This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and other recreational use on the Holton Creek Wildlife Management Area. Regulations that are new or differ substantially from last year are shown in bold print. Area users should familiarize themselves with all regulations. For exact wording of the wildlife laws and regulations, see the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s wildlife code, on file with the Secretary of State and state libraries. This brochure, the Florida Hunting Regulations handbook, and quota permit worksheets should provide the information necessary for you to plan your hunting activities. These publications are available at MyFWC.com.

Persons using wildlife management areas are required to have appropriate licenses, permits and stamps. The following persons are exempt from all license and permit requirements (except for quota permits when listed as “no exemptions,” recreational use permits, antlerless deer permits and the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp [federal duck stamp]): Florida residents who are 65 years of age or older; residents who possess a Florida Resident Disabled Person Hunting and Fishing Certificate; residents in the U.S. Armed Forces, not stationed in Florida, while home on leave for 30 days or less, upon submission of orders; and children under 16 years of age. Children under 16 years of age are exempt from the federal duck stamp. Anyone born on or after June 1, 1975 and 16 years of age or older must have passed a Commission-approved hunter-safety course prior to being issued a hunting license, except the Hunter Safety Mentoring exemption allows anyone to purchase a hunting license and hunt under the supervision of a licensed hunter, 21 years of age or older.

Licenses and permits may be purchased from county tax collectors, license agents, by telephone at 888-486-8356 or at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com. A no-cost Migratory Bird Permit is available when purchasing a hunting license. Any waterfowl hunter 16 years of age or older must possess a federal duck stamp.

**Quota Permit Information:**
General Gun Mobility-impaired - 40, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 4 hunts.
Spring Turkey Mobility-impaired - 10, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 2 hunts.

Permit applications: Hunters must submit electronic applications for quota permits at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com. Worksheets listing hunts, application periods, deadlines and instructions are available at county tax collector’s offices, FWC offices or MyFWC.com. Quota application periods occur throughout the year beginning April 1; please refer to the hunting handbook or MyFWC.com for specific dates. Worksheets will be available about 2 weeks prior to each application period.
Guest hunters: Guest permits are not issued for Holton Creek WMA mobility-impaired season hunts.

Youth and mentor license holders: A supervisor is required to accompany a youth or mentor license holder during any hunt. A youth hunter (less than 16 years of age) must be supervised by a person at least 18 years of age. A mentor license holder must be supervised by a licensed hunter at least 21 years of age. Unless exempt, only those supervisors with proper licenses and permits may hunt. If the supervisor is hunting during any hunt for which quota permits are issued, at least 1 person in the party must be in possession of a quota permit.

Assistant for mobility-impaired hunters: Mobility-impaired hunters may be accompanied by 1 non-hunting assistant that may participate in the hunt (no license required), but the assistant may not harvest wildlife with archery equipment or a gun.

Transfer of permits: Holton Creek mobility-impaired quota permits are transferable, but only to another certified mobility-impaired hunter. However, only 1 quota permit may be used per individual, per hunt. Quota permits issued to exempt hunters are transferable only to another person with the same type of exemption, except permits marked "exempt senior" may be transferred to a youth younger than 16 years of age. The sale or purchase of any quota permit is prohibited.

General Area Regulations:
All general laws and regulations relating to wildlife and fish shall apply unless specifically exempted for this area. Hunting or the taking of wildlife or fish on this area shall be allowed only during the open seasons and in accordance with the following regulations:

1. Any person hunting deer or accompanying another person hunting deer shall wear at least 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent-orange material as an outer garment, above the waistline.
2. Taking of spotted fawn, swimming deer or roosted turkey is prohibited.
3. It is illegal to hunt over bait or place any bait or other food for wildlife on this area.
4. Driving a metal object into any tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven, is prohibited.
5. No person shall cut, damage or remove any natural, man-made or cultural resource without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
6. Taking or attempting to take any game with the aid of live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, net, trap, snare, drug or poison is prohibited. Recorded calls and sounds can be used to hunt furbearers and wild hog.
7. The wanton and willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
8. Hunting, fishing or trapping is prohibited on any portion of the area posted as closed to those activities.
9. People, dogs, vehicles and other recreational equipment are prohibited in areas posted as “Closed to Public Access” by FWC administrative action.
10. Taking or herding wildlife from any motorized vehicle, aircraft or boat, which is under power is prohibited until power, and movement from that power, has ceased.
11. Most game may be hunted from ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset (see exceptions for each season).
12. The release of any animal is prohibited, except by permit from FWC or written authorization from the landowner or primary land manager.
13. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey on the area.
14. The planting or introduction of any plant is prohibited, without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
15. Wild hog may not be transported alive.
16. A hunting license is not required to hunt wild hog.
17. Littering is prohibited.
18. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass or woodlands.
19. An FWC Law Enforcement Officer may search any camp, vehicle or boat, in accordance with law.
20. Falconers may hunt during the statewide falconry season anytime a management area is open for public access. Falconers are not exempt from quota permits during hunts requiring them.

