

**Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-13.0001
Agenda Item 15.A.(2)
November 21, 2014**

DRAFT RULE

RULE NO.: 68A-13.0001 **RULE TITLE:** Definitions.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to include new language establishing deer management units (DMUs) for Zones A-C. The effect of the proposed rule will be to enable the agency to better manage white-tailed deer based on recent biological and public preference information.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment defines deer management units (DMUs) for the purpose of managing white-tailed deer at a smaller geographic scale than is currently possible using larger zones, and establishes DMUs A1, A2 and A3 in Zone A; B1 in Zone B; and C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, and C6 in Zone C.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68A-13.0001 Definitions.

When used in this rule chapter, the terms and phrases listed below have the meaning provided:

(1) Deer management unit (DMU) – The following geographical portions of the state, less any lands established by the Commission pursuant to Rule 68A-14.001, F.A.C.:

(a) DMU A1 – That portion of Zone A located east and south of County Road 835, east and north of County Road 833/Josie Billie Rd/Snake Road, east of the eastern boundary of Big Cypress National Preserve south of Interstate 75, and east of the western boundary of Dade County.

(b) DMU A2 – That portion of Zone A located south of County Road 886/Golden Gate Parkway west of Interstate 75, south of Interstate 75, west of the eastern boundary of Big Cypress National Preserve, and west of the western boundary of Dade County.

(c) DMU A3 – That portion of Zone A located north of County Road 886/Golden Gate Parkway west of Interstate 75, north of Interstate 75, west and south of County Road 833/Josie Billie Rd/Snake Road, west and north of County Road 835, and east of Lake Okeechobee.

(d) DMU B1 – Includes all of Zone B.

(e) DMU C1 – That portion of Zone C located west of the eastern boundary of Highlands County north of State Road 70, and west of the eastern boundary of Polk County south of State Road 60.

(f) DMU C2 – That portion of Zone C located east of the eastern boundary of Highlands County north of State Road 70, east of the eastern boundary of Polk County south of State Road 60, south of State Road 50 east of U.S. Highway 441, west of U.S. Highway 1 south of State Road 50, and south of State Road 528/Bennett Causeway and Canaveral Barge Canal east of U.S. Highway 1.

(g) DMU C3 – That portion of Zone C located south of U.S. Highway 27 west of 41, and west of U.S. Highway 41 north of State Road 50 and south of State Road 27.

(h) DMU C4 – That portion of Zone C located north of State Road 50 east of U.S. Highway 441; east of U.S. Highway 1 north of State Road 50; north of State Road 528/Bennett Causeway and Canaveral Barge Canal east of U.S. Highway 1; east of U.S. Highway 41 north of State Road 50; south of U.S. Highway 441 east of U.S. Highway 41; west and south of State Road 20, U.S. Highway 17/State Road 20/State Road 100, and State Road 20/State Road 100; and south of State Road 100/Moody Boulevard east of U.S. Highway 1.

(i) DMU C5 – That portion of Zone C located north of U.S. Highway 27 west of U.S. Highway 441, north of U.S. Highway 441 west of Interstate 75, west of Interstate 75 north of U.S. Highway 441.

(j) DMU C6 – That portion of Zone C located east of Interstate 75 north of U.S. Highway 441; north of U.S. Highway 441 east of Interstate 75; north and east of State Road 20, U.S. Highway 17/State Road 20/State Road 100, and State Road 20/State Road 100; and north of State Road 100/Moody Boulevard east of U.S. Highway 1.

(k)(*) DMU D1 – That portion of Zone D located south of Interstate 10.

~~(1)(b)~~ DMU D2 – That portion of Zone D located north of Interstate 10.

(2) Zone – The following geographical portions of the state:

(a) Zone A – The counties of Broward, Charlotte (east of the Peace River and east Charlotte Harbor), Collier, Dade, DeSoto (south of State Road 70 and east of the Peace River), Glades, Hendry, Highlands (south of State Road 70), Lee, Martin (west of U.S. Highway 441), Monroe, Okeechobee (south of State Road 70 and west of U.S. Highway 441) and Palm Beach (except that portion lying east of U.S. Highway 441, east of State Road 80 north of County Road 880, north of County Road 880, and north of U.S. Highway 98/U.S. Highway 441/State Road 80/Southern Boulevard).

(b) Zone B – The counties of Hernando (south of State Road 50), Hillsborough (north of State Road 60), Lake (south of State Road 50), Orange (south of State Road 50 and west of U.S. Highway 17), Osceola (west of U.S. Highway 17, south and west of County Road 525, west of the western shoreline of Lake Tohopekaliga, west of C-35 canal, west of the western shoreline of Cypress Lake, west of C-36 canal and west of the eastern shoreline of Lake Hatchineha), Pasco, Pinellas (north of State Road 60), Polk (north of State Road 60) and Sumter (south of State Road 50).

(c) Zone C – The counties of Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Citrus, Clay, Charlotte (except east of the Peace River and east Charlotte Harbor), Columbia, DeSoto (north of State Road 70, and west of the Peace River south of State Road 70), Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gadsden (east of U.S. Highway 27), Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hardee, Hernando (north of State Road 50), Highlands (north of State Road 70), Hillsborough (south of State Road 60), Indian River, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Leon (east of U.S. Highway 27, east of State Road 61 and east of U.S. Highway 319), Levy, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Martin (east of U.S. Highway 441), Nassau, Okeechobee (except that portion lying south of State Road 70 and west of U.S. Highway 441), Orange (north of State Road 50 and east of U.S. Highway 17), Osceola (east of U.S. Highway 17, north and east of County Road 525, east of the western shoreline of Lake Tohopekaliga, east of C-35 canal, east of the western shoreline of Cypress Lake, east of C-36 canal and east of the eastern shoreline of Lake Hatchineha), Palm Beach (east of U.S. Highway 441, east of State Road 80 north of County Road 880, north of County Road 880, and north of U.S. Highway 98/U.S. Highway 441/State Road 80/Southern Boulevard), Pinellas (south of State Road 60), Polk (south of State Road 60), Putnam, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sarasota, Seminole, Sumter (north of State Road 50), Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia and Wakulla (east of U.S. Highway 319, north and east of U.S. Highway 98 and east of the Wakulla and St. Marks Rivers).

(d) Zone D – The counties of Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden (west of U.S. Highway 27), Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Leon (west of U.S. Highway 27, west of State Road 61 and west of U.S. Highway 319), Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla (west of U.S. Highway 319, south of U.S. Highway 98 and west of the Wakulla and St. Marks Rivers), Walton and Washington.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 7-2-14, 7-1-15.