

MEMORANDUM



To: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners

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

Date: September 26, 2018

Subject: Commercial and Private Hunting Preserves and Game Farms – Final Rule, Consent Agenda

Purpose:

Obtain final adoption of previously approved rule language for Rules 68A-12.010 and 68A-12.011, F.A.C. regarding the operation of game farms and hunting preserves and approval to publish a notice of change as described in this item.

Summary: During the June 2018 Commission meeting, Commissioners approved advertising draft rule revisions relating to the operation of game farms and hunting preserves. Adoption of these amendments will address captive cervid industry concerns regarding fencing to prevent escape that will protect both captive cervids and wild deer populations from disease risks. Proposed rule language also addresses ambiguities in terminology and regulations providing for consistent enforcement.

Staff is requesting two relatively non-substantive changes to the proposed rule amendments advertised following the June 2018 Commission meeting. The first would change “applicants” to “applicant’s” and the second would allow for any government-issued photo ID to be provided on an application instead of requiring a Driver License.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve the rule amendment language as advertised with the exception of the two changes described above and authorize staff to publish a Notice of Change to both Rules 68A-12.010 and 68A-12.011, F.A.C. The amended rules, including the two changes, would be effective January 1, 2019.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Major Rob Beaton, Section Leader, Captive Wildlife/Environmental Investigations