Public Access and Vehicles:
1. Open to public access year round, except during hunting seasons when only persons participating in the hunts and hikers using the Florida Trail are allowed.
2. During the day before each hunting period (scout day), the use of vehicles by persons not participating in the hunt is prohibited.
3. Public access is prohibited from 1 ½ hours after sunset until 1 ½ hours before sunrise.
4. Persons must enter and exit the area from Road 20-1, the Florida Trail or via the Suwannee River.
5. Vehicles may be operated only on numbered roads.
6. Airboats, ATVs, tracked vehicles, unlicensed and unregistered motorcycles are prohibited, except ATVs may be used by certified mobility-impaired hunters during all hunts.
7. Horses are allowed only during periods closed to hunting, only during daylight hours, and only on designated roads.
8. Parked vehicles may not obstruct a road, gate or firelane.
9. No motor vehicle shall be operated in areas designated as closed to vehicular traffic.
10. A marked footpath called the Florida Trail traverses the area. This trail is open to hikers throughout the year.

Hunters, Check Stations and Harvest Reporting:
1. Hunting equipment may not be taken onto the WMA until after 8 a.m. the day before the opening of a season and shall be removed by 6 p.m. 1 day after the end of the season.
2. Hunters must check in at the check station upon entering and check out upon leaving the area and check all game harvested.
3. Check station hours are 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. during Eastern Daylight Saving Time and 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. during Eastern Standard Time, except during spring turkey season when hours are 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.
4. Mobility-impaired hunters must attend a pre-hunt orientation meeting (see each season for dates and location).

5. All deer harvested must be reported to the harvest reporting system within 24 hours of harvest in addition to checking all game at the check station. See Florida Hunting Regulations handbook for deer harvest reporting instructions.

**Guns:**
1. Hunting at night with a gun is prohibited.
2. Muzzleloading guns used for taking deer must be .30 caliber or larger, if firing a single bullet, or be 20 gauge or larger if firing 2 or more balls.
3. Hunting deer with rimfire or non-expanding, full metal jacket (military ball) ammunition is prohibited.
4. Hunting wildlife (other than migratory birds) with air guns is allowed. See Florida Hunting Regulations handbook for details.
5. Hunting deer with air guns is prohibited, except pre-charged pneumatic (PCP) air guns propelling a bolt, arrow or bullet .30 caliber or larger are allowed.
6. Hunting turkey with air guns is prohibited, except PCP air guns propelling a bolt or arrow are allowed.
7. Children under the age of 16 hunting with a firearm or air gun must be in the presence of a supervising adult.
8. No person shall discharge a firearm or have a loaded firearm in hand while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
9. For hunting non-migratory game, only shotguns, rifles, pistols, air guns, bows, crossbows or falconry may be used.
10. Hunting with full automatic firearms, centerfire semi-automatic rifles having a magazine capable of holding more than 5 rounds, explosive or drug-injecting devices and set guns is prohibited.
11. The discharge of a firearm outside of periods open to hunting or in areas closed to hunting is prohibited per s. 790.15 FS.

**Dogs:**
1. Hunting with dogs is prohibited.
2. No person shall allow any dog to pursue or molest any wildlife during any period in which the taking of wildlife by the use of dogs is prohibited.
3. Dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game.
4. For purposes other than hunting, dogs are allowed, but must be kept under physical restraint at all times.

