workshops to get feedback before approving a final rule.

Commissioner Bergeron asked if the Commission could finalize the rule today if they altered the proposal to prohibit commercial harvest and sale but still allowing the recreational bag limit of two.

Chairman Yablonski commented that the Commission can make adjustments to the staff proposal, however there were stakeholders involved earlier in the process that were not able to be at the meeting today. Therefore any changes by the Commission to staff recommendation would not necessarily have the desired input before approval of a final rule. He added that it may be beneficial to support the staff recommendation and get the final rule in place that has been vetted through multiple workshops and address this issue in the future if it does not provide the conservation necessary for the species.

Vice Chairman Priddy asked how many workshops staff conducted.

Ms. Recks responded that staff conducted two in-person workshops in South Florida, as well as a statewide webinar, and then returned to South Florida for multiple general workshops in July.

Vice Chairman Priddy expressed her concern that staff have devoted hours and resources to multiple workshops to coordinate with stakeholders to bring forward proposals for rules, based on input from everyone that attended those workshops and not just those in attendance at Commission meetings, to the Commission. She noted support for staff recommendation and echoed the comments of the Chairman to get conservation measures on the books now and address this at a future date if the conservation is not at the appropriate level.

Commissioner Rivard noted the majority of harvest for this species is through the recreational fishery. He suggested supporting staff recommendation because the recommendations as presented would significantly reduce harvest in the recreational fishery where they should be focusing their regulations.

Commissioner Roberts suggested moving forward with a bag limit of two fish and vessel limit of six fish for both the commercial and recreational fishery.

Vice Chairman Priddy commented that since the commercial fishery has such a small percentage of catch for this species that the restriction on the commercial fishery to limit it to six per vessel might be too severe.

Commissioner Spottswood noted he could support establishing the bag limit and eliminate the slot, but would like to bring this back in the future to analyze how this first step is impacting the species.

Ms. McCawley suggested that staff bring this topic back to the Commission for follow-up at the April 2016 meeting which will be held in the South Region.

Commissioner Rivard noted that because so few commercial fishermen harvest more than 20 fish per trip, he felt he could support Commissioner Robert's suggestion of two fish per person, with a maximum of six per vessel for the commercial fishery.

Commissioner Roberts asked why 15 inches was chosen as the minimum size limit for the slot.

Ms. Recks responded that staff was making accommodations to allow the food fishery that prefers fish 12 to 24 inches to continue, because of ciguatera concerns.

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to allow a two fish per person, six per vessel in both recreational and commercial fisheries, and leave the slot as recommended by staff.

Commissioner Spottswood recommended eliminating the slot limit and bringing this topic back at a future meeting.

Commission Action

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to amend the rule as follows; two fish per person, six fish per vessel in both the recreational and commercial fishery. He also asked staff to conduct additional workshops and communicate with the stakeholders on the new direction for this rule and bring those comments back to the April 2016 Commission meeting scheduled to take place in the South Region. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rivard and carried, and the Commission approved the amended recommendation.

General Counsel Report

Mr. Vielhauer mentioned several legal issues FWC is currently involved in.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Eric Sutton, Assistant Executive Director, reviewed potential agenda items for the upcoming November 2015 Commission meeting slated for Panama City, Florida.

Chairman Yablonski suggested the addition of Northern Everglades as a future agenda item.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Roberts asked the Commission to reconsider the proposed amendments voiced by Commissioner Bergeron yesterday during the panther position paper. He asked Dr. Eason to review the changes with the Commission for consideration.

Dr. Eason read through the proposed edits by Commissioner Bergeron. He commented that the edits merely strengthen the recently approved position paper.

Vice Chairman Priddy noted that stakeholder testimony and Commissioner comments from the previous day for consideration are very valuable.

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to reconsider the panther position paper, seconded by Commissioner Spottswood and carried, the Commission approved reconsidering the panther position paper.

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to amend the position paper, seconded by Commissioner Rivard and carried, the Commission approved the amended position paper.

