

**Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-15.006
Agenda Item 4.C.1
November 20, 2013**

DRAFT RULE

RULE NO: 68A-15.006

RULE TITLE: Regulations Relating to Miscellaneous Areas.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to revise specific area regulations on miscellaneous areas and conform to calendar year date changes. The effect of the proposed rule amendment will be to enable the agency to better manage fish and wildlife resources and public use on miscellaneous areas.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment would adjust season dates to conform to calendar year changes and revise specific area regulations on miscellaneous areas as follows:

Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Area - allow tree stands to be taken onto the area from 10 days before archery season until 10 days after the end of spring turkey season; and establish a daily bag limit of one wild turkey per day.
Kissimmee River Public Use Area - establish a daily bag limit of one wild turkey per day.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68A-15.006 Regulations Relating to Miscellaneous Areas.

(1) No change.

(2) Kissimmee River Public Use Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, wild hog, non-protected mammals, furbearers, fish, and frogs. Antlerless deer may be taken only during the archery seasons and during the first two days of the antlerless deer seasons for Zone A and C, as applicable, established in Rule 68A-13.004, F.A.C. Bag and possession limits and shooting hours shall be those established under Rules 68A-13.003, 68A-13.004 and 68A-13.008, F.A.C., except that shooting hours for turkeys during the spring season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m. and the daily bag limit for wild turkey shall be one per day.

(c) No change.

(3) Babcock Ranch Preserve.

(a) Open season (in the FWC designated hunting area):

1. Archery – August ~~2-5~~ ~~3-6~~ and ~~9-12~~ ~~10-13~~.

2. Muzzleloading gun – September ~~6-8~~ ~~7-9~~.

3. Family – September ~~20-21~~ ~~21-22~~ and December ~~20-21~~ ~~21-22~~.

4. General gun for mobility-impaired – December ~~5-7~~ ~~6-8~~.

5. General gun – September ~~26-28~~ ~~27-29~~, October ~~3-5~~ ~~4-6~~ and December ~~12-14~~ ~~13-15~~.

6. Small game – January ~~3-18~~ ~~4-19~~ and January 31 through February ~~1~~ ~~1-2~~ (Saturdays and Sundays only).

7. Spring turkey – March ~~7-9~~ ~~1-3~~ and ~~14-16~~ ~~8-10~~.

8. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(4) Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Area.

(a) No change.

(b) Legal to take: All legal game, wild turkey (but only bearded turkey or gobblers), wild hog, non-protected mammals, furbearers (except bobcat and otter), fish and frogs. The take of deer is prohibited in the Drasdo, East, and West Shore Units. The take of antlerless deer is prohibited. The daily bag limit for wild turkey shall be one per day.

(c) General regulations:

1. through 11. No change.

12. Erecting or maintaining tree stands more than ten days before the start of archery season or more than ten days after the end of spring turkey ~~general gun~~ season is prohibited.

13. No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art IV, Sec 9, Fla. Const. History–New 12-9-99, Amended 5-13-02, 5-1-03, 5-23-04, 7-1-06, 7-1-08, 7-1-09, 7-1-10, 11-9-10, 7-1-11, 7-1-12, 8-1-13, 7-1-14.