

GOETHE

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
AREA AND STATE FOREST

2004-05

REGULATIONS SUMMARY
AND AREA MAP



A COOPERATIVE PUBLIC WILDLIFE
AND RECREATIONAL AREA
STATE OF FLORIDA
GOETHE STATE FOREST
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
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 Goethe 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 land, 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 quota hunt permit is required to hunt this area for all hunts except the archery and small game seasons. There are 250 special quota hunt permits available for the muzzleloading gun hunt, 250 regular quota hunt permits available for the general gun-still hunt and 105 regular quota hunt permits for the general gun-dog hunt. Regular and special quota hunt applications are available from county tax collectors or their subagents on or about June 1 and must be received by June 11. To apply for a permit, obtain a quota hunt permit application and follow the printed instructions.

A spring turkey quota hunt permit is required to hunt on this area for the spring turkey hunt. There are 100 spring turkey quota hunt permits available for this hunt. Spring turkey quota hunt applications are available at regional offices of the Commission on or about October 25 and must be received between

November 1 and 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 only transferable 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.
7. State Waterfowl Permit: This \$5 permit is required while hunting ducks.
8. Federal Duck Stamp: Any hunter 16 years of age or older must possess a federal duck stamp while hunting ducks. This \$15 stamp as available at post offices. Visit www.duckstamp.com for additional information regarding alternate methods and locations for purchasing of duck stamps.
9. Migratory Bird Permit: This free permit is required when hunting migratory birds.

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, quail, rabbit—Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each game species.
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—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.

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. It is unlawful for any person to leave any garbage or refuse or in any way litter in the management area.
3. The wanton or willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
4. Non-migratory game may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset (see exception under Spring Turkey section).
5. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey on the area.

6. 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.

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

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

9. Fires are permitted only at locations specified by the Division of Forestry.

10. Taking of any turkey while it is on the roost is prohibited.

11. Killing swimming deer is prohibited.

12. Taking fox is prohibited.

13. Killing fox squirrel is prohibited.

14. Taking or attempting to take game with the aid of live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, net, trap, snare, drug, or poison is prohibited.

15. Hunting is prohibited in areas posted as "CLOSED."

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.

18. Entry into or exit from the area at locations other than the entrance designated on the hunt map is prohibited (See map).

19. Authorized hunting equipment or dogs may be taken on the area after 8 a.m. one day before the opening of each season and shall be removed from the area before 6 p.m. one day following the close of each season.

GUNS OR DOGS:

20. Hunting with dogs is prohibited during the general gun-still hunt season, archery season, and muzzleloading gun season, except that dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game.

21. Dogs with a shoulder height of 17 inches or less are allowed during the general gun-dog hunt.

22. For taking non-migratory game, only shotguns, rifles, pistols, longbows (including compound and recurve bows), crossbows (during the general gun hunt only) or birds of prey may be used.

23. Hunting with gun and light is prohibited.

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

25. Hunting deer with full-jacketed bullets or any rimfire cartridge is prohibited.

26. 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.

27. Guns are allowed only during periods in which their use for hunting is allowed.

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

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

30. No person shall allow any dog to pursue or molest wildlife during any period in which the taking of such wildlife by the use of dogs is prohibited.

31. Hunting with dogs other than bird dogs is prohibited during the small game season.

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

33. Taking of wildlife by use of a gun on or from the right-of-way of State Road 121 or County Roads 343, 326, 337 and 336 is prohibited.

34. The portion of the area north of Hospital Road and east of C.R. 337, known as Hog Pond Tract, is only open to hunting during the small game season.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND VEHICLES:

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

36. Vehicles shall be operated only on named or numbered roads, unless otherwise posted as closed. All other roads are closed to vehicular traffic.

37. The use of tracked vehicles, airboats, and all-terrain vehicles is prohibited.

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

39. Florida traffic laws relating to vehicles and vehicle operators apply to this area. The operation of an unregistered and unlicensed vehicle is prohibited.

40. Horses are permitted only on roads and designated horse trails.

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

42. Public access, guns or dogs are prohibited in areas posted as "CLOSED" or "CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS".

CAMPING:

43. Camping is prohibited during periods when the area is open to hunting. During periods closed to hunting, camping is by special permit only from the Division of Forestry.

CHECK STATIONS:

44. Hunters shall check all deer, hogs, and turkeys at one of the area check stations before leaving the area, North Station on C.R. 337 and South Station, north C.R. 336. The South Station will be manned on weekends and peak-use days, self-service on other days.

