

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners  
**From:** Jessica Crawford, Director, Legislative Affairs  
**Date:** February 8, 2017  
**Subject:** Federal Legislative Issue Outlook

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**Purpose:**

Staff will provide Commissioners with an overview of recent and potential federal legislation relating to fish and wildlife. There will be multiple speakers during this item including Whit Fosburgh with the Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Brian McManus (FWC's representative in Washington D.C.), Jessica McCawley, and Jessica Crawford.

**Summary:**

During this past Congress, several bills were introduced that are relevant to fish and wildlife conservation in Florida (none of these bills became law). FWC staff actively tracked these bills and advocated for positions that benefited Florida. FWC staff was engaged on legislation relating to marine fisheries topics, such as fishery access in Biscayne National Park, Gulf red snapper management, sharks, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act reauthorization, and spiny lobster. In addition to these issues, FWC supported proposed changes to the Sportsmen's Act, existing Pittman-Robertson state grants for hunter education and supported the Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations for funding wildlife conservation efforts.

As the 115th Congress convenes and the new administration takes office, staff will continue to monitor legislative activities and as directed by the Commission, advocate for outcomes that are best for Florida. This presentation will cover the potential upcoming federal legislative issues that may affect Florida.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff requests Commission input and guidance on federal legislative items as presented.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Jessica Crawford, Legislative Affairs