

# MEMORANDUM



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

**From:** Jessica McCawley, Director, Marine Fisheries Management

**Date:** April 20, 2017

**Subject:** 2017-2018 Division of Marine Fisheries Management Workplan – Review and Discussion

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**Purpose:**

Staff will provide a review and discussion of the Division of Marine Fisheries Management's (DMFM) proposed 2017-2018 workplan.

**Summary:**

DMFM staff meet each year with Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) leadership to coordinate the annual marine fisheries management workplan. This annual meeting helps align research and management priorities and coordinate staff efforts for the coming fiscal year. By placing an issue on the workplan, staff proposes to address it in the coming fiscal year. This workplan is for the period from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. However, the time frame for the resolution of issues may be longer than a single year. Workplan development takes into account Commissioner input, stock assessment schedules, recommendations of DMFM and FWRI staff, public concerns, federal issues, and issues carried over from the previous year's workplan. The majority of these issues will be collaborative efforts between DMFM and FWRI. However, as with every workplan, there are a few items that will be handled solely by DMFM. Examples of Commission meeting agenda items expected to result from this workplan include (but are not limited to):

- Reports on marine fisheries issues
- Updates on Council actions or specific initiatives
- Proposed regulatory changes
- Proposed Federal consistency and related actions

An approved workplan allows staff to commit time, obligate fiscal resources, as well as plan cooperation with partners and stakeholders, and should ensure timely completion of action items.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommend approving the proposed 2017-2018 DMFM workplan. Staff welcomes additional direction on workplan items.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Jessica McCawley, Director, Marine Fisheries Management