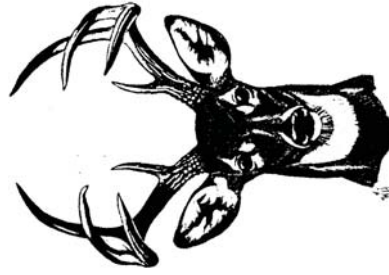


# BLUE WATER CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

## 2004-05

### REGULATIONS SUMMARY AND AREA MAP



A COOPERATIVE PUBLIC WILDLIFE  
AND RECREATIONAL AREA  
INTERNATIONAL PAPER  
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
An Equal Opportunity Agency

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This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and other recreational use on the Blue Water 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 recreational use application 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 permit is not required to hunt on this area.
3. Recreational Use Permit: A **\$200** recreational use permit is required to hunt on this area; there are no exemptions except that one dependent child, 16 years old or under, per permittee may hunt under the supervision of the permittee and is exempt from the permit fee. The number of available recreational use permits will be indicated on the recreational use permit application. Recreational use applications are available at regional offices of the Commission on or about June 15. Permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis from applications received via postal delivery service beginning July 15. To apply for this permit, obtain a recreational use permit application and follow the printed instructions.

Recreational use permits on this area shall also authorize the permittee to engage in activities authorized for wildlife management area permits. This permit is renew-

able for two consecutive years, provided that proper application and payment is received prior to June 1. Renewal notices will be mailed on or about May 1.

Transfer of Permits: Recreational use permits are not transferable.

4. Archery Permit: This \$5 permit is required when hunting during the archery season. It is not required when using a bow and arrow during the general gun or archery/muzzleloading gun seasons.

5. Muzzleloading Gun Permit: This \$5 permit is required when hunting during the muzzleloading gun season. It is not required when using a muzzleloading gun during the general gun or archery/muzzleloading gun seasons.

6. Wild Turkey Permit: This \$5 permit is required while 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. This \$15 stamp is available at post offices. Visit [www.duckstamp.com](http://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.

10. Antlerless Deer Permit: See No. 1 of General Information.

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS:

1. Deer—Daily limit 2, possession limit 4.
2. Wild Hog—No size or bag limit.
3. Turkey—Daily limit 1, season limit 2, possession limit 2.
4. Gray squirrel, quail, rabbit—Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each game species.
5. Raccoon, opossum, skunk, coyote, beaver, nutria and armadillo—No bag limit.
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. 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.

2. Driving a metal object into any tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven is prohibited.

3. It is unlawful for any person to leave any garbage or refuse or in any way litter in the management area.

4. 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 (F.S. Chapter 590.11).

5. 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.

6. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey on the area. Portions of the carcass may be removed immediately prior to cooking.

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. The taking of gopher tortoise is prohibited.

10. Killing swimming deer is prohibited.

11. Killing fox is prohibited.

12. Taking fox squirrel is prohibited.

13. Hunting, trapping or the possession of guns or dogs is prohibited in areas posted as "CLOSED" or "CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS."

14. 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.

15. 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.

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

17. 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.

#### **GUNS OR DOGS:**

18. Hunting with gun and light is prohibited.

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

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

22. 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.

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

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

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

26. Hunting with dogs other than bird dogs is prohibited.

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

28. The display or use of a gun on or upon Firebreak 1 or within 300 yards of an active timber harvest or tree planting operation, in a manner capable of taking wildlife is prohibited.

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

#### **VEHICLES:**

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

31. Vehicles may be operated only on graded roads and maintained firelanes.

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

33. The use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) is prohibited.

#### **CAMPING:**

34. Camping is prohibited.

#### **CHECK STATIONS:**

35. All persons must enter through the East Gate check station or the West Gate check station and exit through the same check station they entered and check all game taken. The West Gate check station will be open on weekends during archery season, muzzleloading gun season, November **25-28**, and weekends thereafter. Check station hours will be 5:00 a.m. through one hour after sunset. All hunters shall exit through check stations not later than one hour after sunset.

