

CYPRESS CREEK

WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA

2004-05

REGULATIONS SUMMARY
AND AREA MAP



A COOPERATIVE PUBLIC WILDLIFE
AND RECREATIONAL AREA
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
An Equal Opportunity Agency
www.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 Cypress Creek Wildlife Management Area. **To make it easier to learn about regulation changes on this area, regulations that are new or differ substantially from last year are shown in bold print.** For the exact wording of the wildlife laws and regulations, see Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's wildlife code on file with the Secretary of State and state libraries. This brochure and the quota hunt application forms should provide the information necessary for you to plan your hunting activities.

For information pertaining to hunting on private lands, and trapping, consult the current Florida Hunting Handbook. This publication is available from any Commission office as well as county tax collectors and their subagents.

PERMIT, STAMP AND LICENSE INFORMATION:

Persons utilizing the wildlife management areas are required to have appropriate licenses, stamps and permits. Florida residents who are 65 years of age or older, and residents who have obtained a no-cost license through a certification of total and permanent disability by the Armed Forces or Veterans Administration, or a certification of total disability by the Social Security Administration, may be exempt from most permit, stamp and license requirements on this area. Hunters under age 16 and Florida residents in the U.S. Armed Forces, not stationed in Florida and home on leave with orders in possession, are exempt from most permit, stamp and license requirements on this area.

Hunting License, Trapping License, Fishing License and Archery, Muzzleloading Gun, Wildlife Management Area, Wild Turkey and State Waterfowl permits may be purchased from county tax collectors, their subagents, Internet or by telephone.

Unless exempted, all hunters on this wildlife management area must have the following in their possession and display them upon request of any Commission employee:

1. Hunting License: Information on the categories and costs of hunting licenses is available in the Florida Hunting Handbook.
2. Wildlife Management Area Permit: This \$26.50 permit is required to hunt on this area.
3. Quota Hunt Permit: A no-cost special quota hunt permit is required to hunt on this area (no exemptions) during the archery and muzzleloading gun seasons. There are 20 special quota hunt permits available for the archery hunt and 15 special quota hunt permits available for the muzzleloading gun hunt. Quota hunt applications are available from county tax collectors, or their subagents, on or about June 1, and accepted between June 1 and June 11. To apply for a permit obtain a special quota hunt application and follow the printed instructions.

Spring Turkey Quota Hunt Permit: A spring turkey quota hunt permit is required to hunt on this area (no exemptions) during the spring turkey season.

There are 12 spring turkey quota hunt permits available by application. Spring turkey quota hunt applications are available at regional offices of the Commission on or about October 25, and accepted from November 1 through November 10. To apply for this permit, obtain a spring turkey quota hunt application and follow the printed instructions.

Transfer of Permits: Quota hunt permits are transferable, except that any exempt permit is transferable only to another exempt person. The sale or purchase of any quota hunt permit is prohibited.

4. Archery Permit: This \$5 permit is required when hunting during the archery hunt.
5. Muzzleloading Gun Permit: This \$5 permit is required when hunting during the muzzleloading gun hunt.
6. Wild Turkey Permit: This \$5 permit is required if hunting turkeys.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS:

1. Deer—Daily limit 2, possession limit 4.
2. Turkey—Daily limit 1, season limit 2, possession limit 2.
3. Wild hogs—No size, bag, or possession limit.
4. Gray squirrel, rabbit—Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each game species.
5. Raccoon—No bag limit.

GENERAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS:

In addition to the regulations that follow, all general laws and regulations relating to wild animal life or freshwater aquatic life shall apply unless specifically excepted for this wildlife management area. Hunting or the taking of wildlife or fish on this area shall be allowed only during the open seasons and in the manner set forth herein.

1. Driving a metal object into any tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven is prohibited.
2. No person shall cut or destroy any tree, or remove any tree, shrub or protected plant (as listed in F.S. 581.185) from any wildlife management area without written permission from the landowner or primary land manager.
3. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass or woodlands, or for any individual or group of individuals to build a warming fire or campfire and leave same unextinguished (Chapter 590, Florida Statutes).
4. It is unlawful for any person to leave any garbage or refuse, or in any way litter in the management area.
5. The wanton or willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
6. Wild hogs may not be transported alive.
7. Non-migratory game may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset (see exception under Small Game and Spring Turkey).
8. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey while on the area. Portions of the carcass may be removed immediately prior to cooking.

9. The release of any animal is prohibited, without written authorization from the Executive Director.

10. It is illegal to hunt over bait or place any bait or other food for wildlife on this wildlife management area.

11. Taking turkey while on the roost is prohibited.

12. Killing swimming deer is prohibited.

13. Killing fox is prohibited.

14. Taking fox squirrel is prohibited.

15. 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.

16. Any person hunting deer or accompanying another person hunting deer shall wear at least 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent-orange material above the waistline as an outer garment. This is not required when hunting during an archery-only season.

