

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners  
**From:** Jessica McCawley, Director, Marine Fisheries Management  
**Date:** February 7, 2018  
**Subject:** Federal Legislative Issue Outlook

---

**Purpose:**

Provide Commissioners with an overview of recent and potential federal legislation relating to fish and wildlife.

**Summary:**

In the current Congress, several bills were introduced that are relevant to fish and wildlife conservation management in Florida. FWC staff actively tracked these bills and advocated for positions that benefited Florida. FWC staff is 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, supported the Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations for funding wildlife conservation efforts, and other wildlife conservation and hunting-access efforts.

As the 115th Congress continues, 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 current and upcoming federal legislative issues that may affect Florida.

**Staff Recommendation:**

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

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Jessica McCawley, Marine Fisheries Management