
PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to revise specific area regulations on wildlife management areas (WMAs) in the Northeast Region and conform date changes to calendar year. 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 adjust season dates to conform to calendar year and revise specific area regulations on wildlife management areas (WMAs) in the Northeast Region.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:

68A-15.065 Specific Regulations for Wildlife Management Areas – Northeast Region.

(1) Herky Huffman/Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:
1. General gun – November 3-4 and November 5 through December 30.
7. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:
1. Hunters shall enter and exit at a designated entrance, check in and out at a check station and check all game taken. During small game season, hunters shall check in and.create using self-check boxes located at each designated entrance and record all game taken. Persons hunting and entering via the designated walk-in entrances on the Crabgrass Road Creek portion of the area shall have a daily permit issued from the check station in their possession (except during the small game season). Persons engaging in recreational activities other than hunting shall enter and exit at a designated entrance and register at the check station upon entering and exiting the area, except persons hiking through on the Florida National Scenic Trail.
2.通过 5. No change.
6. Hunting equipment may be taken onto the area until 8 a.m. seven days prior to the opening of the season and shall be removed from the WMA before 6 p.m. seven days following the close of the season.

(2) Ocala Wildlife Management Area.

(a) Open season:
1. General gun – November 10-11 through January 6-7 (Pipeline, Lake Delancy and Hopkins Prairie units only).
2. General gun dog – November 10-11 through 18-19 (Church Lake Unit only).
3. General gun still – November 24-25 through December 2-3 (Church Lake Unit only).
4. Small game – December 3-4 through March 3-4 (Church Lake Unit only) and January 7-8 through March 3-4 (Pipeline, Lake Delancy and Hopkins Prairie units only).
5. Archery – September 22-23 through October 21-22.
8. No change.
9. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10, 10-11 (Lake Delancy Unit only.)
10. Spring turkey – March 21-24 22-25, March 28-31 29 through April 1, April 4-7 5-8 and 11-14 12-15.
11. through 14. No change.

(b) Legal to take:
1. No change.
2. Furbearing animals – During the November 10 11 through March 1 period, hunting as specified in paragraph 68A-24.002(2)(b), F.A.C., is allowed only in the Pipeline and Church Lake units. Raccoons may also be hunted, with dogs only, from March 4 5 through April 14 15 only in that portion of the Pipeline Unit south of S.R. 40 and west of S.R. 19. The hunting of fox and bobcat by the use of dogs only shall be allowed from January 7 8 through April 14 15, only in that portion of the Pipeline Unit south of S.R. 40 and west of S.R. 19.
3. No change.
4. General regulations:
5. Dogs may be used to pursue rabbits from January 7 8 through April 14 15 in that portion of the Pipeline Unit south of S.R. 40 and west of S.R. 19.
6. No change.
7. No change.
8. through 9. No change.

(3) Richloam Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
2. Spring turkey – March 16-24 25-26 and March 25 26 through April 21 22.
3. Archery – October 13 14 through November 11 12.
4. No change.
8. through 9. No change.

(b) through (c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. through 5. No change.
6. through 8. renumbered 8. through 10. No change.

(4) Richloam Wildlife Management Area – Baird Unit.
(a) Open season:
4. No change.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10 10-11.
7. Small game – February 2 3 through March 3 4.
8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(5) Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. General gun – November 3-4 4-5 and November 5-6 through December 30 31.
3. Spring turkey – March 16 through April 21.
4. Archery – September 15-16 and September 17 through October 14.
5. No change.
9. through 10. No change.
11. Raccoon – January 11-13, 18-20 and 25-27 (from 1.5 hours before sunset on Friday until 1.5 hours after sunrise on Sunday) in that area between the Florida Turnpike and US 441 only.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, fish, alligators as specified in Rule 68A-25.042, F.A.C., frogs and furbearers.

