

MEMORANDUM



To: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners
From: Colonel Curtis Brown, Director, Law Enforcement
Date: February 19, 2020
Subject: Consent Agenda – Amendment to St. John’s River Boating Restricted Areas

Purpose:

Staff seeks approval of an amendment to Rule 68D-24.018, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), that will change the reporting flood gauge for the existing Mullet Lake Park and Lemon Bluff flood zones from the Jessup Station at 6.3 feet or higher to the Lake Harney Station at 8 feet or higher.

Why:

The Seminole County Office of Emergency Management has requested these changes to Rule 68D-24.018, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), for the safety of the public at times of flooding.

Top Points:

- 1) Proposed amendment would change the reporting flood gauge for the existing Mullet Lake Park and Lemon Bluff flood zones from Jessup Station to Lake Harney Station.

Affected Parties:

Local residents along the St. John’s River and those who utilize the waterway.

Summary:

In order to protect the public, the existing Mullet Lake Park and Lemon Bluff flood zones on the St. John’s River are currently restricted at idle speed no wake when the St. John’s River water level is 6.3 feet or higher as indicated by the St. John’s River Water Management District gauge at the Jessup Station. FWC is proposing to change the reporting flood gauge for these flood zones from the Jessup Station to the Lake Harney Station at 8 feet or higher. This change was requested by the county affected as well as FWC law enforcement in the affected area.

If approved, staff proposes to both advertise the proposed rule change and file for adoption as soon as possible as allowed by s. 120.54(3) Florida Statutes, without further public hearing.

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the proposed rule amendment with permission to publish and file the rule for adoption without further public hearing unless requested.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Major Rob Rowe, Section Leader