

2011-
2012
Hunting
Season

Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Management Area

Regulations Summary and Area Map
July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012



A cooperative public wildlife and recreational area

South Florida Water
Management District
Micosukee Tribe of Florida

Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

MyFWC.com



This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and other recreational use on the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Management Area. **Regulations that are new or differ substantially from last year are shown in bold print.** Area users should familiarize themselves with all regulations. For exact wording of the wildlife laws and regulations, see the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's wildlife code, on file with the Secretary of State and state libraries. This brochure, the Florida Hunting Regulations handbook, and quota permit worksheets should provide the information necessary for you to plan your hunting activities. These publications are available from any Commission office, county tax collector and at MyFWC.com.

Persons using wildlife management areas are required to have appropriate licenses, permits and stamps. The following persons are exempt from all license and permit requirements (except for quota permits when listed as "no exemptions," recreational use permits, antlerless deer permits and the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp [federal duck stamp]): Florida residents who are 65 years of age or older; residents who possess a Florida Resident Disabled Person Hunting and Fishing Certificate; residents in the U.S. Armed Forces, not stationed in Florida, while home on leave for 30 days or less, upon submission of orders; and children under 16 years of age. Children under 16 years of age are exempt from the federal duck stamp. Anyone born on or after June 1, 1975 and 16 years of age or older must have passed a Commission-approved hunter-safety course prior to being issued a hunting license, except the Hunter Safety Mentoring exemption allows anyone to purchase a hunting license and hunt under the supervision of a licensed hunter, 21 years of age or older, for one year.

Licenses and permits may be purchased from county tax collectors, license agents, at MyFWC.com/license or by telephone at 1-888-486-8356. A no-cost Migratory Bird Permit is available when purchasing a hunting license. Any waterfowl hunter 16 years of age or older must possess a federal duck stamp; available where hunting licenses are sold, at most post offices or at duckstamp.com.

QUOTA PERMIT INFORMATION:

General Gun-Vehicle - 24 (general gun-vehicle track permits; Conservation Area 3A North), 79 (general gun-vehicle airboat permits; Francis S. Taylor WMA and Conservation Areas 3A South and 2), no-cost, general gun-vehicle permits with 1 antlered deer tag (no exemptions, non-transferable, except that a general gun-vehicle permit and tag can be transferred in the field by Commission law enforcement supervisors or their designees when a tracked vehicle becomes inoperable and unable to be repaired while within the wildlife management area to which the tracked vehicle is assigned). Note: These numbers reflect the number of quota permits issued during the 10-11 season. The total number of quota permits issued for the 11-12 season may change based on population surveys, water levels, habitat conditions, and other variables.

Please contact the South Region Office for rules of inspection and information on registration of track vehicles at 561-625-5122.

Permit applications: Hunters must submit electronic applications for quota and special-opportunity permits through the Commission's Total Licensing System (TLS). Worksheets listing hunts, application periods, deadlines and instructions are available at county tax collector's offices, FWC offices or MyFWC.com. Quota application periods occur throughout the year beginning April 1; please refer to the hunting handbook or MyFWC.com for specific dates. Worksheets will be available about 2 weeks prior to each application period.

GENERAL AREA REGULATIONS:

All general laws and regulations relating to wildlife and fish shall apply unless specifically exempted for this area. Hunting or the taking of wildlife or fish on this area shall be allowed only during the open seasons and in accordance with the following regulations:

1. Any person hunting deer or accompanying another person hunting deer shall wear at least 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent-orange material as an outer garment, above the waistline. These provisions are not required when hunting with a bow and arrow during archery season.
2. Taking of spotted fawn, swimming deer or roasted turkey is prohibited. Species legal to hunt are listed under each season.
3. It is illegal to hunt over bait or place any bait or other food for wildlife on this area.
4. Driving a metal object into any tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven, is prohibited.
5. No person shall cut, damage or remove any natural, man-made or cultural resource without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
6. Taking or attempting to take any game with the aid of live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, net, trap, snare, drug or poison is prohibited. Recorded calls and sounds can be used to hunt furbearers, wild hog and crows.
7. The wanton and willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
8. Hunting, fishing or trapping is prohibited on any portion of the area posted as closed to those activities.
9. People, dogs, vehicles and other recreational equipment are prohibited in areas posted as "Closed to Public Access" by FWC administrative action.
10. Taking or herding wildlife from any motorized vehicle, aircraft or boat which is under power is prohibited, until power and movement from that power, has ceased, except statewide alligator harvest program permittees that are attempting to take alligators.
11. Most game may be hunted from ½ hour before sunrise until ½ after sunset (see exceptions under each season).
12. The release of any animal is prohibited, without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
13. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey on the area.
14. The planting or introduction of any non-native plant is prohibited, without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
15. Wild hog may not be transported alive.
16. Littering is prohibited.

17. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass or woodlands. Fires other than campfires are prohibited.
18. A Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement Officer may search any camp, vehicle or boat, in accordance with law.
19. The construction of docks of any type is prohibited.
20. Falconers may hunt during the statewide falconry season anytime a management area is open for public access.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND VEHICLES:

1. Open to public access year round.
2. Motorized vehicles are prohibited on all levees except for the L-4 and L-5 levees.
3. During the general gun-vehicle season, only those vehicles authorized by non-transferable general gun-vehicle permits are allowed in Conservation Area 3A North during legal shooting hours, except that frogging, by airboat only, is allowed from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.
4. During the archery, muzzleloading gun and general gun-walk seasons, all-terrain vehicles are allowed but only for the purpose of hunting. During the two weeks prior to the archery season and one week prior to the muzzleloading gun and general gun-walk seasons, all-terrain vehicles are allowed, but only for the purpose of scouting. During the remainder of the year, all-terrain vehicles are prohibited. All other vehicles are prohibited except on levees L-4 and L-5.
5. No person shall operate any all-terrain vehicle, motorized two-wheeled vehicle or motorized three-wheeled vehicle unless it is equipped with an orange rectangular flag at least 10 inches wide and 12 inches long and displayed at a minimum height of 6 feet above the top of the seat.
6. While an all-terrain vehicle is in motion, no person shall occupy any platform or structure attached to it. No all-terrain vehicle may be equipped with a steering mechanism that would enable the all-terrain vehicle to be operated from a platform or structure attached to it.
7. During the archery, muzzleloading gun, and the general gun-walk season, the operation of airboats is prohibited in Conservation Area 3A North during legal shooting hours. Hunting equipment may be transported on boats and all-terrain vehicles.
8. Due to construction, the L-6 levee is closed to public access and there will be no walk-in access into Conservation Area 2A for the **2011-2012** season.
9. Persons participating in the statewide alligator harvest program may operate airboats and tracked vehicles throughout the area during alligator hunts.
10. Parked vehicles may not obstruct a road, gate or firelane.
11. Vehicles and airboats are prohibited on tree islands, wildlife islands and tree strands.
12. No motor vehicle shall be operated on any part of any wildlife management area that has been designated as closed to vehicular traffic.
13. No vessel shall be operated outside of Water Management District canals unless it is equipped with an orange rectangular flag at least 10 inches wide and 12 inches long and displayed at a minimum height of 10 feet above the bottom of the vessel.
14. Commercial recreational activities, such as but not limited to airboat rides, guide services or other tourist services, are prohibited in Conservation Area 3A South west of the Miami Canal, unless authorized by the Miccosukee Tribe, which has the exclusive right to provide such services in the Leased Area.

HUNTERS AND CHECK STATIONS:

1. Hunting equipment and dogs may be taken onto the WMA after 8 a.m. the day before the opening of a season and shall be removed by 6 p.m. one day after the end of the season.
2. During the general gun-vehicle season, all deer taken shall be tagged immediately with the antlered deer tag provided by the Commission.
3. On Saturdays and Sundays during the archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun-walk and general gun-vehicle seasons, no deer or wild hog shall be dismembered or removed from the area until checked at the staffed check station.
4. Deer may be dismembered in the field or camp, after being checked at a check station, but each portion shall have a tag affixed to it identifying the name, address and hunting license number of the person who killed it; the date and location at which it was taken; and shall be readily traceable to the portion of the animal bearing the sex identification.
5. Licensed hunters are allowed to take Conditional Reptiles incidental to lawful hunting activities during established hunting seasons. Conditional Reptiles shall not be transported alive from the area. Please report all take of Conditional Reptiles at 866-392-4286 or at MyFWC.com within 36 hours.

