

**Background Report
Final Rule 68A-15.065
Agenda Item 17.A.
February 11, 2016**

Notice of Proposed Rule

FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Freshwater Fish and Wildlife

RULE NO.: RULE TITLE:

68A-15.065: Specific Regulations for Wildlife Management Areas - Northeast Region

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to revise specific area regulations on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the Northeast Region and conform to calendar year date changes. The effect of the proposed rule amendment will be to enable the agency to better manage fish and wildlife resources and public use on WMAs.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment would adjust season dates to conform to calendar year changes and revise specific area regulations on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the Northeast Region as follows:

Buck Lake WMA – shift the second general gun hunt 1 day later to allow for a scout day in between the 2 hunts; and shift the second spring turkey hunt 1 day later to allow for a scout day in between the 2 hunts.

Caravelle Ranch WMA – during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Dunns Creek WMA – establish a 4-day general gun hunt (Thursday – Sunday) in December (quota of 15, no exemptions).

Guana River WMA – allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Half Moon WMA – shift the general gun season 1 week later to allow for a weekend between the muzzleloader gun and the first general gun hunt; shift spring turkey season forward to begin on the opening weekend of the zonal spring turkey season; and during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Herky Huffman / Bull Creek WMA – during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Jumper Creek WMA – expand small game season from 21 to 62 days; and during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Richloam WMA - establish a small game season beginning the day after the general gun season ends and continuing to the end of the zonal gray squirrel season.

Salt Lake WMA – during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Seminole Forest WMA, Lake Tracy Unit – allow vehicle access during small game and September duck seasons by permit from the Florida Forest Service.

Three Lakes WMA – during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Three Lakes WMA, Prairie Lakes Unit – during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Triple N Ranch WMA – during small game season, allow any dog for hunting small game (quail, rabbit, squirrel and migratory birds).

Additionally, the proposed rule amendment would provide non-substantive technical changes, such as grammatical corrections, language standardization, or clarification of an existing rule.

SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REGULATORY COSTS AND LEGISLATIVE RATIFICATION:

The Agency has determined that this will not have an adverse impact on small business or likely increase directly or indirectly regulatory costs in excess of \$200,000 in the aggregate within one year after the implementation of the rule. A SERC has not been prepared by the Agency.

The Agency has determined that the proposed rule is not expected to require legislative ratification based on the statement of estimated regulatory costs or if no SERC is required, the information expressly relied upon and described herein: The nature of the rule and the preliminary analysis conducted to determine whether a SERC was required.

Any person who wishes to provide information regarding a statement of estimated regulatory costs, or provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative must do so in writing within 21 days of this notice.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution n; Section 375.313, Florida Statutes.

LAW IMPLEMENTED: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution n; Sections 379.2223, 375.313, Florida Statutes.

A HEARING WILL BE HELD AT THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE SHOWN BELOW:

DATE AND TIME: During the Commission's regular meeting February 10 - 11, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day.

PLACE: Florida Public Safety Institute – 75 College Drive, Havana, FL 32333

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 5 days before the workshop/meeting by contacting: the ADA Coordinator, at (850)488-6411. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE IS: Diane R. Eggeman, Director, Division of Hunting and Game Management, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:

68A-15.065 Specific Regulations for Wildlife Management Areas – Northeast Region.

(1) Herky Huffman/Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. General gun – November ~~5-6~~ ~~7-8~~ and November ~~7~~ ~~9~~ through January ~~1~~ ~~3~~.

2. Small game – January ~~2~~ ~~4~~ through March ~~5~~ ~~6~~.

3. Spring turkey – March ~~18~~ ~~19~~ through April ~~23~~ ~~24~~.

4. Archery – September ~~17-18~~ ~~19-20~~ and September ~~19~~ ~~21~~ through October ~~16~~ ~~18~~.

5. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24~~ ~~24-26~~.

6. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ ~~12-13~~.

7. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 4. No change.

5. Hunting with dogs is prohibited, except that any dog may be used to take small game during the small game season. During other seasons, only bird dogs are allowed for taking small game. The take of wild hog with dogs is prohibited.

(2) Ocala Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. General gun – November ~~12~~ ~~14~~ through January ~~8~~ ~~10~~ (Pipeline, Lake Delancy and Hopkins Prairie units only).

