

STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Order No. EO 17-48

**Special Regulations for the Everglades  
and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife  
Management Area**

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution and Rule 68A-14.001(2), F.A.C., hereby establishes, by order, special regulations for the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Management Area. These special regulations are necessary due to inordinately high water levels associated with recent storm events that have jeopardized wildlife. The special regulations are as follows:

- (1) The L4 and L5 levees are closed to public access.
- (2) Public access is prohibited in the remainder of these areas except:
  - a. Motor vehicles, swamp buggies, tracked vehicles, airboats, and ATVs are prohibited, except airboats may be operated in Conservation Area 2A from the L-35B levee north to the East-West Airboat Trail and in that portion of Conservation Area 3A South located east of the Miami Canal between 1-75 and the L-67A levee.
  - b. Vessels, other than airboats, may be operated only in established canals (except for those canals adjacent to or accessible from the L4 and L5 levees which remain closed to public access).
  - c. Licensed and permitted individuals may participate in the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, waterfowl hunting, fishing, and/or frogging.
- (3) The taking of wildlife is prohibited except light geese, ducks and coot may be taken pursuant to 68A-13.003, alligator may be taken pursuant to the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, and frogging is allowed pursuant to 68A-15.004.
- (4) Any provisions of Rule 68A-15.064 or 68A-15.004, F.A.C., which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby superseded.

This order shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on October 19, 2017, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by subsequent order.

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

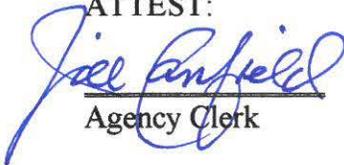
Law Implemented: IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution, §375.313 F.S.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE  
FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA  
THIS 18th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2017.



Thomas Reinert, Regional Director  
for Nick Wiley, Executive Director

ATTEST:



Jill Sanford  
Agency Clerk



The Open/Closed status related to Hurricane Irma webpage should be adjusted as follows for the South Region:

**South Region** - The following FWC managed public areas are closed. Upon reopening, they will be removed from this list. Some public areas are open but may contain additional road/canal/unit/etc. closures as a result of storm activity. You can review these closures below by WMA.

- ~~Everglades WMA~~
- Holey Land WMA
- ~~Keys WEA~~
- Rotenberger WMA

**South Region road/canal/unit closures** - The following FWC managed public areas are open to public access but contain additional closures as a result of storm activity. Once reopened, they will be removed from this list.

- Big Cypress WMA – The Stairsteps Unit is closed to public access. The Swamp Welcome Center and all campgrounds EXCEPT Midway, Monument, and Burns Lake are closed.
- Everglades & Francis S. Taylor WMA – The L4 and L5 levee roads are closed west of the Harold Campbell Public Use Area until further notice. Public access is prohibited in the rest of the area except:
  1. Airboats are prohibited, except airboats may be operated in Conservation Area 2A from the L-35B levee north to the East-West Airboat Trail and in that portion of Conservation Area 3A South located east of the Miami Canal between 1-75 and the L-67A levee.
  2. Motor vehicles, swamp buggies, tracked vehicles, and ATVs are prohibited.
  3. Vessels, other than airboats, may be operated in established canals (except for those canals adjacent to or accessible from the L4 and L5 levees which are closed to public access).
  4. Take of wildlife is prohibited, except licensed and permitted individuals may participate in the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, fishing, or frogging.
- Fisheating Creek WMA - Campground facilities will remain closed until further notice. Other local restrictions may apply as posted on-site.
- Holey Land WMA, Rotenberger WMA, STA 5/6 - The L4 and L5 levee roads are closed west of the Harold Campbell Public Use Area until further notice.
- Picayune Strand WMA – Some roads and trails remain closed until further notice. Please refer to closure information provided on the [Picayune Strand State Forest](#) page for more details.
- Spirit-of-the-Wild WMA - Trail 4 remains closed until further notice.