GUNS:

1. Hunting or the display or use of a gun in a manner capable of taking wildlife on or from the L-4, L-5 or L-39 (Hillsboro Canal) levees or the rights-of-way of S.R. 84, U.S. 41 or U.S. 27 is prohibited.
2. All firearms shall be securely encased and in a vehicle, vessel, camper or tent, during periods when they are not a legal method of take. Persons in possession of a valid Concealed Weapon or Firearm License may carry concealed handguns.
3. Target practice is prohibited.
4. Hunting with a gun and light is prohibited.
5. Muzzleloading guns used for taking deer must be .40 caliber or larger, if firing a single bullet, or be 20 gauge or larger if firing two or more balls.
6. Children under the age of 16 may not be in possession of a firearm unless in the presence of a supervising adult.
7. No person shall have a gun under control while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
8. For hunting non-migratory game, only shotguns, rifles, pistols, bows, crossbows or falconry may be used.
9. For hunting migratory game, only shotguns, bows or falconry may be used. Shotguns shall not be larger than 10 gauge and shall be incapable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined.
10. Firearms using rimfire or non-expanding, full metal jacket (military ball) ammunition are prohibited for taking deer.
11. Fully automatic or silencer-equipped firearms, centerfire semi-automatic rifles having a magazine capable of holding more than five rounds, explosive or drug-injecting devices and set guns are prohibited.

DOGS:

1. Hunting with dogs is prohibited, except during the general gun-vehicle season, and retrievers are allowed when waterfowl is legal to take.
2. Dogs may be trained in Francis S. Taylor WMA October **1-10**. Harvesting wildlife with a gun is prohibited while training.
3. No person shall allow any dog to pursue or molest any wildlife during any period in which the taking of wildlife by the use of dogs is prohibited.
4. Dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game.
5. For purposes other than hunting, dogs are allowed, but must be kept under physical restraint at all times.

CAMPING:

1. Camping equipment may be taken onto the area no earlier than 7 days prior to the archery season and all vehicles, camps, tents, other camping equipment and litter shall be removed by 6 p.m. 7 days after the close of general gun-vehicle season. During the remainder of the year, camping is allowed only on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and camps may not be left unattended for more than 24 hours.
2. Camping is prohibited in areas posted as closed to camping.
3. The erection of any permanent structure is prohibited.
4. Only tents, trailers or self-propelled camping vehicles may be used for camping.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS:

1. Deer - Archery, muzzleloading gun and general gun-walk seasons: Season limit 1. General gun-vehicle season: 1 per antlered deer tag.
2. Turkey - Prohibited.
3. Wild hog - Daily limit 1, annual limit 2. During the general gun-vehicle season the daily limit is 1 per vehicle.
4. Gray squirrel, quail and rabbit - Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each.
5. Raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk and nutria - No bag limits.
6. Bobcat and otter - Possession limit 1 unless in possession of a Trapping License.
7. Migratory birds (except mourning dove and white-winged dove) - See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.
8. Conditional Reptiles - No size or bag limit.

ARCHERY SEASON:

August 6-28 (Conservation Area 3A North only).

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit, archery permit, deer permit (if hunting deer) and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least one antler having 2 or more points (each point 1-inch or more in length) and at least one antler 5 inches or more in length, wild hog with a shoulder height of 15 inches or more, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk, nutria, and Conditional Reptiles.

Regulations Unique to Archery Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Hunting with firearms or crossbows (except by disabled crossbow permit) is prohibited.
2. All-terrain vehicles are allowed, but only for the purpose of hunting. All other vehicles are prohibited, except on levees.
3. The operation of airboats is prohibited in Conservation Areas 3A North during legal shooting hours.
4. Hunting equipment may be transported on boats and all-terrain vehicles.

MUZZLELOADING GUN SEASON:

September 3-11 (Conservation Area 3A North only).

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit, muzzleloading gun permit, deer permit (if hunting deer) and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least one antler having 2 or more points (each point 1-inch or more in length) and at least one antler 5 inches or more in length, wild hog with a shoulder height of 15 inches or more, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk, nutria, Conditional Reptiles and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to Muzzleloading Gun Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Hunting with archery equipment or firearms, other than muzzleloading guns, is prohibited, except that centerfire shotguns are allowed for hunting migratory birds when one or more species are legal to hunt (see Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet).
2. All-terrain vehicles are allowed, but only for the purpose of hunting. All other vehicles are prohibited, except on levees.
3. The operation of airboats is prohibited in Conservation Areas 3A North during legal shooting hours.
4. Hunting equipment may be transported on boats and all-terrain vehicles.

GENERAL GUN-WALK SEASON:

October 1-16 (Conservation Area 3A North only).

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit, deer permit (if hunting deer) and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least one antler having 2 or more points (each point 1-inch or more in length) and at least one antler 5 inches or more in length, wild hog with a shoulder height of 15 inches or more, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk, nutria, Conditional Reptiles and migratory birds in season (except mourning dove and white-winged dove).

