

# MEMORANDUM



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

**From:** Diane R. Eggeman, Director, Division of Hunting and Game Management  
Colonel Curtis Brown, Director, Division of Law Enforcement

**Date:** July 10, 2017

**Subject:** Consent Agenda – Draft Rule: Technical Changes Relating to Live Sale of Alligators

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## **Purpose:**

Present the Commission with staff proposed rule changes to clarify the experience requirements for a License to Possess Class I and/or Class II Wildlife for Exhibition or Public Sale (ESA) for alligators while maintaining the allowance for contracted nuisance alligator trappers to sell nuisance alligators alive.

## **Summary:**

Recently staff identified language in a captive wildlife rule (68A-6.0022) that has the unintended consequence of exempting individuals from needing to have an appropriate amount of experience handling captive alligators before they can obtain their own exhibition or public sale permit. The proposed rule amendments would simplify and relax the current requirements for contracted nuisance alligator trappers to sell nuisance alligators alive and remove an exemption to the experience requirements for applicants seeking an ESA for alligators. To accomplish this, the following rule amendments are being proposed.

**68A-6.0022 Possession of Class I, II, or III Wildlife in Captivity: Permit Requirements.** The proposed draft rule amendment would remove the experience requirement exemption for persons with licenses issued under section 379.3751, F.S. (statute authorizing all Alligator Management Program-related licenses)

**68A-25.003 Taking and Disposal of Nuisance Alligators Statewide.** The proposed draft rule amendment would allow contracted nuisance alligator trappers to sell lawfully taken nuisance alligators alive to permitted facilities or other authorized persons.

## **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff is requesting Commission approval to advertise the proposed amendments and file for adoption as soon as possible. If the rule amendments are approved for both advertisement and final adoption, Commission staff will file the rules for adoption as allowed by s. 120.54(3) Florida Statutes, without further public hearing.

## **Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Harry J. Dutton, Game Management and Public Hunting Section, Division of Hunting and Game Management

Major Rob Beaton, Captive Wildlife Section, Division of Law Enforcement