

2009-
2010
Hunting
Season

Santa Fe Swamp

Wildlife and Environmental Area

Regulations Summary and Area Map
July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010



A cooperative public wildlife and recreational area

Suwannee River Water
Management District



Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

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 Santa Fe Swamp Wildlife and Environmental Area. **Regulations that are new or differ substantially from last year are shown in bold print.** Area users should familiarize themselves with all regulations. For exact wording of the wildlife laws and regulations, see the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's wildlife code, on file with the Secretary of State and state libraries. This brochure and the Florida Hunting Regulations handbook should provide the information necessary for you to plan your hunting activities. These publications are available from any Commission office, county tax collector and at MyFWC.com.

Persons using wildlife and environmental areas are required to have appropriate licenses, permits and stamps. The following persons are exempt from all license and permit requirements (except for quota permits when listed as "no exemptions", recreational use permits, antlerless deer permits and the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp [federal duck stamp]): Florida residents who are 65 years of age or older; residents who possess a Florida Resident Disabled Person Hunting and Fishing Certificate; residents in the U.S. Armed Forces, not stationed in Florida, while home on leave for 30 days or less, upon submission of orders; and children under 16 years of age. Children under 16 years of age are exempt from the federal duck stamp. Anyone born on or after June 1, 1975 and 16 years of age or older must have passed a Commission-approved hunter-safety course prior to being issued a hunting license, except the Hunter Safety Mentoring exemption allows anyone to purchase a hunting license and hunt under the supervision of a licensed hunter, 21 year of age or older, for one year.

Hunting, trapping and fishing licenses, and management area, archery, muzzleloading gun, wild turkey and state waterfowl permits may be purchased from county tax collectors, license agents, at MyFWC.com/license or by telephone at 1-888-486-8356. A no-cost Migratory Bird Permit is available when purchasing a hunting license. Any waterfowl hunter 16 years of age or older must possess a federal duck stamp; available where hunting licenses are sold, at most post offices or at duckstamp.com. Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility information is available at MyFWC.com/ADA.

QUOTA PERMIT INFORMATION:

Quota permits are not required for this area.

GENERAL AREA REGULATIONS:

All general laws and regulations relating to wild animal life or freshwater aquatic life shall apply unless specifically exempted for this area. Hunting or the taking of wildlife or fish on this area shall be allowed only during the open seasons and in accordance with the following regulations:

1. Any person hunting deer or accompanying another person hunting deer shall wear at least 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent-orange material as an outer garment, above the waistline. This is not required during an archery-only season.
2. Taking of spotted fawn, swimming deer or roasted turkey is prohibited. Species legal to take are listed under each season.
3. It is illegal to hunt over bait or place any bait or other food for wildlife on this area.
4. Driving a metal object into any tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven, is prohibited.
5. No person shall cut, damage or remove any natural, man-made or cultural resource without written

authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.

6. 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.
7. The wanton and willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
8. Hunting, fishing or trapping is prohibited on any portion of the area posted as "CLOSED" to those activities.
9. People, dogs, vehicles and other recreational equipment are prohibited in areas posted as "Closed to Public Access" by FWC administrative action.
10. Taking or herding wildlife from any motorized vehicle, aircraft or boat, which is under power is prohibited until power, and movement from that power, has ceased.
11. Most game may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset (see exceptions for each season).
12. The release of any animal is prohibited, without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
13. The head and evidence of sex may not be removed from the carcass of any deer or turkey on the area.
14. The planting or introduction of any plant is prohibited, without written authorization of the landowner or primary land manager.
15. Wild hog may not be transported alive.
16. It is unlawful for any person to leave any garbage or refuse or in any way litter in the area.
17. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass or woodlands.
18. A Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement Officer may search any camp, vehicle or boat, in accordance with law.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND VEHICLES:

1. Open to public access year-round.
2. Vehicles are prohibited except in the parking area.
3. Public access into the area is allowed only from the parking area and Little Santa Fe Lake.
4. Parked vehicles may not obstruct a road, gate or firelane.
5. No motor vehicle shall be operated on any part of any wildlife management area that has been designated as closed to vehicular traffic.

HUNTERS AND CHECK STATIONS:

Hunting equipment may be taken onto the area after 8 a.m. the day before the opening of a season and shall be removed by 6 p.m. one day after the end of the season.

GUNS:

1. All firearms shall be securely encased and in a vehicle, vessel, camper or tent, during periods when they are not a legal method of take. Persons in possession of a valid Concealed Weapon or Firearm License may carry concealed handguns.
2. Only bows and muzzleloading guns may be used for hunting.