SEARCH:

45. 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, wild turkey permit (if hunting turkeys), state waterfowl permit and federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks), and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take—Any deer (except spotted fawn), wild hog, turkeys of either sex, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the Archery Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and the possession of firearms or crossbows is prohibited, except centerfire shotguns are permitted for hunting migratory birds during the archery season when one or more migratory birds are legal to take (See Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlets).

MUZZLELOADING GUN:

October **29** through **31**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, muzzleloading gun permit, special quota hunt permit, and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take—Deer with one or more antlers at least five inches in length visible above the hairline, wild hog, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the Muzzleloading Gun Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and only muzzleloading guns are allowed, except centerfire shotguns are permitted for hunting migratory birds during the muzzleloading gun season when one or more migratory birds are legal to take (See Migratory Birds section and the current Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlets).

GENERAL GUN-STILL HUNT:

November **13** through **16**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, regular quota hunt permit, state waterfowl permit and federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks), and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take—Deer with one or more antlers at least five inches in length visible above the hairline, wild hog, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the General Gun Still Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and the possession or use of dogs is prohibited.

GENERAL GUN-DOG HUNT:

November **17** through **21**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, regular quota hunt permit, state waterfowl permit and

federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks), and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take—Deer with one or more antlers at least five inches in length visible above the hairline, wild hog, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the General Gun-Dog Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and dogs with a shoulder height of more than 17 inches are prohibited.

SMALL GAME:

November 27 through December 12.

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

Legal to Take—Gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, wild hog, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season. Bobcat and otter after November 30.

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

1. Hunting with dogs other than bird dogs is prohibited.
2. Possession of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

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 only.

Regulations Unique to the Spring Turkey Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m.

TRAPPING:

Trapping is prohibited.

MIGRATORY BIRDS:

Rails, common moorhens, mourning doves, white-winged doves, snipe, ducks, coots, woodcock and crows may be hunted during seasons established by the Commission for these species, which coincide with the archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun still, general gun dog and small game hunts.

Legal to Take—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, quota hunt permit (if hunting during the muzzleloading gun, general gun-still or general gun-dog hunts), migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds), and state waterfowl permit and federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks).

Regulations Unique to Migratory Birds—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet. In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and the use of lead shot for taking ducks and coots is prohibited.

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—All General Wildlife Management Area and Freshwater Fishing Regulations shall apply and access is restricted to designated access points and roads.

DIVISION OF FORESTRY REGULATIONS:

1. Access is prohibited from sundown to sunrise each day without authorization.
2. Horses or bicycles may be ridden on all roads. Horses may also be ridden on designated trails.
3. Damaging, removing or tampering with any building, facility, equipment or their contents is prohibited.
4. The construction of permanent or semi-permanent structures on state forest land is prohibited.
5. Motorized vehicles are prohibited on all closed roads.
6. The maximum speed limit for all forest roads is 30 mph unless otherwise posted.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND STATE FORESTS ARE NOT JUST FOR HUNTING AND FISHING!

They have been purchased for preservation to benefit all of Florida's residents and you don't have to hunt or fish to enjoy them! The same habitat management practices that provide hunting and fishing opportunities also create opportunities for wildlife viewing. These areas provide a range of opportunities, from scenic driving routes to rugged hiking adventures. See the natural Florida that we have protected through acquisition and careful management.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. This land was acquired under the Conservation and Recreational Lands (CARL) program. The purpose of CARL is to conserve and protect unique and irreplaceable lands and water resources, restore areas to their original condition as much as possible, and allow controlled multiple recreational and educational uses consistent with this purpose.

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

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

4. For information regarding general recreational use of the area, please call the Division of Forestry at (352) 465-8585.

5. 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)}.

6. The Division of Forestry may be conducting forest management activities including but not limited to logging and prescribed burning in any portion of the management area at any time. For current information on activities and areas affected, contact the Division of Forestry office at (352) 465-8585.

7. Please be aware that other forest users such as hikers and horseback riders also use the forest during hunting season, especially along the multi-use trail system.

8. Wild hogs are not game animals on this area, but are considered trespass livestock. They may be taken during archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun, and small game seasons with no size or bag limits.

9. As a courtesy to other forest users, at the end of each hunt please remove your flagging.

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 or hogs 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 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.

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**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.)

GOETHE

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

(48,442 acres)

Levy County



LEGEND

- ▲ Check station
- ▨ Private land
- ▩ Closed to hunting
- ▧ Small game area
- Walk-in access gate
- * Trailhead
- WMA boundary
- ══ Paved road
- Interior road - vehicles allowed
- ~ Creek

