

Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-13.004
Agenda Item 3 B
June 22, 2016

68A-13.004 Hunting Regulations for Non-Migratory Game and Issuance of Antlerless Deer Permits.

The hunting regulations for non-migratory game shall be as follows unless otherwise amended by the Commission, provided that regulations for hunting on wildlife management areas shall be as established by specific rule.

(1) through (2) No change.

(3) Open seasons:

(a) through (f) No change.

(g) Bear:

1. East Panhandle, North (except in Columbia County west of Interstate 75 and south of Interstate 10; Duval County north of Interstate 10, north and east of Interstate 295, and east of Interstate 95; Nassau County; and Suwannee County south of Interstate 10), Central (except in Alachua County west of Interstate 75; Brevard County south and west of Beachline Expressway/State Route 528 and east of Interstate 95; Lake County west and south of Florida's Turnpike/State Route 91; Marion County west of Interstate 75; Orange County south of Florida's Turnpike/State Route 91, south of State Road 50, west of U.S. Highway 17/U.S. Highway 441, and south of Beachline Expressway/State Route 528; and Sumter County west of Interstate 75 and south and west of Florida's Turnpike/State Route 91), and South (except in Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach counties) BMUs: Opening 8 days ~~the Saturday~~ prior to the last Saturday in October and closing 3 ~~6~~ days thereafter, opening 3 days prior to the last Saturday in October and closing the last Saturday in October, and opening 2 days after the last Saturday in October and closing 3 days thereafter. If a BMUs harvest objective, established pursuant to subparagraph 2., is attained prior to the season close ~~and on or after the second day of the season,~~ that BMUs season may be closed by Order of the Executive Director shall close at 11:59 p.m. on the day its harvest objective is attained.

2. The harvest objective for each BMU shall be as established by Order of the Executive Director, ~~after approval of the Commission,~~ and shall be based on the proportion of the BMU population available for harvest consistent with biologically sustainable population objectives for each BMU.

3. All bear taken shall be tagged immediately upon recovery with an identifying tag issued by the Commission. Bear may not be possessed unless the identifying tag has been affixed to the carcass. The identifying tag shall remain affixed to the carcass until the bear is checked and tagged by Commission personnel at a Commission designated check station.

~~4. 3.~~ All bear taken shall be checked and tagged by Commission personnel within 12 hours of recovery at a Commission designated check station. The tag affixed by Commission personnel at a check station shall remain affixed to the hide unless until it is tanned or mounted.

(h) through (i) No change.

(4) through (5) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: September 20, 2016