Order No. EO 18-26

Special Regulations for the
Everglades and Francis S. Taylor
Wildlife Management Area

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution and Rule 68A-14.001(2), F.A.C., hereby establishes, by order, special regulations for the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Management Area. These special regulations are necessary due to inordinately high water levels associated with recent storm events that have jeopardized wildlife. The special regulations are as follows:

(1) The L4 south and L5 south levee roads are closed to all public access.

(2) Water Conservation Area 2 (2A and 2B) and that portion of Water Conservation Area 3A South located east of the Miami Canal between I-75 and the L-67A levee remain open to public access.

(3) Public access is prohibited in the remainder of the area, except:

   a. Vessels, other than airboats, may be operated in established canals.

   b. Licensed and permitted individuals may participate in the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, waterfowl hunting, fishing, frogging, and non-native reptile removal. Access for these activities is limited to vessels, other than airboats, and participants shall maintain a minimum distance of 100 yards from any tree island to minimize disturbance to terrestrial wildlife.

   c. Permitted python removal contractors employed by the South Florida Water Management District or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may use vehicles on levee roads other than the L4 south and L5 south levee roads.

(4) The taking of wildlife is prohibited except light geese, ducks and coot may be taken pursuant to 68A-13.003, alligator may be taken pursuant to the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, and frogging is allowed pursuant to 68A-15.004.

(5) Any provisions of Rule 68A-15.064 or 68A-15.004, F.A.C., which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby superseded.

This order shall take effect immediately upon signing, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by subsequent order.
Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution Rules 68-1.009 F.A.C. and 68A-14.001, F.A.C.

Law Implemented: IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution, §375.313 F.S.


Thomas Reinert, Regional Director
for Eric Sutton, Executive Director

ATTEST:

Agency Clerk