**Bag and Possession Limits:**
1. **Deer** - No person shall exceed statewide bag limits.
   A. Area limits - 1 per quota permit. Only 1 permit may be used per hunt.
   B. **Statewide limits** - Annual limit 5 deer (only 2 of which may be antlerless), daily limit 2, possession limit 4.
   C. As part of the statewide annual deer limit, youth less than 16 years of age may harvest 1 deer annually not meeting antler point requirements but having at least 1 antler 5 inches or more in length.
2. Wild hog - No size or bag limit.
3. Turkey - No person shall exceed statewide bag limits.
   A. Area limits - 1 per quota permit. Only 1 permit may be used per hunt.
   B. Statewide limits - All fall seasons combined limit 2, spring season limit 2, daily limit 2, possession limit 2.
4. Gray squirrel and rabbit - Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each.
5. Raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk and nutria - No bag limits.
6. Bobcat and otter - Possession limit 1 unless in possession of a trapping license.

**General Gun Mobility-Impaired Season:**
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit, hunting license, management area permit, deer permit (if hunting deer) and wild turkey permit (if hunting wild turkey).
Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least 1 antler having 3 or more points (each point 1-inch or more in length) OR a main beam length of 10 inches or more, antlerless deer (which includes does and bucks with antlers less than 5 inches in length, but not spotted fawn), wild hog, bearded turkey or gobbler, gray squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk and nutria. Bobcat and otter beginning December 13.
Regulations Unique to General Gun Mobility-impaired Season -
1. Hunt participants are required to attend a pre-hunt orientation meeting the day prior to their hunt at the Holton Creek check station, at 3 p.m. on October 10, 24, 31 or December 12.
2. Hunters may be accompanied by an assistant who will participate in a non-hunting capacity. Any person accompanying a hunter shall be exempt from all license, permit and stamp requirements.
3. Only 1 quota permit may be used per individual, per hunt.

**Spring Turkey Mobility-Impaired Season:**
March 27-29 and April 17-19.
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit, hunting license, management area permit and wild turkey permit.
Legal to Hunt - Bearded turkey or gobbler.
Regulations Unique to Spring Turkey Mobility-Impaired Season -
1. Hunt participants are required to attend a pre-hunt orientation meeting the day prior to their hunt at the Holton Creek check station, at 3 p.m. on March 26 or April 16.
2. Hunters may be accompanied by an assistant who will participate in a non-hunting capacity. Any person accompanying a hunter shall be exempt from all license, permit and stamp requirements.
3. Only 1 quota permit may be used per individual, per hunt.
4. **Legal shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until sunset.**
5. Hunting other animals is prohibited.
6. Only bows, crossbows, PCP air guns propelling a bolt or arrow and shotguns using a #2 or smaller shot size may be used for hunting.
**Fishing:**
Allowed year round.
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Fishing license.
Legal to Take - See Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations Summary.
Regulations Unique to Fishing - All General Freshwater Fishing Regulations shall apply.
   Frogging is prohibited.

**General Information:**
1. It is recommended that mobility-impaired hunters scout the area prior to the pre-hunt orientation to identify desired and alternate hunt locations. Hunt station assignments will not be made for the spring turkey hunts.
2. Information for persons with disabilities can be found at MyFWC.com/ADA.
3. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 386-758-0525 (TDD 800-955-8771).
4. The FWC is not responsible for protection of personal property and will not be liable for theft of or damage to personal property.
5. Please report the location of any sick or extremely skinny deer to the Chronic Wasting Disease hotline, toll free at 866-293-9282.

**Suwannee River WMD Rules and Information:**
1. These lands were acquired and are managed by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) for the conservation and protection of water resources, public recreational use and the restoration of natural communities. The SRWMD lands may be used for recreational purposes that are compatible with these objectives.
2. Public use of SRWMD lands is regulated by Chapter 40B-9, Florida Administrative Code in addition to the FWC rules listed above. For detailed information regarding public use rules and recreational opportunities on SRWMD lands, please visit mysuwanneeriver.com or contact the Land Management Specialist at 386-362-1001, 800-226-1066 (FL only) or recreation@srwmd.org.
3. The SRWMD management activities include prescribed burning and timber harvesting during most months of the year. For personal safety reasons, area users should contact the SRWMD for information and locations at 386-362-1001 or 800-226-1066 (FL only). Notices are posted at mysuwanneeriver.com.
4. The possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

**Cooperation Requested:**
   If you see law violators or suspicious activities, contact your nearest Commission regional office or call 888-404-FWCC. You may qualify for a cash reward from the Wildlife Alert Reward Association.

   The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: The Office for Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. The project described in this
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