2. General gun dog – November ~~12~~ ~~14~~ through ~~20~~ ~~22~~ (Church Lake Unit only).

3. General gun still – November ~~26~~ ~~28~~ through December ~~4~~ ~~6~~ (Church Lake Unit only).

4. Small game – December ~~5~~ ~~7~~ through March ~~5~~ ~~6~~ (Church Lake Unit only) and January ~~9~~ ~~11~~ through March ~~5~~ ~~6~~ (Pipeline, Lake Delancy and Hopkins Prairie units only).

5. Archery – September ~~24~~ ~~26~~ through October ~~23~~ ~~25~~.

6. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ ~~30~~ through November ~~1~~, in on the Church Lake, Hopkins Prairie and Lake Delancy units only.

7. Fox, opossum, bobcat and raccoon – November ~~12~~ 14 through April ~~16~~ 17.
8. September duck – ~~During~~ ~~in~~ the September duck season established by Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C.
9. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ ~~12-13~~ (Lake Delancy Unit only).
10. Spring turkey – March ~~23-26~~ ~~24-27~~, March ~~30~~ ~~31~~ through April ~~2~~ ~~3~~, April ~~6-9~~ ~~7-10~~ and ~~13-16~~ ~~14-17~~.
11. through 14. No change.

(b) Legal to take:

1. No change.

2. Furbearing animals – During the November ~~12~~ 14 through March 1 period, hunting as specified in paragraph 68A-24.002(2)(b), F.A.C., is allowed only in the Pipeline and Church Lake units. Raccoons may also be hunted, with dogs only, from March ~~6~~ 7 through April ~~16~~ 17 only in that portion of the Pipeline Unit south of S.R. 40 and west of S.R. 19. The hunting of fox and bobcat by the use of dogs only shall be allowed from January ~~9~~ ~~11~~ through April ~~16~~ 17, only in that portion of the Pipeline Unit south of S.R. 40 and west of S.R. 19.

(c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. No change.

2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited in the Hopkins Prairie and Lake Delancy units, except bird dogs and retrievers are allowed during small game, ~~special~~ September duck, dove, and duck, geese and coot seasons. Taking deer with dogs is prohibited in the Church Lake Unit during the general gun still hunt. Caged or leashed hunting dogs may be transported on numbered roads.

3. through 4. No change.

5. Dogs may be used to pursue rabbits from January ~~9~~ ~~11~~ through April ~~16~~ 17 in that portion of the Pipeline Unit south of S.R. 40 and west of S.R. 19.

6. No change.

(e) No change.

(3) Richloam Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. General gun – November ~~19-27~~ ~~21-29~~ and November ~~28~~ ~~30~~ through January ~~15~~ 17.

2. Spring turkey – March ~~18-26~~ ~~19-27~~ and March ~~27~~ ~~28~~ through April ~~23~~ 24.

3. Archery – October ~~15~~ 17 through November ~~13~~ 15.

4. No change.

5. Trapping – January ~~16~~ ~~18~~ through March 1.

6. Wild hog-dog – April ~~28-30~~ ~~29~~ through ~~May 1~~.

7. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ ~~12-13~~.

8. No change.

9. Small Game – the day following the close of the general gun season through the end of the gray squirrel season established in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 4. No change.

5. Any dog may be used to take small game during the small game season. The taking of wild hog by the use of dogs is prohibited, except during the wild hog-dog season.

6. through 8. No change.

(4) Richloam Wildlife Management Area – Baird Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – October ~~29~~ ~~31~~ through November ~~1~~ 3, November ~~2-6~~ ~~4-8~~ and ~~7-13~~ 9-15.

2. Muzzleloading gun – November ~~19-21~~ ~~21-23~~.

3. General gun – January ~~16-19~~ ~~18-21~~ and ~~20-24~~ 22-26.

4. Wild hog-still – January ~~25-27~~ ~~27-29~~.

5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ ~~12-13~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20~~ ~~19-21~~, ~~24-26~~ ~~25-27~~ and March 31 through April 2 ~~1-3~~.

7. Small game – February ~~4~~ 6 through March ~~5~~ 6.

8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(5) Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. General gun – November ~~5-6 7-8~~ and November ~~7 9~~ through January ~~1 3~~.

