



Final Rules: FWC Managed Areas June 2012

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Hunting and Game Management**

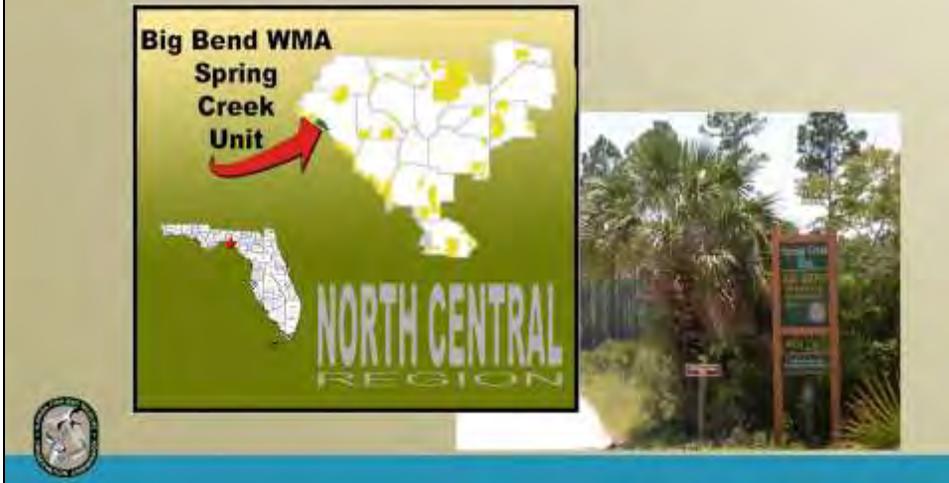
Establishment Orders 68A-14.001

Clarify that the Executive Director may create special regulations on established FWC-managed areas by executive order.



Situations sometimes arise where hunting or fishing opportunities become available due to unusual or unanticipated circumstances. These situations can benefit from quick action not afforded through the formal rulemaking process. The use of a Commission establishment order or executive order could provide these opportunities in a more timely fashion. In most cases, providing for new opportunities through changes to regulations should follow the established Commission rule change process. However, use of an executive order to create opportunity by changing area regulations would be beneficial in the rare cases where opportunities may otherwise be lost, are temporary or of an emergency nature.

Specific Rule Change Proposal for Wildlife Management Areas, North Central Region, 68A-15.062



68A-15.062: The proposed rule amendment would prohibit the take of wild hog by the use of dogs on Big Bend WMA – Spring Creek Unit. Use of dogs is allowed during small game season. FWC rules were changed, effective in 2010, to allow the take of hogs during the small game season, and some hunters use dogs to take hogs. This activity was not anticipated when hogs were added as legal to take during the small game season. FWC staff members have received complaints of hog-dog trespass onto the neighboring private lands. The configuration of the boundaries between the adjacent properties and the Spring Creek Unit makes it difficult for hunters to cut off and catch their dogs before the dogs run off of the WMA. Therefore, staff has concluded that the area is not suitable for allowing the use of dogs to hunt wild hogs.

Requested Action for this Commission Meeting

Approval to advertise proposed amendments to 68A-14.001 and 68A-15.062 and file for adoption as soon as possible.



Staff is requesting Commission approval to advertise the proposed amendments and file for adoption as soon as possible. If the rule amendments are approved for both advertisement and final adoption, Commission staff will file the rule for adoption as allowed by s. 120.54(3) Florida Statutes, without further public hearing.