



NO NET LOSS OF HUNTING LANDS
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Pursuant to section 379.3001, Florida Statutes

Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Prepared by the Staff of the
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Hunting and Game Management

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NO NET LOSS OF HUNTING LANDS

Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Report

The 2006 Florida Legislature took action to commit the State of Florida to preserving hunting lands and hunting opportunities for the future. This document constitutes the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (Commission) annual report to the Legislature, required pursuant to section 379.3001, Florida Statutes (the "No Net Loss of Hunting Lands" legislation), on the status of hunting lands available to the public.

This report describes the acreage managed by the Commission that was opened to hunting during Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and the acreage managed by the Commission that was closed to hunting including the reasons for the closures. As defined in statute, "Commission-managed lands" are lands owned by the Commission, lands owned by the State over which the Commission holds lead or cooperative management authority, or privately owned lands that are leased or managed by the Commission. Other state agencies and water management districts that own or manage land are also required in section 379.3001, Florida Statutes, to report properties with acreage open and closed to hunting during the previous fiscal year (except for right-of-way lands, parcels under 50 acres, and State Parks).

Under the provisions of section 379.3001(4), Florida Statutes, Commission land management decisions and actions, including decisions made by private owners to close hunting land managed by the Commission, shall not result in any net loss of land acreage available for hunting opportunities on Commission-managed lands that existed on the effective date of the act (June 7, 2006). The law also requires that the Commission expeditiously find replacement acreage for hunting to compensate for closures of any existing hunting land. Furthermore, replacement lands shall, to the greatest extent possible, be located within the same administrative region of the Commission and shall be consistent with the hunting discipline that the Commission allowed on the closed land. Approximately 3,331,485 acres of Commission-managed public hunting land existed on the effective date of the act.

The total acreage of Commission-managed public hunting lands existing June 30, 2012, is 3,483,052 acres. Decisions and actions taken by the Commission since the adoption of the No Net Loss of Hunting Lands legislation have resulted in a net increase of 151,567 acres of Commission-managed hunting lands, as of June 30, 2012.

It is important to note that in addition to the 3,483,052 acres of Commission-managed public hunting lands, there were approximately 2,282,949 acres of federally-owned lands in the wildlife management area system available for public hunting during Fiscal Year 2011-2012. This results in a total of 5,766,001 acres of land open for public hunting in Florida. The complete list of properties managed by the Commission or cooperatively managed that were open for public hunting during Fiscal Year 2011-2012 is provided in Table 1. A list of properties managed by the Commission or cooperatively managed that were not open for public hunting during Fiscal Year 2011-2012 is provided in Table 2. Table 3 provides information regarding Commission-managed lands that were removed from the wildlife management area system during Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Please note that acreage figures reported herein may be revised based on final verification of these figures by cooperating landowners and agencies.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Fiscal Year 2011-2012 No Net Loss of Hunting Lands

Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Open for Public Hunting
<u>Northwest Region</u>		
Apalachee WMA**	Jackson	7,952
Apalachicola WMA**	Franklin/Leon/Liberty/Wakulla	581,290
Apalachicola WMA-Bradwell Unit**	Franklin/Leon/Liberty/Wakulla	1,420
Apalachicola River WEA	Franklin/Gulf	86,140
Aucilla WMA	Jefferson/Taylor	50,471
Beaverdam Creek SGA	Liberty	1,317
Blackwater WMA	Okaloosa/Santa Rosa	191,651
Blackwater WMA-Carr Unit	Santa Rosa	590
Blackwater WMA-Hutton Unit	Santa Rosa	7,629
Box-R WMA	Franklin	11,216
Chipola River WMA	Jackson	9,094
Choctawhatchee River WMA	Bay/Holmes/Walton/Washington	57,688
Econfina Creek WMA	Bay/Washington	41,424
Eglin Air Force Base WMA**	Santa Rosa/Okaloosa/Walton	463,448
Escambia River WMA	Escambia/Santa Rosa	35,413
Flint Rock WMA	Wakulla/Jefferson	17,033
Joe Budd WMA	Gadsden	11,108
Juniper Creek WMA**	Calhoun	914
L. Kirk Edwards WEA	Leon	1,782
Lafayette WMA	Walton	3,160
Ochlockonee River WMA	Leon	2,790
Perdido River WMA	Escambia	6,261
Pine Log WMA	Bay/Washington	6,911
Point Washington WMA	Walton	15,247
Talquin WMA	Leon	3,053
Tate's Hell WMA	Franklin/Liberty	187,710

