

**Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-13.003
Agenda Item 10A
February 21, 2019**

DRAFT RULE

RULE NO: 68A-13.003

RULE TITLE: Hunting Regulations for Ducks, Geese, and Coots.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to revise hunting regulations pertaining to ducks, geese, and coots. The effect of the proposed rule amendment will be to redistribute the 2-day Youth Waterfowl Hunt, increase flexibility for waterfowl hunters, and enhance participation in the Youth Waterfowl Hunt.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment would redistribute the 2-day Youth Waterfowl Hunt so that one hunt day would occur the Saturday prior to the opening of the first phase of duck, light goose, and coot season and one hunt day would occur the second Saturday following the close of the second phase of duck, light goose, and coot season.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68A-13.003 Hunting Regulations for Ducks, Geese, and Coots.

The Commission has approved the following regulations and bag limits for taking ducks, geese, and coots:

(1) Duck, light goose, and coot season:

(a) through (c) No change.

(d) In addition to the open season specified in paragraph (1)(a), above, a “Youth Waterfowl Hunt” will be held the Saturday prior to the opening of the first phase as specified in subparagraph (1)(a)1. above, and the second Saturday following the close of the second phase as specified in subparagraph (1)(a)2. above ~~on the first Saturday and Sunday following the last Sunday in January.~~ Youth hunters must be under 16 years of age and must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult at least 18 years of age. Daily bag limits and species restrictions for ducks, geese, and coots will be as described in paragraphs (1)(f) and (4)(c). Common moorhens may also be taken on the “Youth Waterfowl Hunt;” bag and possession limits for this species will be as specified in Rule 68A-13.008, F.A.C.

(e) through (f) No change.

(2) through (5) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 8-1-79, Amended 10-23-79, 8-19-80, 9-29-81, 8-30-82, 7-27-83, 8-13-84, 8-13-85, 10-1-85, Formerly 39-13.03, Amended 8-5-86, 8-24-87, 8-18-88, 12-12-88, 8-17-89, 10-30-89, 8-9-90, 10-31-90, 8-22-91, 10-31-91, 8-23-92, 10-22-92, 9-2-93, 10-28-93, 11-6-94, 10-23-95, 10-20-96, 8-7-97, 10-28-97, 11-12-98, 6-23-99, Formerly 39-13.003, Amended 11-7-00, 5-13-02, 5-1-03, 7-1-04, 7-1-05, 2-1-06, 7-1-06, 1-9-07, 1-8-08, 7-1-08, 1-6-09, 1-19-10, 7-1-10, 1-5-11, 3-25-12, 2-12-13, 1-23-14, 1-19-15, 12-21-15, 7-1-16, 7-1-17, 7-1-19.