

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners

**From:** Jessica Crawford, Legislative Affairs Director  
Charlotte Jerrett, Chief Financial Officer

**Date:** September 26, 2018

**Subject:** Legislative and Budget Update

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**Purpose:**

Provide an overview on the 2019 Legislative Session, including the following items requiring Commission approval:

- (1) Proposed Agency Legislative Package
- (2) Proposed Legislative Budget Request FY 19/20
  - a. New Funding Issues
  - b. Schedule VIII B – 10% Funding Reductions Issues (exercise required by the Legislature and Governor)

**Summary:**

Before proposing any changes to current legislation, proposals are thoroughly reviewed and vetted through the internal Legislative Review Team (LRT). Those proposals are advanced to FWC leadership for further review before being brought to the Commission for action.

The Legislature requires that the head of each state agency annually submit a Legislative Budget Request (LBR), based on the agency's independent judgement of its own needs. The FY 2019/20 LBR is due October 15, 2018.

As directed by the Commission, staff has developed budget requests that align with Commission Policy Focal Areas, Agency Strategic Initiatives and additional policy guidance from Commissioners. Staff have been coordinating these requests and other elements of the budget development with Commissioner Sole as the Commissioner's appointed budget liaison. Trust fund balances have been heavily impacted from hurricane recovery efforts. Budget issues fall within these general major groupings:

- A. Strategic Initiative: Invasive Exotic/Conflict Wildlife
- B. Policy Focal Area: Habitat Conservation and Management (Amendment One Directed Documentary Stamp Tax Purposes)
  1. Comprehensive Ecological Management
  2. Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Enhancements
  3. ADA or Life/Health Safety Issues for WMA facilities
- C. Derelict Vessel Removal
- D. Grant Funded Initiatives (applicable to Commission Policy Focal Areas)

**Staff Recommendation:**

Approval of the 2019 Session Legislative Package, the FY 2019/20 LBR and supporting Schedule VIII B.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Jessica Crawford, Legislative Affairs Director  
Charlotte Jerrett, Chief Financial Officer