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Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

<u>Area*</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres Open for Public Hunting</u>
<u>Northwest Region (cont.)</u>		
Tate's Hell WMA-Womack Creek	Franklin/Liberty	13,754
Tyndall Air Force WMA**	Bay	14,400
Wakulla WMA	Wakulla	4,045
Yellow River WMA	Santa Rosa/Okaloosa	29,696
<u>North Central Region</u>		
Alligator Lake SGA	Columbia	484
Andrews WMA	Levy	3,501
Bayard WMA	Clay	6,335
Belmore WMA	Clay	8,737
Big Bend WMA-Hickory Mound Unit	Taylor	14,428
Big Bend WMA-Jena Unit	Dixie	11,651
Big Bend WMA-Snipe Island Unit	Taylor	11,687
Big Bend WMA-Spring Creek	Taylor	14,600
Big Bend WMA-Tide Swamp Unit	Taylor	18,462
Big Shoals WMA	Hamilton	2,110
Camp Blanding WMA	Clay	39,728
Cary WMA	Duval/Nassau	11,644
Cedar Key Scrub WMA	Levy	4,988
Citrus WMA	Citrus/Hernando	48,005
Cypress Creek WMA	Hamilton	1,242
Devil's Hammock WMA	Levy	6,769
Flying Eagle WMA	Citrus	10,563
Fort White Mitigation Park WEA	Gilchrist	1,610
Four Creeks WMA	Nassau	13,060
Goethe WMA	Levy	44,672
Grove Park WMA	Alachua	16,437

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Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Open for Public Hunting
<u>North Central Region (cont.)</u>		
Gulf Hammock WMA	Levy	24,066
Hatchet Creek WMA	Alachua	2,640
Holton Creek WMA	Hamilton	2,506
Homosassa WMA	Citrus	5,675
Jennings Forest WMA	Clay	23,182
Koon Farm SGA	Lafayette	40
Lafayette Forest WEA	Lafayette	1,958
Little River WMA	Suwannee	2,204
Lochloosa WMA	Alachua	11,083
Log Landing WMA	Dixie	1,147
Lower Econfina River WMA	Taylor	3,007
Mallory Swamp WMA	Lafayette	31,225
Middle Aucilla WMA	Jefferson/Madison/Taylor	1,699
North Newberry SGA	Alachua	40
Nassau WMA	Nassau	13,996
Osceola WMA**	Baker/Columbia	266,270
Potash Corp-White Springs WMA	Hamilton	3,992
Potts WMA	Citrus	4,155
Raiford WMA	Bradford/Union	9,141
Ralph E. Simmons Memorial WMA	Nassau	3,569
Santa Fe Swamp WEA	Bradford	5,627
Steinhatchee Springs WMA	Lafayette/Dixie/Taylor	20,882
Suwannee Ridge Mitigation Park WEA	Hamilton	1,425
Thomas Creek WMA	Duval	2,429
Troy Springs WMA	Lafayette	859
Twin Rivers WMA	Madison/Hamilton/Suwannee	7,457
Twin Rivers WMA-Blue Springs Unit	Hamilton	1,974
Watermelon Pond WEA	Alachua	4,231

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Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