36. Access to the area is permitted only by individuals possessing a valid recreational use permit except that the spouse and dependent children of a permittee may engage in outdoor recreational activities other than hunting while in the company of the permittee.

37. Entry to the area will be limited to designated hunting days and for a period of one week prior to the archery season and one day prior to the muzzleloading gun, general gun, and spring turkey seasons for pre-hunt scouting. Gates will be closed after check station hours and when hunting is not permitted.

#### **SEARCH:**

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

#### **ARCHERY:**

October **16** through November **14**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use permit, archery permit, wild turkey permit (if hunting turkeys), migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take— **Deer with at least one antler with three or more points (each point one-inch in length or more)**, antlerless deer (which includes does, and bucks with antlers less than 5 inches in length, but NOT spotted fawns), turkeys of either sex, wild hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the Archery Season—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply, and the possession of firearms or crossbows is prohibited, except that centerfire shotguns are permitted on the area for hunting migratory birds when one or more of these species are legal to take (see Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet).

#### **MUZZLELOADING GUN:**

November **19-21**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use permit, muzzleloading gun permit, migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds) and state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting ducks).

Legal to Take— **Deer with at least one antler with three or more points (each point one-inch in length or more)**, wild hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

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

1. Only muzzleloading guns are allowed, except centerfire shotguns are permitted on the area for hunting migratory birds when one or more of these species are legal to take (see Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet).

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

#### **GENERAL GUN:**

November **25-28** and December **11** through February **2**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use permit, migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds), and state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting ducks).

Legal to Take— **Deer with at least one antler with three or more points (each point one-inch in length or more)**, antlerless deer (which includes does, and bucks with antlers less than 5 inches in length, but NOT spotted fawns) by antlerless deer permit only, wild hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season. Bobcat and otter may be taken after November 30.

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

#### **ARCHERY/MUZZLELOADING GUN:**

February **3-16**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use

permit, and migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take— **Deer with at least one antler with three or more points (each point one-inch in length or more)**, wild hogs, bobcat, otter, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria and migratory birds in season.

Regulations Unique to the Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Season—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and only bows or muzzleloading guns are permitted, except that centerfire shotguns are permitted on the area for hunting migratory birds when one or more of these species are legal to take (see Migratory Bird section and the current Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet).

#### **SMALL GAME:**

February **19** through March **6**, Saturdays and Sundays only.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use permit, migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take—Wild hogs, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, armadillo, skunk, nutria, and migratory birds in season. Bobcat and otter may be taken through March 1.

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

#### **SPRING TURKEY:**

March **19** through April **24**.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use permit and wild turkey permit.

Legal to Take—Bearded turkeys or gobblers.

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

1. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m.
2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited.

#### **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 by the Commission which coincide with the archery, muzzleloading gun, general gun, archery/muzzleloading gun and small game hunts.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, recreational use permit, state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting ducks) and migratory bird permit.

Legal to Take—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.

Regulations Unique to Migratory Birds—See Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet. In addition to these regulations, all wildlife management area regulations contained in this pamphlet shall apply and the use of lead shot for taking ducks and coots is prohibited.

#### **FISHING AND FROGGING:**

Fishing and frogging are permitted only during designated hunting days and pre-hunt scouting periods.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

1. If available, antlerless deer permits will be issued following a random drawing of names of persons who possess valid recreational permits that were purchased before September 1. Antlerless deer permits will be issued from the Tallahassee office and will be valid only for the dates indicated on the permit.

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. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at (850) 265-3676 {(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.*

*This area is owned by International Paper and is managed primarily for production of timber. For the personal safety of everyone, hunters are cautioned against hunting within 440 yards (1/4) mile of an active timber harvest or tree*

#### **planting operation.**

*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 head-gear and/or vests.*

#### **PLEASE DO NOT LITTER. TAKE OUT TRASH 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.*

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