

Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-15.062
Agenda Item 3 B
June 22, 2016

68A-15.062 Specific Regulations for Wildlife Management Areas – North Central Region.

(1) No Change.

(2) Cypress Creek Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. through 6. No change.

7. Bear – During the open season established for the North BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C., except during the muzzleloading gun season.

(b) Legal to take: Antlered deer, bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the North BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C. and during the bear season), gray squirrel, rabbit, furbearers and fish. 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.

(c) through (d) No change.

(3) No change.

(4) Lochloosa Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of the archery and muzzleloading gun seasons that coincide with the open season established for the Central BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. 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.

(c) through (d) No change.

(5) No change.

(6) Big Bend Wildlife Management Area – Tide Swamp Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. through 9. No change.

~~10. Bear – During the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.~~

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during the bear season)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. Taking 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.

(c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 2. No change.

3. During the muzzleloading gun season, ~~the bear season~~, the youth turkey hunt, and the first 16 days of the archery, general gun and spring turkey seasons, hunters shall check in and out at a check station when entering or exiting the area and check all game taken.

4. through 7. No change.

(7) Big Bend Wildlife Management Area – Spring Creek Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. through 9. No change.

~~10. Bear – During the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.~~

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during the bear season)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with two or more points is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age.

(c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. During the muzzleloading gun season, ~~the bear season~~, the youth turkey hunt, and the first 16 days of the archery, general gun and spring turkey seasons, hunters shall check in and out at a check station when entering or exiting the area and shall check all game taken.

2. through 8. No change.

~~9. Bear – During the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.~~

(8) Big Bend Wildlife Management Area – Hickory Mound Unit.

(a) Open season:

1. through 8. No change.

~~9. Bear – During the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.~~

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during the bear season)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with two or more points is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age.

(c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 5. No change.

6. During ~~the bear season and~~ the first 16 days of the archery, general gun and spring turkey seasons, hunters shall check in and out at a check station when entering or exiting the area and check all game taken. Waterfowl hunters using the Hickory Mound Impoundment must check in and out at the check station whenever it is manned and check all game taken.

7. through 12. No change.

(9) No change.

(10) Big Bend Wildlife Management Area – Snipe Island Unit.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of the archery and muzzleloading gun seasons that coincide with the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. The bag limit for deer shall be one per person per day. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with two or more points is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. During archery season quota periods, one turkey may be taken per person, but no more than two turkeys per quota permit. During archery season non-quota periods, one turkey may be taken per person. During spring turkey season quota periods, one gobbler or bearded turkey may be taken per person, but no more than two per quota permit. During spring turkey season non-quota periods, one gobbler or bearded turkey may be taken per person. Gobblers or bearded turkeys may be taken during spring turkey season from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

(c) through (d) No change.

(11) through (26) No change.

(27) Middle Aucilla Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. through 8. No change.

9. Bear – During the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C., except during the muzzleloading gun season.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C. and during the bear season), fish and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with two or more points is prohibited, except by persons less than 16

years of age.

(c) through (d) No change.

(28) Little River Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: Antlered deer, antlerless deer (during the family hunt only), ~~bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the North BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.)~~, rabbit, gray squirrel, quail (only during the first 16 days of the small game season), furbearers and fish. 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. During the family hunt, one antlered and one antlerless deer may be taken per quota permit. During the spring turkey season, one gobbler or bearded turkey may be taken per person, but no more than two per quota permit.

(c) through (d) No change.

(29) No change.

(30) Bayard Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of 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. The bag limit for deer shall be one deer per person, but no more than two deer per quota permit during archery season and one antlered deer per person, but no more than two antlered deer per quota permit during muzzleloading gun season. 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.

(c) through (d) No change.

(31) No change.

(33) Cary Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the North BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.)~~, fish and frogs except that only wild hog, deer, ~~bear~~, waterfowl, fish and frogs may be taken during the family hunt, and 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. During the archery season the bag limit for deer shall be one deer per person, but no more than two deer per quota permit. During the family hunt the bag limit shall be one antlered and one antlerless deer per quota permit. During the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons the bag limit shall be one antlered deer per person, but no more than two antlered deer per quota permit. Only wild hog may be taken during the wild hog-still season. During the spring turkey season one gobbler or bearded turkey may be taken per person, but no more than two per quota permit.

(c) through (d) No change.

(34) Ralph E. Simmons Memorial Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the North BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.)~~, fish, frogs and furbearers. 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. During the archery and general gun for mobility-impaired seasons and the family hunt, the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered and one antlerless deer per quota permit. During the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons, the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered deer per person, but no more than two deer per quota permit. During the general gun for mobility-impaired season only certified mobility-impaired hunters

may take antlerless deer.

(c) through (d) No change.

(35) Lower Econfina River Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, bear (only during those portions of the archery and muzzleloading gun seasons ~~season~~ that coincide with the open season established for the East Panhandle BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C.), fish, frogs and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with two or more points is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age.

(c) through (d) No change.

(36) Belmore Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. through 10. No change.

11. Bear – During the open season established for the Central BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C., except during the muzzleloading gun season.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the Central BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C and during the bear season), fish, frogs and furbearers. During the archery season the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered or one antlerless deer per quota permit. During the family hunts the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered and one antlerless deer per quota permit. During the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered deer per quota permit. Taking 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. During the spring turkey season one gobbler or bearded turkey may be taken per quota permit.

(c) through (d) No change.

(37) Four Creeks Wildlife Management Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, ~~bear (only during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the North BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C)~~; fish, frogs and furbearers. During the archery season the bag limit for deer shall be one deer per quota permit. During the family hunt the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered and one antlerless deer per quota permit. During the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons the bag limit for deer shall be one deer per quota permit. Taking 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. During the spring turkey season one gobbler or bearded turkey may be taken per quota permit. Only wild hog may be taken during the wild hog-still season.

(c) through (d) No change.

(38) through (40) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: September 20, 2016