This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and other recreational use on the Tosohatchee 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:**

Archery - 150, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 2 hunts.
Muzzleloading Gun - 150, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 2 hunts.
General Gun - 150, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 2 hunts.
Wild Hog-Dog (Fridays through Sundays) - 150, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 2 hunts.
Wild Hog-Dog (Mondays through Thursdays) - 150, no-cost, daily quota permits (no exemptions) are available first-come, first-served at the check station each day.
Spring Turkey - 35, no-cost, quota permits (no exemptions) for each of 3 hunts.

Permit applications: Hunters must submit electronic applications for quota and special-opportunity 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: For each non-transferable archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun, wild hog, spring turkey and mobility-impaired quota permit issued through GoOutdoorsFlorida.com, a quota permit holder (host) may take a guest hunter by obtaining a guest permit. A guest hunter must possess a completed guest permit while hunting except the following persons may be a guest hunter without a guest permit: a youth under 16 years of age, a youth supervisor, a mentor license holder or a mentor license supervisor. A host may only bring 1 guest hunter at a time and may only use 1 guest permit per day. The following persons are not considered to be guest hunters: other quota permit holders, non-hunters and exempt hunters (on areas and during seasons that allow exemptions). The guest hunter and host must enter and exit the area together and must share a street-legal vehicle while hunting on the area. The guest hunter may hunt only while the host is on the area. Refer to the quota hunt worksheets for additional information.

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.

Transfer of permits: Quota and guest permits are not transferable. A positive form of identification is required when using a non-transferable permit, except for a youth under 16 years of age. The sale or purchase of any quota permit or guest permit is prohibited.

**Daily-Use Permit Information:**
Persons engaged in recreational activities (including camping) other than hunting must possess a daily-use permit or a management area permit. Daily-use permits may be purchased at designated entry points of the management area. A daily-use permit is $3 per vehicle for all outdoor recreational activities other than hunting (except that a daily-use permit is $4 per person for camping and $1 per person for persons entering the area on foot or bicycle) and $50 per group of 25 or more people. Cash and personal checks are acceptable methods of payment. Members of a management area permit holder’s immediate family (spouse and dependent children) while traveling in the same vehicle or in the company of a permit holder, persons through-hiking on the Florida Trail, and persons exempt from the management area permit requirement, are exempt from this permit requirement for recreational uses other than hunting.

**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. These provisions are not required when hunting with a bow and arrow during archery season.
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 coyotes 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 non-native 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 every day from 8 a.m. until sunset except during hunting periods when hours of access are as described in #3 under Hunters and Check Stations.
2. Vehicles may be operated only on named roads and may be parked only at designated parking areas.
3. Parked vehicles may not obstruct a road, gate or firelane.
4. Airboats, all-terrain vehicles, tracked vehicles and unlicensed and unregistered motorcycles are prohibited.
5. Horses are prohibited during hunting seasons.
6. No motor vehicle shall be operated in areas designated as closed to vehicular traffic.
7. 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 a 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 Daylight Savings Time and 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. during Eastern Standard Time on designated hunt days.
4. **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 with a gun on or from the rights-of-way of all paved roads is prohibited.
2. The discharge of a firearm outside of periods open to hunting or in areas closed to hunting is prohibited per s. 790.15 FS.
3. Hunting at night with a gun is prohibited.
4. **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.**
5. Hunting deer with rimfire or non-expanding, full metal jacket (military ball) ammunition is prohibited.
6. Hunting wildlife (other than migratory birds) with air guns is allowed. See Florida Hunting Regulations handbook for details.
7. 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.
8. Hunting turkey with air guns is prohibited, except PCP air guns propelling a bolt or arrow are allowed.
9. Children under the age of 16 hunting with a firearm must be in the presence of a supervising adult.
10. No person shall discharge a firearm or have a loaded firearm in hand while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
11. For hunting non-migratory game, only shotguns, rifles, pistols, air guns, bows, crossbows or falconry may be used.
12. 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.

**Dogs:**
1. Hunting with dogs is prohibited, except dogs may be used during the wild hog-dog season.
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.