The take of wild hog is prohibited during small game season and general-gun dog season. Taking quail is prohibited on the quail enhancement area (that portion of the area lying east of the Florida Turnpike) except during quail season as established annually by order of the Executive Director, based on annual fall quail surveys. The daily bag limit for quail on the quail enhancement area is six (6) per person. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. During the general gun for mobility-impaired season, the bag limit for antlerless deer is one per certified mobility-impaired hunter and only certified mobility-impaired hunters are allowed to take antlerless deer. The take of antlerless deer is prohibited during the archery season.

(c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. through 11. No change.

12. Hunting equipment may be taken onto the area after 8 a.m. seven days prior to the opening of the season and shall be removed from the area by 6 p.m. seven days following the close of the season.

(e) No change.

(6) Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area – Prairie Lakes Unit.
(a) Open season:
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10.
7. No change.
8. Wild hog-still – November 30 through December 31.
9. through 10. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(7) Tiger Bay Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. General gun – November 3-11 and November 12 through December 30.
2. Archery – September 15 through October 14.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10.
7. through 8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(8) Tiger Bay Wildlife Management Area – Rima Ridge Unit.
(a) Open season:
4. Small game – November 22 through December 30.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10.
7. through 8. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(9) Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – October 4-7 and 11-14.
6. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(10) Seminole Ranch Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – October 4-7 and 11-14.
8. renumbered 7. No change.
(b) through (c) No change.

(d) General regulations:
1. through 5. No change.
6. During the spring turkey season only shotguns are allowed for the taking of turkey.
7. through 10. renumbered 6. through 9. No change.

(11) Jumper Creek Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 15 through October 14.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10.
7. through 8. No change.
(b) through (c) No change.

(12) Rock Springs Run Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
5. No change.
(b) Legal to take: Only deer and wild hog and coyote may be taken during the archery, general gun and muzzleloading gun seasons, except bear may be taken during those portions of the muzzleloading gun season that coincide with the open season established for the Central BMU in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C. Taking of antlered deer...
not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. Only rabbit, gray squirrel, wild hog, coyote and bobwhite quail may be taken during the small game season. The bag limit for deer shall be one antlered and one antlerless deer per quota permit. During the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons, antlerless deer may be taken only by antlerless deer permit.

(c) through (d) No change.

(13) Guana River Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
4. Small game – November 30 through December 2 4-6, December 7-9 8-10, January 4-6 5-7, 11-13 12-14, 18-20 19-21 and 25-27 26-28.
6. through 7. No change.
(b) Legal to take: All legal game, fish, frogs and furbearers. One antlered and one antlerless deer may be taken per quota permit or per exempt hunter during the archery season. One antlered deer may be taken per quota permit or per exempt hunter during the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. Gobblers or bearded turkeys may be taken during the spring turkey season from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset. Taking wild hog during the last two weekends of the small game season is prohibited. Legal shooting hours for duck, light goose and coot: From the beginning of legal shooting hours established pursuant to Rule 68A-13.003, F.A.C., until noon. Turkey may only be taken during the spring turkey season. Only one turkey may be taken per quota permit.
(c) through (e) No change.

(14) Half Moon Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
4. Small game – November 30 through December 1 1-12.
8. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(15) Caravelle Ranch Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 22-30 23 through October 1.
2. Supervised small game – October 6-14 7-15.
5. No change.
6. Small game – November 22 23 through January 6 7 (Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only).
7. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10 10-11 (south of the Cross Florida Barge Canal only).
9. No change.
(b) through (c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. through 3. No change.
4. Hunters shall check in and out at the check station when entering and exiting the portion of the wildlife
management area south of C.R. 310 and west of S.R. 19 and the portion of the wildlife management area east of S.R. 19 within the WMA boundary area and shall check all game taken.

5. through 8. No change.

(16) Lake George Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10 10-11.
7. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(17) Lake George Wildlife Management Area – Dexter/Mary Farms Unit.
(a) Open season:
1. Small game – November 24-25 through December 9-10 and December 22-23 through January 6-7.
3. No change.
(b) through (e) No change.