<u>Area*</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres Open for Public Hunting</u>
<u>Northeast Region</u>		
Buck Lake WMA	Brevard/Volusia	9,291
Caravelle Ranch WMA	Putnam/Marion	27,251
Charles H. Bronson WMA	Seminole/Orange	11,672
Dunns Creek WMA	Putnam	3,184
Emeralda Marsh SGA	Lake	6,476
Etoniah Creek WMA	Putnam	7,185
Fellsmere Area 1 SGA	Indian River	4,189
Fort Drum WMA	Indian River	20,858
Guana River WMA	St. Johns	9,815
Half Moon WMA	Sumter	9,554
Herky Huffman Bull Creek WMA	Osceola	23,646
Jumper Creek WMA	Sumter	10,552
Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Polk/Osceola	21,000
Lake George WMA	Putnam/Volusia	39,642
Lake George WMA-Dexter Unit	Volusia	14,377
Lake Monroe WMA	Volusia	3,098
Lake Panasoffkee WMA	Sumter	8,676
Little Big Econlockhatchee WMA	Seminole	7,156
Marshall Swamp WMA	Marion	6,445
Matanzas WMA	St. Johns	4,688
Ocala WMA**	Lake/Marion/Putnam	385,349
Ocklawaha Prairie SGA	Marion	2,400
Ocklawaha River WMA-Gore's Landing	Marion	4,357
Orange Creek SGA	Marion/Alachua	3,423
Relay WMA	Flagler	19,682
Richloam WMA	Sumter/Hernando/Pasco/Lake	58,146
Richloam WMA-Baird Unit	Sumter	11,567
Rock Springs Run WMA	Lake/Orange	14,046

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Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Open for Public Hunting
<u>Northeast Region (cont.)</u>		
Ross Prairie WMA	Marion	3,527
Salt Lake WMA	Brevard	7,805
Seminole Forest WMA	Lake	12,616
Seminole Forest WMA-Lake Tracy Unit	Lake	9,311
Seminole Ranch WMA	Orange	6,000
Three Lakes WMA	Osceola	54,611
Three Lakes WMA-Prairie Lakes Unit	Osceola	8,859
Tiger Bay WMA	Volusia	19,644
Tiger Bay WMA-Rima Ridge Unit	Volusia	11,548
T.M. Goodwin SGA	Brevard	6,482
Tosohatchee WMA	Orange	30,701
Triple N Ranch WMA	Osceola	16,295
Twelve Mile Swamp WMA	St. Johns	9,460
Upper St. Johns River Marsh WMA	Brevard/Indian River	120,386
<u>Southwest Region</u>		
Arbuckle WMA	Polk	13,530
Avon Park WMA**	Highlands/Polk	80,000
Babcock Ranch Preserve	Charlotte/Lee	16,612
Babcock/Webb WMA	Charlotte	64,874
Babcock/Webb WMA-Punta Gorda WTF	Charlotte	884
Babcock/Webb WMA-Yucca Pens Unit	Charlotte/Lee	15,014
Chassahowitzka WMA**	Hernando	33,919
Croom WMA	Hernando/Sumter	20,595
Green Swamp WMA	Polk/Lake/Sumter	50,692
Green Swamp WMA-West Unit	Pasco	34,335
Hickory Hammock WMA	Highlands	3,791
Hilochee WMA	Lake/Polk	9,369
Hilochee WMA-Osprey Unit	Polk	6,093

