

**Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-13.004
Agenda Item 21.C.
November 19, 2015**

DRAFT RULE

RULE NO: 68A-13.004

RULE TITLE: Hunting Regulations for Non-Migratory Game and Issuance of Antlerless Deer Permits

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to clarify that the daily bag limit of deer shall be no more than 2 deer per day, except as authorized by the executive director; and shift the antlerless deer season in DMU A3 to align with the antlered deer season in DMU A3. The effect of the proposed rule amendment will be to enable the agency to better manage white-tailed deer populations.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment would clarify that the daily bag limit of deer shall be no more than 2 deer per day, except as authorized by the executive director; and shift the antlerless deer season in DMU A3 to align with the antlered deer season in DMU A3 (no change in season length, the season would begin on the Saturday before Thanksgiving rather than Friday).

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

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68A-13.004 Hunting Regulations for Non-Migratory Game and Issuance of Antlerless Deer Permits and Private Lands Deer Management 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) Bag and possession limits:

(a) Deer: Possession limit, four; daily bag as follows, provided no person shall take more than 2 deer per day except as provided by subparagraph 5. or as authorized by the Executive Director:

1. through 5. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(2) No change.

(3) Open seasons:

(a) No change.

(b) Antlerless deer:

1. Zone A:

a. through b. No change.

c. DMU A3: Open during the first 16 days of the archery and crossbow seasons in Zone A, and opening the ~~Saturday~~ Friday before the fourth Thursday in November and closing 3 days thereafter.

2. through 4. No change.

(c) through (i) No change.

(4) through (5) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 8-1-79, Amended 5-19-80, 6-4-81, 6-21-82, 7-1-83, 7-1-84, 7-1-85, Formerly 39-13.04, Amended 6-1-86, 5-10-87, 6-8-87, 5-1-88, 7-1-89, 7-1-90, 7-1-91, 7-1-92, 7-1-93, 3-1-94, 7-1-94, 7-1-96, 10-28-97, 4-27-98, 12-28-98, Formerly 39-13.004, Amended 7-1-01, 5-13-02, 10-16-02, 7-1-05, 7-1-06, 7-1-08, 7-1-10, 1-1-11, 7-26-12, 7-1-13, 6-1-13, 7-1-14, 7-2-14, 7-1-15, 7-29-15, 7-1-16.