The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, pursuant to Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution, and Rule 68A-15.001(2) hereby establishes, by order, special regulations for the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land, and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas. These special regulations are necessary to modify the effective date of a seasonal closure prohibiting the use of motor vehicles, swamp buggies, and tracked vehicles, which was previously approved by the Commission but does not take effect until July 1, 2023. The closure must be in effect immediately following the small game season to reduce the potential for resource damage prior to July 1. The special regulations are as follows:

(1) Motor vehicles, except swamp buggies and tracked vehicles, are prohibited outside hunting seasons and associated scouting periods, except street-legal vehicles are allowed on designated levees open to motor vehicles.

(2) In Everglades and Francis S. Taylor WMA, swamp buggies and tracked vehicles are allowed year-round, except during the archery, muzzleloading gun, and general gun-walk seasons when they are allowed on designated levees only, and except by permit only during the general gun-vehicle season.

(3) In Holey Land WMA, swamp buggies and tracked vehicles are allowed year-round, except during the archery, muzzleloading gun, and general gun-walk seasons when they are allowed on designated levees only, except by permit only during the general gun-vehicle season, and except from the day after the close of small game season through 5:59 a.m. two weeks prior to archery season when they are allowed on designated levees only.

(4) In Rotenberger WMA, swamp buggies and tracked vehicles are allowed year-round, except during the archery, muzzleloading gun, and general gun-walk seasons when they are allowed on designated levees only and except from the day after the close of small game season through 5:59 a.m. two weeks prior to archery season when they are allowed on designated levees only.

(5) Any provisions of Rule 68A-15.064 or 68A-15.004, F.A.C., which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby superseded.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 at 12:01 AM, Monday, March 6, 2023, and shall remain in effect until 11:59 PM, Friday, June 30, 2023.
EO 23-10

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AUTHORITY: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution
Rules 68-1.009 F.A.C., and 68A-14.001, F.A.C.

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


Thomas Reinert, Regional Director

ATTEST:

APPROVED as to form and legality:

Quilla Miralia
Commission Attorney