Expanding Small Game Opportunities on FWC-Managed Areas
Draft rules
April 2017
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Hunting and Game Management
Why Small Game Hunting?

Enhances Participation in Conservation

- Recruitment Gateway
  - Broad appeal
  - Great for new hunters
  - High chance of success
  - “Spur-of-the-moment” opportunity

- Keep Tradition Alive
  - Reactivate lapsed hunters
  - Share heritage and knowledge
Expand Small Game Season on 18 Areas

- 703 additional days of small game hunting
- 86% increase in hunting opportunity
New Northern Bobwhite Opportunities

- Allow bird dog training with release of northern bobwhite during small game season on 9 areas
  - Shotgun only
  - No-cost permit
  - Acquired from licensed vendor
Public Input

- Online poll for receiving public comments
- Stakeholders notified through email and social media
  - Sent to more than 140,000 email addresses
Staff Recommendation

- Approve proposed rule amendments for advertising in the Florida Administrative Register
- Provide direction or guidance to staff as we continue working with the public
- Consider for final adoption at July 2017 Commission meeting