17. Deer and turkey may be dismembered in the field or camp, 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.

GUNS OR DOGS:

18. For taking non-migratory game, only shotguns, rifles, pistols, longbows (including compound and recurve bows), or birds of prey may be used.

19. Hunting with gun and light is prohibited

20. For hunting deer, muzzleloading guns firing a single bullet must be at least .40 caliber; those firing two or more balls must be 20 gauge or larger.

21. Fully automatic firearms, silencer-equipped firearms, centerfire semi-automatic rifles having a magazine capable of holding more than five rounds, explosive or drug-injecting devices or setguns are prohibited.

22. No person shall have a gun in manual possession while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

23. Children under the age of 16 may not be in possession of a firearm unless in the presence of a supervising adult.

24. No person shall allow any dog to pursue or molest wildlife during any period in which hunting with dogs is prohibited.

25. Guns or dogs are prohibited on areas posted as "CLOSED" or "CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS".

26. The hunting or taking of hogs by the use of dogs is prohibited.

27. Hunting with dogs, other than bird dogs and dogs with a shoulder height of 15 inches or less, is prohibited.

28. Dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game.

29. For purposes other than hunting, dogs are allowed but must be kept under restraint at all times.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND VEHICLES:

30. Open for public access and use year-around.

31. Vehicles shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct roads, gates, trails or firelanes.

32. Vehicles may be operated only on Roline and Turner Bridge Roads.

33. No motor vehicle shall be operated on any part of the wildlife management area designated and posted as "CLOSED" or "CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS".

34. Public access is prohibited in areas posted as "CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS".

CAMPING:

35. Camping is prohibited during periods when the area is open to hunting. During periods closed to hunting, camping is by permit only from the Suwannee River Water Management District (386) 362-1001.

SEARCH:

36. A Fish and Wildlife Commission Law Enforcement Officer may search any camp, vehicle or boat; in accordance with law.

ARCHERY:

September 25 through October 10.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, archery permit, special quota hunt permit, and wild turkey permit (if hunting turkeys).

Legal to Take—Any deer (except spotted fawns), turkeys of either sex, wild hogs, gray squirrel, raccoon and rabbit.

Regulations Unique to the Archery Hunt—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. The possession of firearms or crossbows is prohibited.

2. Hunting deer, wild hogs or turkeys with dogs is prohibited.

MUZZLELOADING GUN:

October 29 through 31.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, special quota hunt permit, and muzzleloading gun permit.

Legal to Take—Deer with one or more antlers at least five inches in length visible above the hairline, wild hogs, gray squirrel, raccoon and rabbit.

Regulations Unique to the Muzzleloading Gun Hunt—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Only muzzleloading guns are allowed.

2. Hunting deer or wild hogs with dogs is prohibited.

SMALL GAME:

November 20 through December 5.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license and wildlife management area permit.

Legal to Take—Gray squirrel, rabbit and raccoon.

Regulations Unique to the Small Game Hunt—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. The possession of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

2. Raccoon may be taken at night by the aid of light and dogs, with .22 rimfire firearms other than .22 magnum, or with a single-shot .410 gauge shotgun using shot no larger than No. 6 provided that no firearm shall be loaded at any time except immediately prior to shooting of a treed or bayed raccoon. The hunting of raccoon under the provisions of this paragraph by display or use of a light from a moving vehicle, boat or animal is prohibited.

3. Only dogs with a shoulder height of 15 inches or less may be used.

SPRING TURKEY:

March 19 through 27.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, wild turkey permit and spring turkey quota hunt permit.

Legal to Take- -Bearded turkeys or gobblers.

Regulations Unique to the Spring Turkey Hunt—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m.

2. No person shall possess any hunting dog.

FISHING:

Permitted throughout the year.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Fishing license.

Legal to Take—See Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations Summary.

Regulations Unique to Fishing—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area regulations and Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations shall apply.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Anyone born on or after June 1, 1975 must have passed a Commission-approved hunter safety course prior to being issued a hunting license.

2. Defacing, molesting or destroying signs or other property on or about this management area is punishable by law.

3. These lands were acquired by the Save Our Rivers (SOR) program and are managed by the Suwannee River Water Management District for the conservation and protection of water resources. SOR lands may be used for recreational purposes that are compatible with water management functions.

4. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at (386) 758-0525 {(800) 955-8771 (TDD)}.

COOPERATION REQUESTED:

When you spot 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.

Please do not discharge firearms at anything other than legal game while in a wildlife management area. Target practice and random discharge of firearms have become increasing threats to the quality of the hunting experience.

All persons hunting small game are requested to wear blaze-orange headgear and/or vests.

PLEASE DO NOT LITTER. TAKE TRASH OUT WITH YOU.