2. Small game – January ~~2 4~~ through March ~~5 6~~.

3. Spring turkey – March ~~18 19~~ through April ~~23 24~~.

4. Archery – September ~~17-18 19-20~~ and September ~~19 21~~ through October ~~16 18~~.

5. September duck – During ~~in~~ the September duck seasons established by Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C., in that area between Prairie Lakes Unit and Canoe Creek Road only.

6. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24 24-26~~.

7. General gun for mobility impaired – October ~~28-30 30~~ through November ~~1~~.

8. General gun-dog – December ~~8-11 10-13~~ and December ~~29 31~~ through January ~~1 3~~.

9. through 10. No change.

11. Raccoon – January ~~13-15 15-17, 20-22 22-24~~ and ~~27-29 29-31~~ (from 1.5 hours before sunset on Friday until 1.5 hours after sunrise on Sunday) in that area between the Florida Turnpike and US 441 only.

12. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12 12-13~~.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 3. No change.

4. Hunting with dogs other than bird dogs is prohibited except dogs with a shoulder height of 17 inches or less may be used for deer hunting east of the Florida Turnpike during the general gun-dog season; any dog ~~dogs with a shoulder height of 15 inches or less~~ may be used to take small game during the small game season; and any dog ~~dogs of any size~~ may be used to hunt raccoon during the raccoon season.

5. through 11. No change.

(e) No change.

(6) Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area – Prairie Lakes Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September 30 through October ~~2 2-4~~ and October 7-9 9-11.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30 30~~ through November ~~1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~18-20 20-22~~ and ~~25-27 27-29~~.

4. Small game – December ~~10 12~~ through January ~~1 3~~.

5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12 12-13~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20 19-21, March 31 through~~ April ~~2 1-3~~ and April 14-16 15-17.

7. No change.

8. Wild hog-still – December ~~2-4, 4-6 and~~ January ~~6-8 8-10, 27-29 29-31~~ and February ~~24-26 26-28~~.

9. through 10. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except that bird dogs may be used during the general gun season and any dog ~~may be used to take small game during the small game season seasons~~.

2. through 5. No change.

(7) Tiger Bay Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. General gun – November ~~5-13 7-15~~ and November ~~14 16~~ through January ~~1 3~~.

2. Archery – September ~~17 19~~ through October ~~16 18~~.

3. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24 24-26~~.

4. Small game – January ~~2 4~~ through March ~~5 6~~.

5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12 12-13~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21 19-22, March 30 31~~ through April ~~3 4~~ and April ~~13-16 14-17~~.

7. through 8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(8) Tiger Bay Wildlife Management Area – Rima Ridge Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. General gun – November ~~12-20~~ 14-22.
2. Archery – September ~~24~~ 26 through October ~~9~~ 11.
3. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ 30 through ~~November 1~~.
4. Small game – November ~~24~~ 26 through January ~~1~~ 3.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ 12-13.
6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20~~ 19-21, March 31 through April ~~2~~ 1-3 and April 14-16 ~~15-17~~.
7. through 8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(9) Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – October ~~6-9~~ 8-11 and ~~13-16~~ 15-18.
2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~27-30~~ 29 through ~~November 1~~ and November ~~3-6~~ 5-8.
3. General gun – November ~~17-20~~ 19-22 and ~~25-27~~ 27-29.
4. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20~~ 19-21, March 31 through April ~~2~~ 1-3 and April 14-16 ~~15-17~~.
5. Wild hog-dog – January ~~13-19~~ 15-21 and February ~~10-16~~ 12-18.
6. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(10) Seminole Ranch Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – October ~~7-9~~ 9-11 and ~~14-16~~ 16-18.
2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ 30 through ~~November 1~~ and November ~~4-6~~ 6-8.
3. General gun – November ~~18-20~~ 20-22.
4. Small game – November ~~26-27~~ 28-29, December ~~3-4~~ 5-6, ~~10-11~~ 12-13 and January ~~7-8~~ 9-10.
5. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20~~ 19-21, ~~24-26~~ 25-27 and March 31 through April ~~2~~ 1-3.
6. Wild hog-dog – January ~~28-29~~ 30-31 and January 30 through February ~~3~~ 1-5.
7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(11) Jumper Creek Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~17~~ 19 through October ~~16~~ 18.
2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24~~ 24-26.
3. General gun – November ~~5-13~~ 7-15 and November ~~14~~ 16 through January ~~1~~ 3.
4. Small game – January ~~2~~ through March 5 ~~4-24~~.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ 12-13.
6. Spring turkey – March ~~18~~ 19 through April ~~23~~ 24.
7. through 8. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 2. No change.

