



Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

**Tuesday, February 03, 2015
1:30 pm
Reed Hall**

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

Start Date and Time: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 01:30 pm
End Date and Time: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 03:30 pm
Location: Reed Hall (102 HOB)
Duration: 2.00 hrs

Presentation by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services on their legislative proposals.

Presentation by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on their legislative proposals.

NOTICE FINALIZED on 01/27/2015 15:37 by Kaiser.Debbi



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee

Rep. Tom Goodson, Chair

February 3, 2015

Proposed Committee Bill Overview

Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner of Agriculture

Mission

Safeguard the Public and Promote Agriculture

Goals

- Increase production and sale of Florida's agricultural products
- Ensure the safety and wholesomeness of food and other consumer products
- Conserve and steward the state's agricultural and natural resources
- Protect consumers from potential health and financial risks and unfair and deceptive trade practices



Department Overview

6 Programs and 16 Services

Office of the Commissioner and Administration:

- Agricultural Law Enforcement
- Agricultural Water Policy Coordination
- Executive Direction and Support Services
- Division of Licensing
- Office of Energy

Forest and Resource Protection:

- Florida Forest Service

Agricultural Management

Information Center:

- Office of Agricultural Technology Services

Food Safety and Quality:

- Food Safety Inspection Enforcement

Consumer Protection:

- Agricultural Environmental Services
- Consumer Services

Agricultural

Economic Development:

- Fruit and Vegetables Inspection and Enforcement
- Agricultural Products Marketing
- Aquaculture
- Animal Pest and Disease Control
- Plant Pest and Disease Control
- Food, Nutrition and Wellness



Agricultural Environmental Services

- Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer Application License
- Use of funds deposited in the Pest Control Trust Fund

Mission: To protect agriculture, the public, and the environment from unsafe and unethical products and services used for agricultural production or for managing pests



Florida Forest Service

- Repeal 589.26 F.S.,
Dedication of State Park
Lands for Public Use.

Mission: To protect and manage the forest resources of the state, ensuring they are available for future generations.



Food, Nutrition & Wellness

- Definitions:
 - School Breakfast Program
 - Summer Nutrition Program
 - Universal School Breakfast
- Clarifying the statutes and updating terms
- No added requirements to schools with feeding programs

Mission: To ensure that every child in Florida has access to a nutritious meal that is full of fresh fruits and vegetables and is educated on the importance of making healthy choices through outreach, partnerships, education, and oversight to ensure quality and compliance, training and technical assistance.



Food Safety

- Adding definitions:
 - Retail
 - Wholesale
 - Vehicle
- Providing authority for Food Safety lab testing

Mission: To assure the public of a safe, wholesome and properly represented food supply



Marketing & Development

- Revising Agriculture Education and Promotion Facility Grant process
- Updating Florida Agricultural Center and Horse Park statutes
- Fresh From Florida brand clarifications
- Florida Agricultural Promotional Campaign Advisory Council updates
- Creating efficiencies in the Agricultural Dealer's License process
- Creating efficiencies in the Grain Dealers reporting requirements

Mission: To drive awareness and sales of Florida's commodities by developing and expanding marketing opportunities for Fresh from Florida products and to ensure fair trade practices to reduce financial risk to the state's agribusiness community.





Questions?



Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services

Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner

Grace Lovett, Director Office of Legislative Affairs

**Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
2015 Session Legislative Proposals**
presentation to

House Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee



**Brandy Elliott, Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
February 3, 2015**

FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

TARPON TAG CHANGES

- Change tarpon tag effective date:
 - To January - December – only one tag needed each summer, the height of tarpon fishing season
- Repeal angler reporting requirements
 - FWC can obtain harvest information from International Game Fish Association



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

RESTRICTED SPECIES ENDORSEMENT

- Repeal Restricted Species Endorsement (RS) qualifications from statute
- FWC Commission approved adopting RS requirements into rule at June 2014 meeting
- Repealing statutory language would eliminate conflicting policy if RS rule changes in the future



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

ALLIGATOR LICENSE EXEMPTIONS

Proposed Exemptions from Alligator Trapping Licenses:

- Exempts minors under the age of 16 from having to purchase an alligator trapping agent license
- Exempts disabled veterans and active/reserve duty military (and their family and assistants) from having to obtain any alligator-related license during FWC-permitted special events
- Exempts totally and permanently disabled residents from having to purchase any alligator-related license
- Repeals requirement for contracted nuisance alligator trappers to have to purchase an alligator trapping license when taking nuisance alligators



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

ALLIGATOR STATUTE CHANGES

- Clarify that the transfer of funding from FWC to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for alligator marketing and education is based on an annual appropriation
- Repeal statutory management strategies that are in rule
- Repeal statutes that are obsolete



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

WILDLIFE FEEDING RULE PENALTIES

- **Current law - A 1st violation of wildlife/fish feeding rules is a 2nd degree misdemeanor with increased penalties for repeat offenders**
- **Current rules prohibit feeding the following species of wildlife**
 - **bears**
 - **alligators/crocodiles**
 - **foxes, raccoons, sandhill cranes, pelicans, and bald eagles**



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

WILDLIFE FEEDING RULE PENALTIES

- Proposed new penalty structure for feeding bears or alligators/crocodiles:
 - 1st violation – noncriminal infraction, \$100 fine
 - 2nd violation – 2nd degree misdemeanor
 - 3rd violation – 1st degree misdemeanor
 - 4th and subsequent violations – 3rd degree felony



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

WILDLIFE FEEDING RULE PENALTIES

- Proposed new penalty structure for violating other wildlife and freshwater fish feeding rules
 - foxes, raccoons, sandhill cranes, pelicans, and bald eagles
- 1st violation – noncriminal infraction, \$100 fine
- 2nd and subsequent violations – 2nd degree misdemeanor



FWC Legislative Proposals – 2015 Session

Questions?