(18) Seminole Forest Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
3. General gun – December 1-4 2-5 and 5-9 6-10.
7. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(19) Triple N Ranch Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
2. Special-opportunity deer – October 13-19 14-20 and October 27 28 through November 2 3.
5. through 6. renumbered 6. through 7. No change.
(b) Legal to take: Antlered deer, wild hog and antlerless deer (by antlerless deer permit only) during the special-opportunity deer and special-opportunity muzzleloading gun seasons. One antlered deer may be taken per special-opportunity deer permit. Taking antlered deer not having at least one antler with four or more points is prohibited. Only wild hog may be taken during the wild hog-still season. The take of wild hog is prohibited during small game season. All legal small game and furbearers may be taken during the small game season. One gobbler (or bearded turkey) may be taken per special-opportunity spring turkey permit. Gobblers or bearded turkeys may be taken during the spring turkey season from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.
(c) Camping: Allowed only at designated campsites and only during periods open to hunting and scouting. Camping equipment may be taken onto the area beginning at 2 p.m. on the day before the first scout day for the
season and shall be removed from the area before 6 p.m. one day following the close of the season. Only tents, trailers or self-propelled camping vehicles may be used for camping.

(d) General regulations:
1. through 5. No change.

6. Only individuals in possession of a special-opportunity fall permit may have vehicle access to the area on the Friday (only if camping), Saturday, Sunday the weekend prior to the hunt, and the Friday immediately preceding the hunt and one day after the hunt and only from sunrise to sunset on those days. Only individuals in possession of a special-opportunity spring turkey permit may have vehicle access to the area on the Wednesday (only if camping), Thursday and Friday preceding the hunt and only from 5:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Authorized hunting equipment may be taken onto the area during these times. During special-opportunity deer, small game and wild hog-still seasons, vehicle access is only allowed from 5:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., except vehicle access after 8:00 p.m. is also allowed by hunters camping, but only to directly access campsites. One day prior to each small game and wild hog-still hunt, only individuals participating in the hunt are allowed vehicle access and only from sunrise to sunset. During special-opportunity spring turkey season, vehicle access is only allowed from 4:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., except vehicle access is also allowed by hunters camping, but only to directly access campsites.

7. through 8. No change.

(20) Etoniah Creek Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 22-23 through October 7-8.
6. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(21) Little Big Econ Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 28-29 through October 4-5, October 5-11 6-12 and 12-20 13-21.
2. Muzzleloading gun – November 2-4 3-5 and 9-11 10-12.
6. through 7. renumbered 7. through 8. No change.
(b) No change.
(c) Camping: Prohibited except as authorized by the Florida Forest Service.
(d) No change.

(22) Lake Panasoffkee Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
2. Special-opportunity archery – September 20-23 21-24, October 2-5 3-6, 11-14 12-15, 23-26 24-27, November 1-4 2-5, 13-16 14-17, December 4-7 5-8 and 13-16 14-17.
5. Small game – February 1-3, 2-4 and 8-10 9-11 and March 1-3.
6. through 7. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(23) Ross Prairie Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
(24) Buck Lake Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 22-30 through October 1 and October 6-12.
7. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(25) Fort Drum Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Special-opportunity deer – October 27 through November 2.
5. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

(26) Gores Landing Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 22-23 through October 7.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10.
7. No change.
(b) Legal to take: All legal game, fish, frogs and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. During archery, muzzleloading gun, and general gun seasons, the bag limit for deer shall be one per person, but not more than two per quota permit. The take of wild hog is prohibited during small game season. During the spring turkey season, one gobbler (or bearded turkey) may be taken per person, but not more than two per quota permit.
(c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. No change.
2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except any dog may be used to take small game during the small game season.
3. through 4. No change.

