

CARAVELLE RANCH

WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA

2004-05

REGULATIONS SUMMARY AND AREA MAP



A COOPERATIVE PUBLIC WILDLIFE
AND RECREATIONAL AREA
ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF GREENWAYS AND TRAILS
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 Caravelle Ranch 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.** Area users still should familiarize themselves with all regulations for the area. 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, except during the special-opportunity dove hunt.
3. Quota Hunt Permit: A no-cost regular quota hunt permit is required to hunt on this area during the general gun hunts (no exemptions). There are 225 regular quota hunt permits available for each hunt. A no-cost special quota permit is required to hunt on this area during the archery and muzzleloading gun seasons (no exemptions). There are 225 special quota hunt permits available by application for each of these hunts. Regular and special quota hunt permit applications are available from the county tax collectors or their subagents on or about June 1. To apply for a permit, obtain a quota hunt permit application and follow the printed instructions.

A no-cost spring turkey quota permit is required to hunt on this area during the spring turkey season (no exemptions). There are 35 spring turkey permits available for each hunt. Spring turkey quota applications are available at regional offices of the Commission on or about October 25.

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

Special-Opportunity Dove Hunt Permit: All hunters, except minor children as described below, must possess a special-opportunity dove hunt permit (**Regular, Combination, or annual Dove Club permit**) to hunt the special-opportunity dove field.

A **Regular** special-opportunity dove hunt permit may be purchased for **\$35.50**. This permit will allow the permittee to hunt on the specified date. One minor under 16 years of age may accompany an adult permittee and may hunt under the supervision and in the presence of the permittee, providing that the minor and the adult permittee collectively may take only one daily bag limit.

A **Combination** special-opportunity dove hunt permit may be purchased for **\$45.50**. **This permit will allow the permittee to hunt on the specified date.** This permit will allow one minor under 16 years of age to accompany an adult permittee and hunt under the supervision and in the presence of the permittee. This permit will allow the minor and the adult to each take a daily bag limit of doves.

An annual **Dove Club** permit may be purchased for **\$150.50**. **This permit allows the permittee to hunt all scheduled hunts for the specified dove field.** Under this permit, one minor child under 16 years of age may accompany an adult permittee and may hunt under the supervision and in the presence of the permittee, providing that the permittee and minor may each take one daily bag limit of doves. This permit is non-transferable and shall be valid only for the dove field specified.

Special-opportunity dove field permits may be purchased from county tax collectors, their subagents, by internet or by telephone. Annual Dove Club permits will be available July 1 through September 10. Regular and Combination special opportunity dove permits will be available beginning September 18. There are 80 special-opportunity dove permits available for each hunt. Permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Requests for refunds must be made at the dove field on the date it was valid and will only be accepted if the permit was not used. The Commission will make every effort to manage these dove fields for successful hunting; however, we cannot guarantee the doves will cooperate. If you purchase a permit and decide you cannot use it, you can transfer the permit to another hunter prior to entering the area.

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 \$3 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. The \$15 stamp is 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—1 per hunter, per season.
2. Wild hog—No bag or size limit.
3. Turkey—1 per hunter (during spring turkey season).
4. Raccoon, opossum, armadillo, coyote, skunk, beaver, and nutria—No bag limits.
5. Gray squirrel, quail, and rabbit—Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each game species.
6. Migratory birds—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.

GENERAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS:

In addition to the regulations which 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. Only non-motorized vehicles, equestrian and pedestrian access is permitted during periods when the area is closed to hunting.
2. No person shall cut or destroy any tree on or remove any plants, rocks, minerals, animal life, other natural resources or parts thereof from any wildlife management area where the Commission is the landowner or lead managing agency without written authorization.
3. The removal or possession of saw palmetto berries is prohibited.
4. Driving a metal object into any tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven is prohibited.
5. It is unlawful for any person to leave any garbage or refuse or in any way litter in the management area.
6. The wanton or willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
7. Non-migratory game may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. During spring turkey season, shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m. Shooting hours on posted dove fields are noon until sunset.
8. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey on the area.
9. **The release of any animal on this management area 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. Killing swimming deer is prohibited.
12. Taking fox is prohibited.
13. Taking any turkey while it is on the roost is prohibited.
14. Taking or attempting to take any game with the aid of live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, nets, traps, snares, drugs, or poison is prohibited.
15. Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
16. Wild hogs may not be transported alive.
17. Public access is prohibited in areas posted as **“CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS.”**

18. 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 the same unextinguished (Chapter 590, Florida Statutes).

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. Authorized hunting equipment 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.

22. The planting or introduction of any non-native plant is prohibited without written authorization from the Executive Director.

