

**OCHLOCKONEE
RIVER
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
AREA AND STATE FOREST**

2004-05

**REGULATIONS SUMMARY
AND AREA MAP**



**A COOPERATIVE PUBLIC WILDLIFE
AND RECREATIONAL AREA
LAKE TALQUIN 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 Ochlockonee River 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 form 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 all 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 special quota hunt permit is required to hunt on this area November **26-28** and December **11-12** of the archery/muzzleloading gun season. There are 70 special quota hunt permits available by application for these hunts. Special quota hunt applications are available from county tax collectors or their subagents on or about June 1. To apply for a permit, obtain a special quota hunt application and follow the printed instructions. Permits will be issued by a random drawing from applications received by June 11. Any unissued permits remaining after the random drawing will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis as applications are received from a postal delivery service.

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 season.
5. Wild Turkey Permit: This \$5 permit is required if hunting turkeys.
6. State Waterfowl Permit: This \$3 permit is required while hunting ducks.
7. 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 for additional information regarding alternate methods and locations for purchasing of duck stamps.
8. 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. 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. All hunters entering or exiting this area may do so only at a designated entrance as indicated on the hunt map.
2. Driving a metal object into any tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven is prohibited.
3. 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.
4. Wild hogs may not be transported alive.
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.
8. 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.

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. Killing swimming deer is prohibited.

12. Killing fox is prohibited.

13. Taking fox squirrel 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, net, trap, snare drug, or poison is prohibited.

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

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

17. 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.

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 same unextinguished (Chapter 590.11, 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.

GUNS OR DOGS:

20. Hunting with gun and light is prohibited.

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

22. 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.

23. Fully automatic firearms, silencer-equipped firearms, centerfire rifles, explosive or drug-injecting devices, or setguns are prohibited.

24. Guns are prohibited when the area is closed to hunting.

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

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

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

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

29. Hunting with dogs other than bird dogs or retrievers is prohibited.

30. 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.

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

VEHICLES:

32. Vehicles may be operated only on named or numbered roads (see map). All other roads are closed to vehicular traffic.

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

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

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

CAMPING:

36. Camping is prohibited

SEARCH:

37. 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, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only.

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

migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds).

Legal to Take—Any deer (except spotted fawn), 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 Hunt—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. 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).

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

ARCHERY/MUZZLELOADING GUN:

November 26-28 and December 11 through January 2, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, special quota hunt permit (if hunting before December 13), migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory birds), state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting ducks) and wild turkey permit (if hunting turkeys).

Legal to Take—Deer with one or more antlers at least five inches in length visible above the hairline, bearded turkeys or gobblers, 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 Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Hunt—In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Only longbows (including compound and recurve bows) and muzzleloading guns are permitted, except that modern 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. Using dogs to hunt deer, wild hogs or turkeys is prohibited.

SMALL GAME:

January 7 through March 6, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only.

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

Legal to Take—Gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, opossum, raccoon, beaver, coyote, skunk, armadillo, nutria and migratory birds in season. Bobcat and otter through March 1.

Regulations Unique to the Small Game Hunt—All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and the possession of centerfire rifles is prohibited (modern shotguns and rimfire rifles are permitted).

SPRING TURKEY:

March 19 through April 24, Saturdays and Sundays only.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area 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 and only longbows (including compound and recurve bows), muzzleloading guns and modern shotguns are permitted.

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, archery/muzzleloading gun and small game hunts.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements—Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, migratory bird permit, state waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp (if hunting ducks), special quota hunt permit (if hunting before December 13 during the archery/muzzleloading gun hunt).

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 OTHER RECREATIONAL USES:

Permitted during daylight hours when hunting is not allowed.

DIVISION OF FORESTRY REGULATIONS:

Construction of permanent or semipermanent structures on state forests is prohibited.

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. 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. Division of Forestry management plans include prescribed burning most months of the year. For personal safety reasons, area users should contact the Division of Forestry for information and location of burn areas, (850) 488-1871.
3. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at (850) 2653676 {(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 head-gear 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.

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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.)

OCHLOCKONEE RIVER

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

(2,790 acres)

Leon County

