

MEMORANDUM



To: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners

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

Date: December 5, 2017

Subject: Legislative and Budget Update

Purpose:

Staff will provide an overview of the 2018 Legislative Session. Staff will also present the FY 2018/19 proposed Legislative Budget Request which includes the following items requiring action:

- (1) New Budget Issues
- (2) Schedule VIII B – 10% Funding Reductions Issues (exercise required by the Legislature and Governor)

Summary:

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 2018/19 LBR was due September 15, 2017, since the next Legislative Session starts in January instead of March.

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. 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:

Staff requests approval of the FY 2018/19 LBR and supporting Schedule VIII B.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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