3. Target practice is prohibited.
4. Hunting with a gun and light is prohibited.
5. Muzzleloading guns used for taking deer must be .40 caliber or larger, if firing a single bullet, or be 20 gauge or larger if firing two or more balls.
6. Children under the age of 16 may not be in possession of a firearm unless in the presence of a supervising adult.
7. No person shall have a gun under control while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
8. For hunting non-migratory game, only muzzleloading shotguns, muzzleloading rifles, longbows (including compound and recurve bows), and crossbows (by permit only) may be used.

DOGS:

1. Hunting with dogs is prohibited.
2. No person shall allow any dog to pursue or molest any wildlife during any period in which the taking of wildlife by the use of dogs is prohibited.
3. Dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game.
4. For purposes other than hunting, dogs are allowed, but must be kept under physical restraint at all times.

CAMPING: Prohibited.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS:

1. Deer - Daily limit 2, possession limit 4. During archery season that limit may include any combination of antlered and antlerless deer.
2. Wild hog - No size or bag limit.
3. Turkey - Daily limit 1, season limit 2, possession limit 2.
4. Gray squirrel and rabbit - Daily limit 12, possession limit 24 for each game species.

ARCHERY SEASON:

September 26 through October 25.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit, archery permit and wild turkey permit (if hunting wild turkey).

Legal to Take - Any deer (except spotted fawn), wild hog, turkey of either sex, gray squirrel and rabbit.

Regulations Unique to Archery Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply. Hunting with firearms or crossbows is prohibited.

MUZZLELOADING GUN SEASON:

October 30 through November 1.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit and muzzleloading gun permit.

Legal to Take - Deer with at least one antler 5 inches or more in length, wild hog, gray squirrel and rabbit.

Regulations Unique to Muzzleloading Gun Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply. Only muzzleloading guns are allowed for hunting.

ARCHERY/MUZZLELOADING GUN SEASON:

November 14 through January 10.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit, archery permit (if hunting with archery equipment) and muzzleloading gun permit (if hunting with a muzzleloading gun).

Legal to Take - Deer with at least one antler 5 inches or more in length, wild hog, gray squirrel and rabbit.

Regulations Unique to Archery/Muzzleloading Gun Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply. Only bows or muzzleloading guns may be used for hunting.

TRAPPING: Prohibited.

SPRING TURKEY SEASON:

March 20 through April 25.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Hunting license, management area permit and wild turkey permit.

Legal to Take - Bearded turkey or gobbler.

Regulations Unique to Spring Turkey Season - In addition to these regulations, all General Area Regulations shall apply.

1. Hunting with centerfire and rimfire firearms and crossbows is prohibited.
2. Legal shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m.
3. Hunting other animals is prohibited.

FISHING:

Allowed year-round.

Permit, Stamp and License Requirements - Fishing license.

Legal to Take - See Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations Summary.

Regulations Unique to Fishing - All General Area Regulations and General Freshwater Fishing Regulations shall apply. Frogging is prohibited.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. This land was acquired through a donation from Georgia Pacific Corporation to the Suwannee River Water Management District. The Santa Fe Swamp is critically important to the maintenance of water quantity and quality of the Santa Fe lakes and river. Multiple recreational uses are allowed consistent with that purpose.
2. If you have any questions about this material, please call the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 386-758-0525 (TDD 800-955-8771).

SUWANNEE RIVER WMD RULES AND INFORMATION:

1. These lands were acquired and are managed by the Suwannee River Water Management District for the conservation and protection of water resources, public recreational use and the restoration of natural communities. SRWMD lands may be use for recreational purposes that are compatible with these objectives.

2. Public use of SRWMD lands is regulated by Chapter 40B-9, Florida Administrative Code in addition to the FWC rules listed above. For detailed information regarding public use rules and recreational opportunities on SRWMD lands please visit www.mysuwanneeriver.com or contact the Public Use Coordinator at 386-362-1001 or 800-226-1066 (FL only) or recreation@srwmd.org.
3. The Suwannee River Water Management District management activities include prescribed burning and timber harvesting during most months of the year. For personal safety reasons, area users should contact the District for information and locations at 386-362-1001 or 800-226-1066 (FL only). Notices are posted at mysuwanneeriver.com.
4. The possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

COOPERATION REQUESTED:

If you see 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.

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. The project described in this publication is part of a program funded by federal dollars under the Wildlife Restoration Act. Federal funds pay 20 percent of the cost of the program.

**Order Your Hunting and Fishing License
by Phone...
Use Your Credit Card and Call**

**1-888-HUNT-FLORIDA (486-8356) OR
1-888-FISH-FLORIDA (347-4356)**

(There is a vendor fee of \$3.95 per license.)

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SANTA FE SWAMP

WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AREA

5,627 acres
Bradford County