3. Hunting with dogs is prohibited, except waterfowl retrievers may be used during ~~small game~~ and September duck seasons, and ~~any dog bird dogs~~ may be used to take small game during small game season. The take of wild hog with dogs is prohibited.

4. No change.

(12) Rock Springs Run Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September 30 through October ~~2~~ 2-4 and October 7-9 ~~9-11~~.
2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24~~ 24-26 and ~~28-30~~ October 30 through ~~November 1~~.
3. General gun – November ~~11-13~~ 13-15 and ~~18-20~~ 20-22.

4. Small game – December ~~3-4 5-6, 10-11 12-13~~ and January ~~7-8 9-10~~.

5. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(13) Guana River Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Duck, light goose and coot – Lake Ponte Vedra shall be open during ~~in~~ the September duck seasons established pursuant to Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C., and the first day of each phase and on Wednesdays and Saturdays of the duck, light goose and coot season established pursuant to Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C.

2. General gun – November ~~18-20 20-22~~ and ~~25-27 27-29~~.

3. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24 24-26~~ and ~~28-30~~ ~~October 30 through November 1~~.

4. Archery – October ~~7-9 9-11~~ and ~~14-16 16-18~~.

5. Small game – December ~~2-4 4-6, 9-11 11-13~~, January ~~6-8 8-10, 13-15 15-17, 20-22 22-24~~ and ~~27-29 29-31~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~24-26 25-27~~ and March 31 through April 2 1-3.

7. through 8. No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of the general gun for mobility impaired season and the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the Central BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. One antlered and one antlerless deer may be taken per quota permit or per exempt hunter during the archery season. One antlered deer may be taken per quota permit or per exempt hunter during the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. Gobblers or bearded turkeys may be taken during the spring turkey season from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset. Taking wild hog during the last two weekends of the small game season is prohibited. Legal shooting hours for duck, light goose and coot: From the beginning of legal shooting hours established pursuant to Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C., until noon. Turkey may only be taken during the spring turkey season. Only one turkey may be taken per quota permit.

(c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. No change.

2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited, except bird dogs and retrievers are allowed during ~~small game season and waterfowl season~~ and any dog may be used to take small game during small game season. The take of wild hog with dogs is prohibited.

3. through 17. No change.

(e) No change.

(14) Half Moon Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – October ~~7-9 9-11~~ and ~~14-16 16-18~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30 30 through November 1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~12-14 7-9~~ and ~~18-20 13-15~~.

4. Small game – December ~~2-4 4-6, 9-11 11-13~~ and ~~16-18 18-20~~.

5. Wild hog-still – January ~~13-15 15-17, 20-22 22-24~~ and ~~27-29 29-31~~.

6. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12 12-13~~.

7. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20 25-27, 24-26~~ ~~April 1-3~~ and March 31 through April 2 8-10.

8. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. No change.

2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except any dog ~~bird dogs and dogs with a shoulder height of 15 inches or less~~ may be used to take small game during the small game season. The take of wild hog with dogs is prohibited.

3. through 7. No change.

(15) Caravelle Ranch Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24~~ 26 through October 2 4.
2. Supervised small game – October ~~8-16~~ 10-18.
3. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ 30 through ~~November 1~~.
4. General gun – November ~~12-15~~ 14-17 and ~~16-20~~ 18-22.
5. No change.
6. Small game – November ~~24~~ 26 through January ~~8~~ 10 (Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only).
7. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ 12-13 (south of the Cross Florida Barge Canal only).
8. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21~~ 19-22 and ~~22-26~~ 23-27.
9. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. No change.

2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except bird dogs may be used during the general gun season ~~and small game seasons~~ and on the posted dove fields during special-opportunity dove hunts, and any dog may be used to take small game during small game season. Taking wild hog with dogs is prohibited.

3. through 7. No change.