In recent years, unauthorized and uncontrolled fires have caused severe damage to area wildlife and wildlife habitats. Controlled fires are beneficial only when they are of the proper size and location and when area conditions are suitable. **UNCONTROLLED FIRES DO NOT BENEFIT WILDLIFE.** Please use caution with campfires, smoking materials and vehicles to prevent damage to wildlife habitats.

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 \$2,357,686 or 20 percent of the cost of the program.



**Order Your Hunting and Fishing License
by Phone...**

Use Your Credit Card and

**Call 1-888-FISH-FLORIDA (347-4356) OR
1-888-HUNT-FLORIDA (486-8356)**

(NOTE: There is a vendor fee of \$3.95 per license.)

CYPRESS CREEK









WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

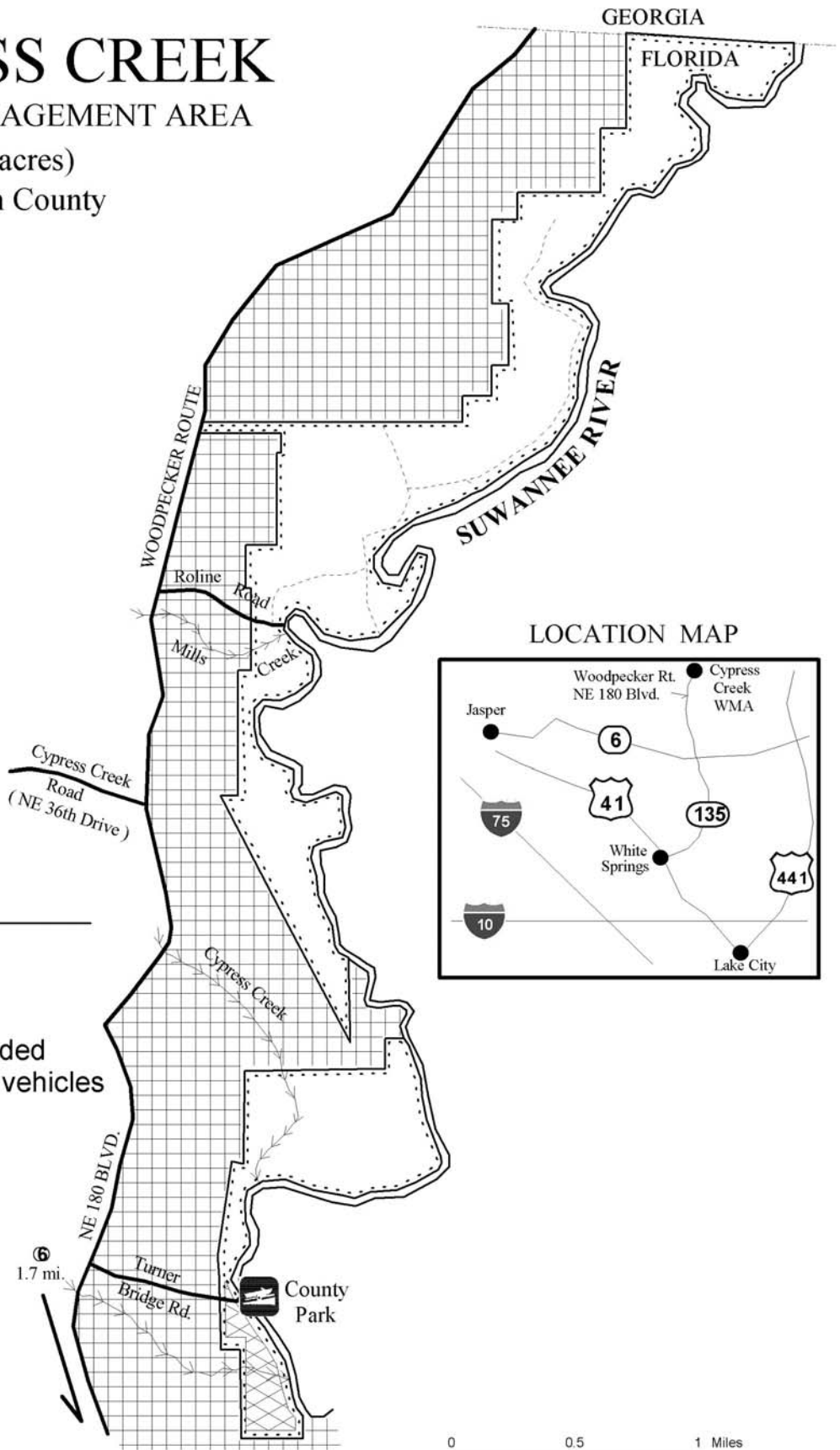
(1,328 acres)

Hamilton County



LEGEND

-  WMA boundary
-  Private land
-  Closed to hunting
-  Improved road - graded
-  Trail - no motorized vehicles
-  River
-  Creek
-  Boat ramp



LOCATION MAP