The approved amendments include the following additions;

- FWC will continue to partner with the USFWS and will assist with panther issues statewide within our available staff and budgetary resources.
- A second step should focus on assessing and improving the social acceptance of panthers in potential range expansion areas where panthers have been exceedingly rare or absent.
- FWC and USFWS are working with stakeholders on this issue, but there is a need for the USFWS to take a stronger role and provide more clarity, certainty, assurances, and incentives regarding the implications of having breeding panthers *north of the river*.
- Come back before the FWC Commissioners to reevaluate and update based on the information gathered through the PRIT process in 12 months.

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

The following individuals registered to speak on items not listed on the agenda:

Mr. Gary Jennings representing the Keep Florida Fishing initiative addressed the Commission in support of FWC's effort to maintain fishing access for Florida fishers through its involvement in issues related to Biscayne National Park, Everglades National Park, and Gulf red snapper.

Mr. Benjamin Binder with Florida International University addressed the Commission regarding spawning aggregation research.

Mr. Bill Kelly addressed the Commission regarding his proposal to increase generational involvement in the stone crab and spiny lobster fisheries. He requested FWC staff review his proposed process to return confiscated traps certificates and vessels to the fishery as part of a scholarship program for new entrants to the fishery. He also thanked FWC for their continued involvement in issues related to Biscayne National Park.

Mr. Dan Lindblade, president and CEO of Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Commission regarding sea turtle lighting compliance.

Mr. Ken Hawkins with Sea Legs Fishing addressed the Commission. He stated that he is a headboat owner in Hollywood and anglers fishing in state waters off his headboat cannot catch 14-inch gray triggerfish. He stated that anglers are only able to catch 8- to 12-inch triggerfish off his boat and noted that since the state changed the minimum size limit to 14 inches he has only seen four legal triggerfish on his boat. He noted that this has hurt his business and requested that FWC reevaluate the recent changes on size limits for triggerfish on the Atlantic coast. He also suggested a five fish bag limit for gray triggerfish in Atlantic state waters.

Mr. John Weaver, president of Central Beach Alliance, addressed the Commission regarding sea turtle lighting.

Ms. Abby Laughlin with Central Beach Alliance Fort Lauderdale addressed the Commission on sea turtle lighting in Fort Lauderdale.

Ms. Kimberlee Norton addressed the Commission regarding the Florida panther.

Commissioner Exchange

Chairman Yablonski thanked Mr. Marks for the great presentation on the Everglades which caused some healthy discussion between Commissioners on the topic. He also thanked him for handling the logistics of this meeting here in the South Region. He noted the work of law enforcement and the efforts of the Commissioners to work through these long few days dealing with some contentious items.

Commissioner Rivard welcomed Commissioner Spottswood on board and noted he looks forward to hosting everyone in Panama City in November.

Commissioner Bergeron thanked Chairman Yablonski for his leadership during his first meeting as Chairman. He echoed the acknowledgement of Mr. Marks for his presentation and ability to organize the logistics of this meeting. He was honored that Director Ashe was able to participate in the opening of the meeting. He commented on the excitement of the upcoming Python Challenge™. He requested another update on waste management at the November meeting.

Commissioner Spottswood thanked the Commissioners and FWC staff for the warm welcome.

Commissioner Roberts thanked Commissioner Rivard for his work as the Budget Liaison and staff for always providing the information for the Commission to make the decisions.

Vice Chairman Priddy stated there are so many individuals that comment on the wonderful work of this agency. She noted that when staff provide details and information on specific items for consideration, she feels confident that the best data is provided.

Commission Administrative Matters

The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting is set for November 18 – 19, 2015 in Panama City, Florida, commencing at 8:30 a.m. each day.

Adjournment

Chairman Yablonski adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Brian Yablonski
Chairman

Nick Wiley
Executive Director

Respectfully submitted:

Lisa Zullo
Commission Assistant