

Angler Action Foundation

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ANGLER ACTION FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES KELLIE RALSTON WITH THE 2018 MOLLY FLEMING CONSERVATION AWARD

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Kellie Ralston's dedication to her job is inspirational, but her ability to do so while maintaining a consistent message that truly benefits Florida's fish, their habitats, and angler rights is what makes her a truly exceptional asset to all anglers.

Because of her dedication to giving recreational anglers a voice and protecting marine habitats, and her passion for making a brighter fishing future for everyone, Ralston is this year's recipient of the Angler Action Foundation's Molly Fleming Conservation Award.

"Kellie works on issues that impact fishing in many arenas, at the nuts-and-bolts level. Most people don't realize how difficult and complicated this becomes, especially once politics and economics are considered. Kellie has been able to sort through many confounding factors, and always has a message that is based on science and reason," said Brett Fitzgerald, AAF Executive Director. "That's not easy and is almost always unpopular, yet Kellie always presents a thoughtful, consistent perspective."

In 2015, Kellie was hired as the Policy Director of Keep Florida Fishing, a position that places her at ground-zero for any and all issues facing the fishing industry. Two areas where she's been the most influential are also two of the most contentious: Everglades restoration and recreational angler data collection. Both are well known to AAF.



"It's been refreshing and very encouraging to see Kellie and the American Sportfishing Association (ASA) consistently reference science to bolster their points, which makes us very optimistic about the future of fishery management and habitat conservation," said Mike Readling, AAF's Chairman of the Board.



Education

The Molly Fleming Conservation Award is given annually to an individual who demonstrates conspicuous dedication towards a brighter fishing future.

"The Fleming Family Foundation has been a long-time supporter of AAF and our conservation goals, and Kellie's actions perfectly exemplify the spirit of this award," Fitzgerald said.



The Angler Action Foundation (formerly Snook & Gamefish Foundation) was established in 1998 to serve as a platform for anglers and conservationists to preserve, protect and enhance game fish populations. For more information visit angleractionfoundation.com.

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Email: info@angleraction.org website: www.angleractionfoundation.com The Angler Action Foundation improves angler access, fisheries science and marine habitat through collaborative Research, Education and Conservation programs. Florida registration: CH11670.