(16) Lake George Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~17~~ 19 through October ~~16~~ 18.
2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ 30 through ~~November 1~~ and November ~~4-6~~ 6-8.
3. General gun – November ~~12-15~~ 14-17, ~~16-20~~ 18-22 and ~~21-27~~ 23-29.
4. Small game – November ~~28~~ 30 through March ~~5~~ 6.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ 12-13.
6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21~~ 19-22, March ~~30~~ 31 through April ~~2~~ 3 and April ~~13-16~~ 14-17.
7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(17) Lake George Wildlife Management Area – Dexter/Mary Farms Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. Small game – November ~~26~~ 28 through December ~~11~~ 13 and December ~~24~~ 26 through January ~~8~~ 10.
2. Special-opportunity spring turkey – March ~~18-24~~ 19-25, April ~~1-7~~ 2-8 and ~~15-21~~ 16-22.
3. No change.
4. Archery – September ~~24~~ 26 through October ~~9~~ 11.
5. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ 30 through ~~November 1~~.
6. General gun – November ~~12-20~~ 14-22.

(b) through (e) No change.

(18) Seminole Forest Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24-27~~ 26-29 and September ~~28~~ 30 through October ~~2~~ 4.
2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ 30 through ~~November 1~~.
3. General gun – December ~~3-6~~ 5-8 and ~~7-11~~ 9-13.
4. Small game – January ~~14-29~~ 16-31 (Saturdays and Sundays only).
5. Spring turkey – March ~~18-22~~ 19-23 and March ~~25-29~~ 26-30.
6. General gun for mobility-impaired – October ~~21-23~~ 23-25.
7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(19) Triple N Ranch Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Wild hog-still – January ~~27-29~~ 29-31, February ~~3-5~~ 5-7, ~~10-12~~ 12-14 and ~~17-19~~ 19-21.
2. Special-opportunity deer – October ~~15-21~~ 17-23 and October ~~29~~ 31 through November ~~4~~ 6.
3. Small game – November ~~26~~ 28 through January ~~22~~ 24.
4. Special-opportunity spring turkey – March ~~18-24~~ 19-25, April ~~1-7~~ 2-8 and ~~15-21~~ 16-22.

5. through 6. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 2. No change.

3. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except any dog ~~bird dogs and dogs with a shoulder height of 15 inches or less~~ may be used to take small game during the small game season.

4. through 8. No change.

(20) Etoniah Creek Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24 26~~ through October ~~9 11~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-24 24-26~~ and October ~~28-30 30~~ through ~~November 1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~10-13 12-15, 17-20 19-22~~ and ~~24-27 26-29~~.

4. Small game – November ~~28 30~~ through the first weekend in January.

5. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21 19-22, 24-27 25-28~~ and March 31 through April 3 4.

6. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(21) Little Big Econ Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September 30 through October 6 2-8, October ~~7-13 9-15~~ and ~~14-22 16-24~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – November ~~4-6 6-8~~ and ~~11-13 13-15~~.

3. General gun – November ~~18-20 20-22, 25-27 27-29~~ and December ~~2-4 4-6~~.

4. Small game – December ~~10-25 12-27~~.

5. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21 19-22, 23-26 24-27~~ and March ~~30 31~~ through April ~~2 3~~.

6. No change.

7. September duck – During ~~in~~ the September duck seasons established by Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C.

(b) through (d) No change.

(22) Lake Panasoffkee Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Special-opportunity spring turkey – March ~~23-26 24-27~~, April ~~4-7 5-8~~ and ~~20-23 21-24~~.

2. Special-opportunity archery – September ~~22-25 24-27~~, October ~~4-7 6-9, 13-16 15-18, 25-28 27-30~~,
November ~~3-6 5-8, 15-18 17-20~~, December ~~6-9 8-11~~ and ~~15-18 17-20~~.

3. Wild hog-still – January ~~13-15 15-17~~.

4. Wild hog-dog – January ~~27-29 29-31~~ and February ~~24-26 26-28~~.

5. Small game – February ~~3-5 5-7~~ and ~~10-12 12-14~~.

6. through 7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(23) Ross Prairie Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~23-25 25-27~~.

2. Supervised small game – October ~~15-21 17-23~~, November ~~19-25 21-27~~, December ~~17-23 19-25~~ and January
~~14-20 16-22~~.

3. Spring turkey – March ~~24-26 25-27~~.

(b) through (d) No change.

(24) Buck Lake Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24 26~~ through October ~~2 4~~ and October ~~8-14 10-16~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30 30~~ through ~~November 1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~12-15 14-17~~ and ~~17-21 18-22~~.

