

# **Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)**

## **1USG Subcommittee**

### **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Working Group**

**Government Issue Paper: March 2017**



**U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection**

# **DRAFT GOVERNMENT ISSUE PAPER: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE**

## **Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (COAC) Working Group**

**March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

### **BACKGROUND**

Working groups provide the opportunity for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Partner Government Agencies (PGAs) to engage in collaboration with impacted industry subject matter experts on identified technical or operational areas related to imports and exports. Trade representatives share their private sector perspective related to CBP and PGA proposed regulatory and procedural changes impacting the supply chain.

### **CURRENT STATUS:**

- In 2017, The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee formed a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Working Group (FWS) falling under the One U.S. Government at the Border (1USG) Subcommittee. The working group had an “introductory kick off call” on January 12<sup>th</sup> and has since held four additional calls on January 26<sup>th</sup>, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, February 9<sup>th</sup> and February 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - The goal of the group is to develop recommendations that would be presented at a public COAC meeting scheduled for May 2017.
  - The FWS working group is comprised of members of the trade community (COAC, importers, brokers, retailers, software providers, Fish & Wildlife Service leadership and subject matter experts, including CBP participation from both the field and headquarters).
  - The working group is expected to continue work in March with the goal of having an in person meeting in mid- March. The group will strive to find workable solutions to issues identified such as exploring alternative processes that could provide FWS with needed data, creating guidance or tools to help the trade community determine whether a “Y” or “N” scenario requires a full Fish & Wildlife Submission in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) or whether a FWS disclaim process could be used.
  - The working group has been identifying operational challenges centered on providing additional data to the Fish & Wildlife Service which present some complexities for businesses.
- CBP and the Fish & Wildlife Service are committed to working with COAC, small business, stakeholders, private industry, to better and comprehend challenges and identify solutions.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

The working group will focus on goals identified during the first five sessions. The working group is expected to present a set of recommendations to the COAC at the May 2017 meeting.

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