(27) Seminole Forest Wildlife Management Area – Lake Tracy Unit.
(a) Open season:
5. Small game – January 4-6, 18-20, 19-21 and 25-27 and February 1-3 and 8-10.
8. through 9. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 15 through October 14.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10.
7. through 9. No change.
(b) Legal to take: All legal game, furbearers, fish, and frogs. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. Antlerless deer may be taken during the period November 17-18. Turkey of either sex may be taken during the muzzleloading gun season. Gobblers or bearded turkey may be taken during the general gun season only from November 3 through December 30.
(c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. through 5. No change.
6. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except bird dogs may be used during the small game, duck and coot seasons, and dogs may be used for small game during the small game season and wild hog hunting during the first 14 days of the small game season.
7. through 11. No change.
(29) Dunns Creek Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 22 through October 7 and November 17-25.
5. Spring turkey – March 16-18, March 29-31 through April 1 and April 12-14.
6. through 7. No change.
(b) Legal to take: All legal game, fish, frogs, and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. During archery season, the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered and one antlerless deer per quota permit. During muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons, the bag limit for deer shall be one antlered deer per person, but not more than two antlered deer per quota permit. Only wild hogs may be taken during the wild hog-still season.
(c) No change.
(d) General regulations:
1. through 8. No change.
9. Taking wildlife with rimfire or centerfire rifles or pistols is prohibited during the wild hog-still season.
10. renumbered 9. No change.
(30) Salt Lake Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 22-30 through October 1 and October 1-7.
4. Small game – December 7-9, 14-16, 21-23; January 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 25-27; February 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24.
7. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.
(31) Matanzas Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
5. Wild hog-still – December 1-7 2-8 and 8-16 9-17.
7. Spring turkey – March 16-19 17-20, March 28-31 29 through April 1 and April 4-7 5-8.
8. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.
(32) Lake Monroe Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. through 2. No change.
3. Furbearers – During the zonal antlered deer season only except that bobcat and otter may be taken only after November 30 December 1.
4. through 5. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.
(33) Charles H. Bronson Wildlife Management Area.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 28 29 through October 4 5, October 5-11 6-12 and 12-20 13-21.
3. General gun – November 9-11 10-12, 16-18 17-19 and November 30 through December 2 4-3.
4. Small game – December 8-16 9-17 and January 5-11 6-12.
5. Youth turkey hunt – March 9-10 10-11.
6. Spring turkey – March 16-19 17-20, March 28-31 29 through April 1 and April 4-7 5-8.
7. through 8. No change.
(b) Legal to take: All legal game, fish, frogs and furbearers. Taking of antlered deer not having at least one antler with three or more points or one antler with a main beam of ten inches or more in length is prohibited, except by persons less than 16 years of age. During the archery season, the bag limit for deer shall be two deer per quota permit, only one of which may be an one antlered and one antlerless deer, per quota permit. During the muzzleloading gun and general gun seasons, the bag limit for deer shall be two antlered deer per quota permit. During the spring turkey season, one gobbler (or bearded turkey) may be taken per quota hunt permit.
(c) through (d) No change.
(a) Open season:
1. Archery – September 15-21 16-22, 22-28 23-29, September 29 30 through October 5 6, and October 6-12 7-13 and 13-21 14-22.
2. Muzzleloading gun – November 2-4 3-5.
4. No change.
6. through 7. No change.
(b) through (d) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2018
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 6-29-82, 7-1-83, 7-5-84, 10-1-84, 7-1-85, 5-7-86, 5-10-87, 5-1-88, 7-1-89, 12-19-89, 7-1-90, 7-1-91, 7-2-91, 7-2-92, 7-1-93, 7-1-94, 7-1-95, 7-1-96, 9-15-96, 6-1-97, 7-1-98, 7-2-98, 8-11-98, 12-28-98, 7-1-99, Formerly 39-15.065, Amended 12-20-99, 7-1-00, 12-26-00, 7-1-01, 6-2-02, 7-28-02, 5-1-03, 7-1-03, 10-12-03, 7-1-04, 7-1-05, 1-4-06, 7-1-06, 8-22-06, 7-1-07, 7-1-08, 7-1-09, 7-1-10, 7-1-11, 8-11-11, 7-1-12, 7-26-12, 7-1-13, 9-9-13, 7-1-14, 7-1-15, 7-29-15, 7-1-16, 7-1-17, 9-14-17, 7-1-18.