**Camping:**
1. During hunting periods, camping is allowed only by through hikers and only at the designated through-trail campsites along the Florida Trail.
2. During non-hunting periods, tent camping is also allowed at designated campsites, but by permit only, which can be obtained by calling 407-568-5893. Please see Daily-Use Permit Information section for information on fees.

**Bag and Possession Limits:** A guest hunter must share the host’s bag limit, except bag limits specified as per person and the host is responsible for violations that exceed the bag limit.
1. **Deer - No person shall exceed statewide bag limits.**
   A. Area limits - 1 antlered and 1 antlerless deer per quota permit.
   NOTE: Antlerless deer on this area includes does and bucks with antlers less than 1 inch in length, but not spotted fawn.
   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 - Daily limit 1.
   B. Statewide Limits - All fall seasons combined limit 2, spring season limit 2, daily limit 2, possession limit 2.
4. Coyote - No bag limit.
5. Gray squirrel - Daily limit 12 per person, possession limit 24.

**Archery Season:**
October **3-6** and **10-13**.
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit, hunting license, management area permit, archery permit, deer permit (if hunting deer) and wild turkey permit (if hunting wild turkey).
Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least 1 antler with 3 or more points (each point 1-inch in length or more) OR a main beam length of 10 inches or more, antlerless deer (which includes does and bucks with antlers less than 1 inch in length, but not spotted fawn), wild hog, turkey of either sex, gray squirrel and coyote.
Regulations Unique to Archery Season - Hunting with guns or crossbows (except by disabled crossbow permit) is prohibited.
Muzzleloading Gun Season:
October 24-27 and October 31 through November 3.
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit, hunting license, management area permit, muzzleloading gun permit and deer permit (if hunting deer).
Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least 1 antler with 3 or more points (each point 1-inch in length or more) OR a main beam length of 10 inches or more, antlerless deer (which includes does and bucks with antlers less than 1 inch in length, but not spotted fawn), wild hog, gray squirrel and coyote.
Regulations Unique to Muzzleloading Gun Season - Hunting with archery equipment or guns, other than muzzleloading guns, is prohibited.

General Gun Season:
November 14-17 and 22-24.
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit, hunting license, management area permit and deer permit (if hunting deer).
Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least 1 antler with 3 or more points (each point 1-inch in length or more) OR a main beam length of 10 inches or more, antlerless deer (which includes does and bucks with antlers less than 1 inch in length, but not spotted fawn), wild hog, gray squirrel and coyote.

Wild Hog-Dog Season:
January 10-12, 13-16 and February 7-9, 10-13.
Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit (January 10-12 and February 7-9), daily quota permit (January 13-16 and February 10-13) and management area permit.
Legal to Hunt - Wild hog and gray squirrel.
Regulations Unique to Wild Hog-Dog Season -
1. During January 10-12 and February 7-9, each wild hog-dog quota permit allows the quota permit holder, a guest hunter and one additional hunter. On all other dates of the wild hog-dog season, each wild hog-dog daily permit allows a hunting group of 3 persons to participate in the hunt.
2. Hunting with more than 3 free-running dogs per hunting group is prohibited.

Trapping: Prohibited.

Spring Turkey Season:
March 21-23, April 3-5 and 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 Season -
1. Legal shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until sunset.
2. Hunting other animals is prohibited.
3. 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 and Frogging:
Allowed year round.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Fishing license and daily use or management area permit (if fishing). **Daily-use or management area permit (if frogging).**

Legal to Take - See Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations Summary.

Regulations Unique to Fishing and Frogging - All General Freshwater Fishing Regulations shall apply. Shooting frogs is allowed only during the listed open hunting seasons and only with the legal methods of take during each particular season.

General Information:
1. Information for persons with disabilities can be found at MyFWC.com/ADA.
2. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 352-732-1225 (TDD 800-955-8771).
3. The FWC is not responsible for protection of personal property and will not be liable for theft of or damage to personal property.
4. Please report the location of any sick or extremely skinny deer to the Chronic Wasting Disease hotline, toll free at 866-293-9282.

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.*

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