GUNS OR DOGS:

23. Hunting with gun and light is prohibited.
24. Fully-automatic firearms, silencer-equipped firearms, centerfire semi-automatic rifles having a magazine capable of holding more than five rounds, and explosive devices are prohibited.
25. Guns are allowed only during periods in which their use for hunting is allowed.
26. No person shall have a gun in manual possession while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

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

28. 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.

29. Hunting with dogs is prohibited except bird dogs may be used during the general gun and small game seasons and on the posted dove fields during special-opportunity dove hunts.

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

31. Hunting wildlife or the display or use of a gun in a manner capable of taking wildlife on or from rights-of-way of all paved roads is prohibited.

32. Dogs on leashes may be used to trail wounded game.

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

VEHICLES:

34. Vehicles may be operated only on named or numbered roads. All other roads are closed to vehicular traffic.

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

36. The use of tracked vehicles, airboats, motorcycles or all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) is prohibited.

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

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

CAMPING:

39. Camping is permitted in designated campsites during the hunting season. During non-hunting periods, camping is permitted only in primitive campsites.

CHECK STATION:

40. Hunters shall check in and out at the check station when entering and exiting the area and shall check all game taken.

SEARCH:

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

SPECIAL-OPPORTUNITY DOVE:

The first and second Saturdays only during the first phase; the third Saturday only during the second phase; and the first, third, and fifth Saturdays during the third phase of the mourning and white-winged dove seasons (see Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations Pamphlet).

Permits, Stamp, and License Requirements—Hunting license, special-opportunity dove permit and migratory bird permit.

Legal to Take—Mourning and white-winged doves.

Regulations Unique to the Special-Opportunity Dove Hunts—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Persons shall possess a special-opportunity dove hunt permit to hunt in posted dove fields.

2. Shooting hours are from noon until sunset. Hunters may enter the area one hour before shooting time and shall exit the area by one hour after sunset.

ARCHERY:

September **25** through **October 3**.

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

Legal to Take—Any deer (except spotted fawn), turkey of either sex, wild hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, coyote, skunk, beaver, 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 on the area for hunting migratory birds when one or more of these species is designated legal to take on this area (see Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Regulation pamphlet).

SUPERVISED SMALL GAME:

October **10** through **18**.

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, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, coyote, skunk, beaver, nutria, wild hogs and migratory birds in season.

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

1. During the supervised small game season, only persons under 16 years of age and their adult supervisor may hunt as provided in s.790.22, F.S.
2. Centerfire rifles are prohibited.

MUZZLELOADING GUN:

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

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, muzzleloading gun permit, special 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 hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, coyote, skunk, beaver, 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 on the area for hunting migratory birds when one or more of these species is designated legal to take on this area (see Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Regulation pamphlet).

GENERAL GUN:

November **13** through **16** and 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 hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, coyote, skunk, beaver, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the General Gun Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

SMALL GAME:

November **25** through January **9**, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only.

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, raccoon, opossum, armadillo, coyote, skunk, beaver, nutria, wild hogs and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the Small Game Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and the possession of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

SPRING TURKEY:

March **19** through **22** and March **23** through **27**.

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

Legal to Take—Bearded turkeys or gobblers.

Regulations Unique to the Spring Turkey Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

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 for these species which coincide with the archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun and small game seasons.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, state waterfowl permit and federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks), regular quota hunt permit (if hunting during the general gun hunts), special quota permit (if hunting during the archery or muzzleloading gun hunts), special-opportunity dove hunt permit (if hunting on a posted dove field), and migratory bird permit.

Legal to Take—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.

Regulations Unique to Migratory Birds—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 AND FROGGING:

Permitted throughout the year.

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

Regulations Unique to Fishing—In addition to these regulations, statewide fishing regulations shall apply.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS 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 prime 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. 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. Florida Statute 267.13 prohibits digging in or otherwise defacing Indian mounds, collecting artifacts or disturbing archaeological and historic sites on state-owned lands.
3. Defacing, molesting or destroying signs or other property on or about this management area is punishable by law.
4. A marked footpath called the Florida Trail traverses the area. This trail is open to hikers throughout the year.
5. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at (352) 732-1225 {(800) 955-8771 (TDD)}.

COOPERATION REQUESTED:

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.

If you have the privilege to use this wildlife management area, go the extra mile to exercise great caution and care while hunting, fishing, sightseeing or using the area in any way — leave the area better than you found it. Hunters, wildlife, the environment and conservation in general can only benefit.

Your conduct on this area may determine your future use of the area.

PLEASE DO NOT LITTER. TAKE TRASH OUT WITH YOU.

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.

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.

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