

Background Report
Draft Rule 68 – 1.003, F.A.C.
Consent Agenda Item 3
May 1, 2019

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE
FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
RULE NO: RULE TITLE:

68-1.003 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Grants Program

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of this rule amendment is to establish the Sport Fish Restoration-R3 Fishing Grant Program under rule 68-1.003, Florida Administrative Code.

The effect of this amendment will be to allow stakeholders the ability to partner with the FWC on facilitating R3 programs, expanding R3 reach, and increasing the participation rate of underrepresented fishing groups in the angling community.

SUMMARY: The FWC is striving to increase participation in freshwater and saltwater fishing through an effort known as R3, or, Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation. Recruitment of new anglers, retention of active anglers, and reactivation of lapsed anglers are important to the future of conservation funding. R3 programs are focused on increasing and diversifying the fishing participation rate of different age percentiles and demographics over the next 10-15 years. This rule amendment would provide FWC with the ability to offer grant opportunities to partners that are helping to achieve participation goals, assisting with fisheries research, and evaluating effectiveness of programs.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68-1.003 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Grants Program.

(1) through (13) No change.

(14) Sport Fish Restoration-R3 Fishing Grant Program grants shall meet all requirements set forth in the Commission’s R3 Fishing Grant Program Guidelines (dated July 2019), which are hereby incorporated by reference and available at <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-XXXXX>. The form FWC: R3-F072019 (dated July 2019), entitled “Florida’s R3 Fishing Grant Program Application,” is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference and available at <https://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-XXXXX>. The guidelines and form are also available from the Commission at 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600, and on the Commission’s website at <https://myfwc.com/fishing/>.

Rulemaking Authority 206.606, 327.04, 327.47, 376.15(d), 379.106 FS. Law Implemented 206.606, 327.47, 328.72, 376.15(d), (e), 379.106 FS. History—New 4-4-04, Amended 3-15-05, Formerly 68A-2.015, Amended 5-22-07, 7-6-08, 1-18-09, 3-21-10, 6-30-10, 5-20-12, 2-9-15, 9-11-16, 9-13-16, 4-23-17, 5-24-18, 2-21-19, 4-18-19, 7-1-19.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019