4. Small game – December ~~3-18 5-20~~.

5. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21 19-22~~ and 23-27.

6. Wild hog-still – December 30 through January 29 1-31.

7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(25) Fort Drum Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Special-opportunity deer – October ~~29-31~~ through November ~~4-6~~.

2. Small game – December ~~10-25-42-27~~.

3. Special-opportunity spring turkey – March ~~18-24-49-25~~, April ~~1-7-2-8~~ and ~~15-21-46-22~~.

4. Wild hog-still – November ~~11-13-43-45~~, ~~18-20-20-22~~, ~~25-27-27-29~~; January 31 through February 2-4 and February 7-9-9-11.

5. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(26) Gores Landing Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24-26~~ through October ~~9-11~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30-30~~ through November ~~1-1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~12-20-44-22~~.

4. Small game – December ~~3-18-5-20~~.

5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12-42-43~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21-49-22~~ and ~~22-26-23-27~~.

7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(27) Seminole Forest Wildlife Management Area – Lake Tracy Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~22-25-24-27~~ and September 29 through October 2-4-4.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~27-30-29~~ through November ~~1-1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~10-13-42-45~~.

4. Wild hog-still – November ~~18-20-20-22~~, December ~~16-18-48-20~~ and January ~~13-15-45-47~~.

5. Small game – January ~~6-8-8-10~~, ~~20-22-22-24~~ and ~~27-29-29-31~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20-49-21~~ and ~~24-26-25-27~~.

7. through 8. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 2. No change.

3. The use of tracked vehicles, airboats, or all-terrain vehicles is prohibited during periods when hunting is allowed. Vehicle access is prohibited except persons participating in a hunt are allowed vehicle access during archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun, wild hog-still and spring turkey seasons and from the Monday prior to through one day prior to their scheduled hunts. During small game and September duck seasons vehicle access is regulated by the Florida Forest Service. ~~During periods when the area is closed to hunting, public access is regulated by the Florida Forest Service.~~

4. During periods when the area is closed to hunting, public access is regulated by the Florida Forest Service.

4. through 5. renumbered 5. through 6. No change.

(28) Upper St. Johns River Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~17-49~~ through October ~~16-48~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~22-30-24~~ through November ~~1-1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~5-7~~ through January ~~15-47~~.

4. Small game – January ~~16-48~~ through March ~~5-6~~.

5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12-42-43~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-49~~ through April ~~23-24~~.

7. through 9. No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, furbearers, fish, and frogs. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one

antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. Antlerless deer may be taken during the period November ~~19-20~~ ~~21-22~~. Turkey of either sex may be taken during the muzzleloading gun season. Gobblers or bearded turkey may be taken during the general gun season only from November ~~5~~ ~~7~~ through January ~~1~~ ~~3~~.

(c) through (d) No change.

(29) Dunns Creek Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24~~ ~~26~~ through October ~~9~~ ~~11~~ and November ~~19-27~~ ~~21-29~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~29~~ ~~31~~ through November ~~6~~ ~~8~~.

~~3. General gun – December 8-11.~~

~~4.3. Wild hog-still – January 21-29 23-31.~~

~~5.4. Spring turkey – March 18-20 19-21, March 31 through April 2 1-3 and April 14-16 15-17.~~

5. through 6. renumbered 6. through 7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(30) Salt Lake Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24~~ ~~26~~ through October ~~2~~ ~~4~~ and October ~~3-9~~ ~~5-11~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ ~~30~~ through November ~~1~~.

3. General gun – November ~~12-15~~ ~~14-17~~ and ~~16-20~~ ~~18-22~~.

4. Small game – December ~~9-11~~ ~~11-13~~, ~~16-18~~ ~~18-20~~; January ~~6-8~~ ~~8-10~~, ~~13-15~~ ~~15-17~~; February ~~10-12~~ ~~12-14~~, ~~17-19~~ ~~19-21~~.

5. Wild hog-dog – January ~~19-22~~ ~~21-24~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21~~ ~~19-22~~ and ~~22-26~~ ~~23-27~~.

7. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except that ~~any dog~~ ~~dogs~~ may be used during the wild hog-dog season and ~~bird dogs may be used to take small game~~ during small game season. During the wild hog-dog season, no more than 3 free-running dogs per quota permit shall be allowed. The take of wild hogs with dogs is prohibited except during the wild hog-dog season.

