

RICHLOAM

**WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA
AND STATE FOREST**

**2001-2002
REGULATIONS SUMMARY
AND AREA MAP**



**A COOPERATIVE PUBLIC WILDLIFE
AND RECREATIONAL AREA
WITH LACOCHEE STATE FOREST
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

www.state.fl.us/fwc/

This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting and other recreational use on the Richloam 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 \$25 permit is required to hunt on this area.

3. Quota Hunt Permit: A no-cost regular quota hunt permit is required to hunt on this area during the first nine days of the general gun season. There are 900 regular quota hunt permits available by application for this area. Regular quota hunt permit applications are available from county tax collectors or their subagents on or about June 1. A no-cost spring turkey quota permit is required to hunt on this area during the first nine days of the spring turkey season. There are 250 spring turkey quota permits available by application. Spring turkey quota hunt applications will be available at Commission regional offices on or about December 26. To apply for a quota hunt permit, obtain a 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. 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 game birds.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS:

1. Deer--Daily limit 2, possession limit 4.

2. Wild hogs--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, armadillo, beaver, coyote, skunk and nutria--No bag limits.

6. Bobcat, mink and otter--Bag limit 1 unless in possession of a Trapping License.

7. Migratory game birds--See Migratory Game 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. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass or woodlands or for any individual or groups of individuals to build a warming fire or campfire and leave same unextinguished (Chapter 590, Florida Statutes).

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

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

5. Wild hogs may not be transported alive.

6. Taking any turkey while it is on the roost is prohibited.

7. Taking fox is prohibited.

8. Taking fox squirrel is prohibited.

9. Taking gopher tortoise is prohibited.

10. The wanton or willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. No person shall release any wildlife on this wildlife management area.

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

15. The use of live decoys, nets or recorded game calls is prohibited.

16. Hunting, trapping or the possession of dogs is prohibited in areas posted as "CLOSED."

17. Authorized hunting equipment or dogs may be taken onto 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 after each season.

18. Hunters shall enter and exit the area at designated entrances located on SR 471, SR 50, SR 565, Lacochee Road and Center Grade.

19. 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, Clay Sink Road and Lacochee Road is prohibited.

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. 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:

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

23. 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.

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

25. 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 and setguns are prohibited.

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

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

28. Loaded, capped or primed guns are prohibited at campsites or check station area. The discharge of guns is prohibited on, from or across any campsite or check station area.

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 hunting with dogs is prohibited.

31. No person shall possess any dog during any period in which hunting with dogs is prohibited, unless the dog is a non-hunting breed and kept restrained.

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

33. Dogs are prohibited in areas posted as "CLOSED TO PETS."

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

VEHICLES:

35. Vehicles may be operated only on named or numbered roads.

36. Florida traffic laws relating to vehicles and vehicle operators apply on this area. The operation of an unregistered and unlicensed vehicle is prohibited. Commission off-road vehicle permits are not valid on this area.

37. Airboats, tracked vehicles, motorcycles and all terrain vehicles are prohibited.

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

39. No motor vehicle shall be operated on any part of the wildlife management area designated and posted as "CLOSED" because of inclement weather, poor road conditions, construction, management activities or wildlife surveys.

CAMPING:

40. Camping is permitted at designated campsites.

41. Only tents, trailers, temporary shelters and self-propelled camping vehicles may be used for camping.

42. A permit is required to camp during the archery, general gun and spring turkey seasons. Contact the Withlacoochee Forestry Center (352) 754-6896 for permit information. A limited number of overnight sites will be available at Pless Place Campsite during the archery, general gun and spring turkey seasons. A fee is required with a maximum of five persons per site.

43. All hunt camps are open during the general gun season. Only Pless Place Campsite is open during the archery and spring turkey seasons.

44. Hunters with camping permits may set up camp two weeks before each hunt. All camping equipment shall be removed by 6 p.m., six days after the close of each hunting season.

CHECK STATIONS:

45. Hunters shall check all game taken at a check station before leaving the area.

46. No deer or wild hog shall be dismembered until checked at a check station.

SEARCH:

47. A wildlife officer may search any camp, vehicle or boat when he or she reasonably believes a violation has been committed.

ARCHERY:

September 22 through October 21.

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

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

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

1. Possession of firearms or crossbows is prohibited.

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

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

GENERAL GUN:

November 10 through January 6.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements--Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, regular quota hunt permit (if hunting during the first nine days), state waterfowl permit and federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks), migratory bird permit (if hunting migratory game 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, skunk, beaver, coyote, nutria and migratory game birds in season. Bobcat, mink and otter after November 30.

Regulations Unique to the General Gun Hunt--In addition to these regulations all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and the taking of turkeys is prohibited.

SPRING TURKEY:

March 16 through April 21.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements--Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, wild turkey permit and a spring turkey quota hunt permit (if hunting during the first nine days).

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. The possession of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

2. Hunting with dogs is prohibited.

MIGRATORY GAME 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 and general gun hunts.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements--Hunting license, wildlife management area permit, regular quota hunt permit (if hunting during the first nine days of the general gun season), state waterfowl permit and federal waterfowl stamp (if hunting ducks), migratory bird permit.

Legal to Take--See Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations pamphlet.

Regulations Unique to Migratory Game Birds--All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations and Migratory Game Bird Hunting 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 and Frogging--In addition to these regulations, all General Wildlife Management Area Regulations and statewide fishing regulations shall apply.

1. Fishing and frogging are prohibited at the fish hatchery.
2. Hunting frogs with guns is allowed only during daylight hours of the general gun hunt.

TRAPPING:

January 7 through March 1.

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

Legal to Take--Bobcat, mink, otter, raccoon, skunk, opossum, beaver, coyote and nutria.

Regulations Unique to Trapping--All General Wildlife Management Area Regulations shall apply and licensed trappers may possess .22 caliber rimfire pistols or rifles for the purpose of removing legal furbearers from traps.

DIVISION OF FORESTRY REGULATIONS:

1. A valid fuel wood permit from the Division of Forestry is required before firewood may be removed from the area.
2. 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. Water in wells is not certified for human consumption.
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. 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, (352) 754-6896.
4. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at (904) 758-0525 {(800) 955-8771 (TDD)}.
5. A marked footpath called the Florida Trail traverses the area.

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.

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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Your purchase
of hunting equipment
supports
Wildlife Restoration

RICHLOAM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

(56,401 Acres)

Hernando, Pasco, Sumter
and Lake Counties