Regulations Unique to General Gun-Walk Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. All-terrain vehicles are allowed, but only for the purpose of hunting. All other vehicles are prohibited, except on levees.
2. The operation of airboats is prohibited in Conservation Areas 3A North during legal shooting hours.
3. Hunting equipment may be transported on boats and all-terrain vehicles.
4. Due to construction, there will be no walk-in access into Conservation Area 2A for the 2011-2012 season.

GENERAL GUN-VEHICLE SEASON:

October 22 through November 6 (Conservation Areas 3A North, 3A South, and 2; and Francis S. Taylor only).

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit, antlered deer tag (to hunt deer), hunting license, management area permit, deer permit (if hunting deer) and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Hunt - Deer with at least one antler having 2 or more points (each point 1-inch or more in length) and at least one antler 5 inches or more in length, wild hog with a shoulder height of 15 inches or more, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk, nutria, Conditional Reptiles and migratory birds in season (except mourning dove and white-winged dove).

Regulations Unique to General Gun-Vehicle Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Hunting with dogs is allowed.
2. All deer taken shall be tagged immediately with the antlered deer tag provided by the Commission.
3. Walk hunting is prohibited.
4. Only those vehicles authorized by Everglades general gun-vehicle permits may be operated in Conservation Area 3A North during legal shooting hours.
5. Vehicles (other than all-terrain vehicles) and airboats may be used in Conservation Areas 3A South, 2A, 2B, and Francis S. Taylor. All-terrain vehicles are prohibited.

SMALL GAME SEASON:

November 7 through March 4.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit, migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds), and state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting waterfowl).

Legal to Hunt - Gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk, nutria, Conditional Reptiles and migratory birds in season (except mourning dove and white-winged dove). Bobcat and otter - December 1 through March 1.

Regulations Unique to Small Game Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Hunting with retrievers is allowed when waterfowl is legal to hunt.
2. Hunting with centerfire rifles is prohibited.
3. Airboats are allowed.
4. ATVs are prohibited.

CONDITIONAL REPTILES SEASON:

March 5 through April 15

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license and management area permit

Legal to Hunt - Conditional Reptiles: Indian python, Burmese python, reticulated python, Northern African/rock python, Southern African python, amethystine python, scrub python, green anaconda and Nile monitor.

Regulations Unique to Conditional Reptiles Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Conditional Reptiles shall not be removed from the area alive.
2. Hunting with centerfire rifles is prohibited.
3. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset.

TRAPPING: Prohibited.

MIGRATORY BIRD SEASONS:

Duck, geese, coot, rail, common moorhen, woodcock, crow and snipe may be hunted during seasons established by the Commission for these species.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Quota permit (if hunting during any quota period), hunting license, management area permit, migratory bird permit, and state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting waterfowl).

Legal to Hunt - See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet, except hunting mourning dove and white-winged dove is prohibited. Conditional Reptiles.

Regulations Unique to Migratory Bird Seasons - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations and Migratory Bird Regulations shall apply.

1. Hunting with retrievers is allowed during waterfowl season.
2. Hunting duck, geese and coot with lead shot is prohibited.
3. Centerfire shotguns are allowed for hunting during established area seasons when one or more migratory birds are legal to hunt.

FISHING AND FROGGING:

Allowed year round, except during the general gun-vehicle season when frogging in Conservation Area 3A North is allowed by airboat only and only from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Fishing license (not required when frogging).

Legal to Take - See Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations Summary.

Regulations Unique to Fishing and Frogging - All General Area Regulations and General Freshwater Fishing Regulations shall apply. Shooting frogs is allowed only during the listed open hunting seasons and only with the legal methods of take during each particular season.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Information for persons with disabilities can be found at MyFWC.com/ADA.
2. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 561-625-5122 (TDD 800-955-8771).

COOPERATION REQUESTED:

If you see law violators or suspicious activities, contact your nearest Commission regional office or call 1-888-404-FWCC. You may qualify for a cash reward from the Wildlife Alert Reward Association.

The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: The Office for Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. The project described in this publication is part of a program funded by federal dollars under the Wildlife Restoration Act. Federal funds pay 20 percent of the cost of the program.

EVERGLADES AND FRANCIS S. TAYLOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

671,831 acres

Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade Counties

Legend

- ▲ Staffed Check Station
- * Self-service Check Station
- ▣ Canals Crossover / Bridge
- ▣ Boat Ramp
- ▣ Closed to Public Access
- Canal
- Conservation Area 2
- Conservation Area 3 A North
- ▨ Conservation Area 3 A South
- ▤ Francis S. Taylor (Conservation Area 3 B)
- Miccosukee Reservation (Closed to Public Access)