2. through 9. No change.

(31) Matanzas Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~24-30~~ ~~26~~ through October ~~2~~, October ~~1-9~~ ~~3-11~~ and ~~10-16~~ ~~October 12-18~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ ~~30~~ through November ~~1~~ and November ~~4-6~~ ~~6-8~~.

3. Family hunt – November ~~12-13~~ ~~14-15~~.

4. General gun – November ~~14-20~~ ~~16-22~~.

5. Wild hog-still – December ~~3-9~~ ~~5-11~~ and ~~10-18~~ ~~12-20~~.

6. Small game – January ~~9-24~~ ~~11-26~~.

7. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21~~ ~~19-22~~, March ~~30~~ ~~31~~ through April ~~2~~ ~~3~~ and April ~~6-9~~ ~~7-10~~.

8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(32) No change.

(33) Charles H. Bronson Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – ~~September 30~~ through October ~~6~~ ~~October 2-8~~, October ~~7-13~~ ~~9-15~~ and ~~14-22~~ ~~16-24~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – October ~~28-30~~ ~~30~~ through November ~~1~~ and November ~~4-6~~ ~~6-8~~.

3. General gun – November ~~11-13~~ ~~13-15~~, ~~18-20~~ ~~20-22~~ and December ~~2-4~~ ~~4-6~~.

4. Small game – December ~~10-18~~ ~~12-20~~ and January ~~7-13~~ ~~9-15~~.

5. Youth turkey hunt – March ~~11-12~~ ~~12-13~~.

6. Spring turkey – March ~~18-21~~ ~~19-22~~, ~~24-27~~ ~~25-28~~ and March 31 through April 3 1-4.

7. through 8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(34) Marshall Swamp Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. Archery – September ~~17-23~~ ~~19-25~~, ~~24-30~~ ~~September 26 through October 2~~, October ~~1-7~~, ~~3-9~~ and ~~8-14~~ ~~10-16~~ and ~~15-23~~ ~~17-25~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – November ~~4-6~~ ~~6-8~~.

3. General gun – November ~~18-20~~ ~~20-22~~, ~~25-27~~ ~~27-29~~ and December ~~2-4~~ ~~4-6~~.

4. No change.

5. Spring turkey – March ~~18-20~~ ~~19-21~~, ~~24-26~~ ~~25-27~~ and ~~March 31 through April 2~~ ~~1-3~~.

6. through 7. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const., 379.2223, 375.313 FS. History—New 6-21-82, Amended 6-29-82, 7-1-83, 7-5-84, 10-1-84, 7-1-85, 5-7-86, 5-10-87, 5-1-88, 7-1-89, 12-19-89, 7-1-90, 7-1-91, 7-2-91, 7-2-92, 7-1-93, 7-1-94, 7-1-95, 7-1-96, 9-15-96, 6-1-97, 7-1-98, 7-2-98, 8-11-98, 12-28-98, 7-1-99, Formerly 39-15.065, Amended 12-20-99, 7-1-00, 12-26-00, 7-1-01, 6-2-02, 7-28-02, 5-1-03, 7-1-03, 10-12-03, 7-1-04, 7-1-05, 1-4-06, 7-1-06, 8-22-06, 7-1-07, 7-1-08, 7-1-09, 7-1-10, 7-1-11, 8-11-11, 7-1-12, 7-26-12, 7-1-13, 9-9-13, 7-1-14, 7-1-15, 7-29-15, 7-1-16.

BE ADVISED THAT THESE PROPOSED RULES MAY BE FILED FOR ADOPTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING THE COMMISSION MEETING AT WHICH THEY ARE CONSIDERED IF THE RULES ARE NOT CHANGED. IF CHANGED, THE RULES MAY BE FILED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF CHANGE IN THE F.A.R.

NAME OF PERSON ORIGINATING PROPOSED RULE: Diane R. Eggeman, Director, Division of Hunting and Game Management, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600.

NAME OF AGENCY HEAD WHO APPROVED THE PROPOSED RULE: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

DATE PROPOSED RULE APPROVED BY AGENCY HEAD: November 19, 2015

DATE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT PUBLISHED IN FAR: January 8, 2015