MEMORANDUM

To: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners

From: Colonel Curtis Brown, Director, Division of Law Enforcement

Date: September 26, 2018

Subject: Consent Agenda – Draft Rule, Exhibition of Venomous Reptiles

Purpose:
Obtain Commission approval for an amendment to Rule 68A-6.007, FAC, “Possession, Transportation, Exhibition and Caging Venomous Reptiles and Reptiles of Concern,” to include an option of adding a safety/security film to satisfy the requirement for secondary containment for facilities with internal viewing panels.

Summary:
Members of the venomous reptile industry contacted FWC staff to discuss possible solutions for venomous reptile facilities utilizing internal viewing panels to meet the requirements for secondary containment without undertaking major renovations. The rule language as written presented some difficulty. The proposed rule revision would provide an additional option for internal viewing panels which would increase safety of their current enclosures to an acceptable level and would allow them to come into compliance with current regulations. To accomplish this, staff is proposing to allow the use of a safety/security film to keep glass viewing panels intact should they be broken, preventing reptile escape to satisfy the requirements for secondary containment.

Staff Recommendation:
Approval of the proposed amendment to Rule 68A-6.007, FAC. If approved the amendment would be advertised and filed for adoption without further public hearing, unless requested by a member of the public.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:
Major Rob Beaton, Section Leader, Captive Wildlife/Environmental Investigations