Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-15.065
Agenda Item 4
April 19, 2017

DRAFT RULE

RULE NO.: 68A-15.065 **RULE TITLE:** Specific Regulations for Wildlife Management Areas – North East Region.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to revise specific area regulations to expand small game hunting opportunities on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the North East Region. The effect of the proposed rule amendment will be to enable the agency to better manage fish and wildlife resources and public use on WMAs.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendments would revise specific area regulations to expand small game hunting opportunities on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the North East Region as follows:

Caravelle Ranch WMA – allow northern bobwhite to be released and taken by shotgun during the small game season. A daily no-cost permit and proof that northern bobwhite were purchased from a licensed game farm would be required for each individual or group participating. Release of northern bobwhite is limited to that portion of the area bounded by Loop Road.

Half Moon WMA – expand small game season by 8 days.

Salt Lake WMA – expand the small game season by 9 days; allow northern bobwhite to be released and taken by shotgun during the small game season. A daily no-cost permit and proof that northern bobwhite were purchased from a licensed game farm would be required for each individual or group participating.

Three Lakes WMA WMA, Prairie Lakes Unit – expand the small game season by 7 days.

Additionally, the proposed rule amendments would provide non-substantive technical changes, such as grammatical corrections, language standardization, or clarification of an existing rule.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68A-15.062 Specific Regulations for Wildlife Management Areas – North East Region.
(1) through (5) No change.
(6) Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area – Prairie Lakes Unit.
(a) Open season:
1. through 3. No change.
4. Small game – December 9 through January 7-~~31~~.
5. through 7. No change.
8. Wild hog-still – December 1-3 and January 12-14 ~~5-7~~, 26-28 and February 23-25.
9. through 10. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.
(7) through (13) No Change.
(14) Half Moon Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. through 3. No change.
4. Small game –December 1-17~~3, 8-10 and 15-17~~.
5. through 8. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.
(15) Caravelle Ranch Wildlife Management Area.
(a) through (c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. through 7. No change.

8. Northern bobwhite may be released and taken by shotgun during the small game season provided each individual or group participating possesses a daily permit and proof (including the name and address of the vendor and date of purchase) that the northern bobwhite were purchased from a licensed game farm within the past 90 days. Release of northern bobwhite is limited to that portion of the area bounded by Loop road.

(16) through (29) No change.

(30) Salt Lake Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:

1. through 3. No change.

4. Small game –December 8-10, 15-17; January 5-7, 12-14, 26-28; February 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25.

5. through 7. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:

1. through 9. No change.

10. Northern bobwhite may be released and taken by shotgun during the small game season provided each individual or group participating possesses a daily permit and proof (including the name and address of the vendor and date of purchase) that the northern bobwhite were purchased from a licensed game farm within the past 90 days.

(31) through (34) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 2017.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const., 379.2223, 375.313 FS. History–New 6-21-82, Amended 7-1-83, 11-17-83, 7-5-84, 7-1-85, 2-16-86, 5-7-86, 6-10-86, 11-27-86, 5-10-87, 5-1-88, 6-7-88, 7-1-89, 8-17-89, 7-1-90, 9-1-90, 7-1-91, 7-2-91, 7-1-92, 7-2-92, 8-23-92, 10-22-92, 7-1-93, 7-1-94, 2-9-95, 7-1-95, 7-1-96, 9-15-96, 6-1-97, 7-1-98, 7-2-98, 7-1-99, Formerly 39-15.062, Amended 12-9-99, 7-1-00, 7-1-01, 11-11-01, 6-2-02, 10-16-02, 5-25-03, 7-7-03, 9-29-03, 7-1-04, 8-1-04, 7-1-05, 8-1-05, 7-1-06, 7-2-06, 7-1-07, 7-5-07, 7-1-08, 7-1-09, 7-20-09, 7-1-10, 7-1-11, 7-1-12, 10-9-12, 7-1-13, 7-1-14, 8-26-14, 7-1-15, 7-29-15, 7-1-16, 7-1-17, 9-1-17.