



Imperiled Species Management Plan – February 9, 2015 Draft

Summary of Changes based on Stakeholder comments:

FWC released the first draft of the Imperiled Species Management Plan on February 9th, 2015 and the comment period for the draft ran until March 13th, 2015. We received over 500 comments from a wide variety of stakeholders during that time and have been working to make improvements to the plan based on those comments. The second draft was released for comment on June 5th, 2015, and includes the following major changes:

- 1) Removal of references to species that have become federally listed (Atlantic Sturgeon, Florida Bonneted Bat, and Pillar coral). We removed these species from the plan to reduce confusion and clarify our authority on management. This brings the total number of species included in the ISMP from 60 to 57.
- 2) Changes in recommended listing status of the Eastern Chipmunk (now recommend to be removed from list), and the Alligator Snapping Turtle (now recommend to remain a Species of Special Concern).

Additional changes include:

- Addition of Foreword and Acknowledgements sections
- Clarification and addition of glossary terms such as Essential Behaviors, Federal Candidate Species, and Species Focal Areas
- Adjustment of ISMP timeline for Commission review and Approval
- Clarified references to take of Threatened vs Species of Special Concern species
- Retitled and re-organized content of Species Guidelines, now Species Conservation Measures and Permitting Guidelines
- Addition of information about FWC's role in coordinating with other State and Federal agencies, and details about our interaction with DEP's ERP process
- Addition of references to mining reclamation processes in Table 3, state regulatory programs that may impact or consider imperiled species or their habitats
- Addition of language to address concerns of large landowners in the Law and Policy Chapter
- Recommended changes to Rule 68A-9.002(1), F.A.C. to add language for "other federal authorizations"
- Recommended changes to Rule 68A-16.003, F.A.C. to add a new section that No state Permit is needed to take inactive nests, or parts thereof, of birds not listed in 68A-27
- Addition of Lower Keys population of red rat snake to 68A-25.002, F.A.C. language on prohibiting take and possession
- Addition of language in 68A-27.007(2)(a), F.A.C. to allow intentional take for human safety
- Addition/clarification on FWC policy for permitting standards for Incidental take of Cryptic Species
- Addition/clarification on FWC policy of Nest removal for Inactive Single-Use Nests of State Threatened Bird Species, addition of definitions

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- Addition of FWC policy on Aversive Conditioning of State Listed Species
- Improvements to species organization, species information, clarification of known threats, and explanation of what information is included in the SAP Summaries chapter
- Corrected errors relating to status or conservation goals in a variety of Species Action Plan Summaries
- Addition of Law and Policy subheading for the Integrated Conservation Strategy Chapter
- Clarification and changes to schedule of completion for Objectives 1-6
- Emphasis of Species Action Plan implementation into the ISMP objectives (Objective 5).
- Addition of stakeholder interests in Table 14 of the Impacts Assessment

There were many other small changes and corrections made to other sections of the text. All stakeholder comments were logged and further information about specific changes can be found by contacting imperiled@myfwc.com or claire.sunquist@myfwc.com.