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Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Open for Public Hunting
<u>Southwest Region (cont.)</u>		
Kicco WMA	Polk/Osceola	6,647
Kissimmee River PUA	Osceola/Okeechobee/Highlands/Glades	27,155
Lake Marion Creek WMA	Polk/Osceola	7,464
Lake Wales Ridge - Royce Unit WEA	Highlands	2,641
Myakka State Forest SGA	Sarasota	7,295
Upper Hillsborough WMA	Pasco/Polk	5,178
Walk-in-the-Water WMA	Polk	6,034
<u>South Region</u>		
Allapattah Flats WMA	Martin	20,945
Big Cypress WMA**	Collier/Monroe/Miami-Dade	565,848
Crew WEA	Lee/Collier	28,908
Dinner Island WMA	Hendry	21,714
Everglades WMA	Miami-Dade/Broward/Palm Beach	671,831
Fisheating Creek WMA	Glades	18,272
Frog Pond North SGA	Miami-Dade	100
Holeyland WMA	Palm Beach/Broward	35,350
John G. & Susan H. Dupuis WEA	Martin/Palm Beach	21,935
Jones/Hungryland WEA	Martin/Palm Beach	16,969
J.W. Corbett WMA	Palm Beach	60,478
Okaloacoochee Slough WMA	Hendry/Collier	34,722
Picayune Strand WMA	Collier	71,135
Rotenberger WMA	Palm Beach/Broward	29,700
Rocky Glades SGA	Miami-Dade	3,825
Southern Glades WEA	Miami-Dade	28,896
Spirit of the Wild WMA	Hendry	7,486
Stormwater Treatment Area 1 WEST SGA	Palm Beach	6,770
Stormwater Treatment Area 2 SGA	PalmBeach	9,195
Stormwater Treatment Area 3/4 SGA	Palm Beach	16,772

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Table 1. Commission-managed lands open for public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

<u>Area*</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres Open for Public Hunting</u>
<u>South Region (cont.)</u>		
Stormwater Treatment Area 5 SGA	Hendry	5,120
Stormwater Treatment Area C-23/24 Reservoir SGA	St. Lucie	1,139
	Total	5,766,001

*The following area designations apply:
 CWA - Critical Wildlife Area
 SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area
 WEA - Wildlife and Environmental Area
 WMA -Wildlife Management Area
 WTF - Water Treatment Facility

** Area includes federally-owned lands

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Table 2. Commission-managed lands closed to public hunting

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Not Open for Public Hunting
<u>Northwest Region</u>		
Alligator Point CWA	Franklin	145
Gerome's Cave CWA	Jackson	2
Judges Cave WEA	Jackson	37
St. George Causeway CWA	Franklin	32
Tyndall CWA**	Bay	10
<u>North Central Region</u>		
Amelia Island CWA	Nassau	10
Bell Ridge Longleaf WEA	Gilchrist	720
Bird Islands CWA	Duval	6
Brannan Field Mitigation Park WEA	Clay/Duval	386
Fort George Inlet CWA	Duval	10
<u>Northeast Region</u>		
Brevard Coastal/Salt Lake-Grissom Parkway	Brevard	1,256
Brevard Coastal/Salt Lake-Micco Expansion	Brevard	222
Brevard Coastal/Salt Lake-Ten Mile Ridge	Brevard	181
Jennings Cave CWA	Marion	2
Lake Tohopekaliga-Makinson Island	Osceola	132
Lake Tohopekaliga-Paradise Island	Osceola	98
Matanzas Inlet CWA	St. Johns	28
Split Oak Mitigation Park WEA	Orange/Osceola	1,689

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Table 2. Commission-managed lands closed to public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Not Open for Public Hunting
<u>Southwest Region</u>		
Alafia Banks CWA	Hillsborough	75
Anclote River Islands CWA	Pasco/Pinellas	5
Bullfrog Creek WEA	Hillsboro	833
Chinsegut Nature Center WEA	Hernando	853
Crooked Lake WEA	Polk	1,147
Hickey Creek Mitigation Park WEA	Lee	768
Janet Butterfield Brooks WEA	Hernando	319
Lake Wales Ridge WEA	Highlands	12,348
Little Estero Island CWA	Lee	25
Little Gator Creek WEA	Pasco	566
Moody Branch Mitigation Park WEA	Manatee	960
Myakka River CWA	Sarasota	1
Perry Oldenberg Mitigation Park WEA	Hernando	368
Platt Branch Mitigation Park WEA	Highlands	1,973
Red Lake CWA	Sarasota	34
<u>South Region</u>		
ABC Islands CWA	Collier	75
Big Marco Pass CWA	Collier	60
Bill Sadowski CWA	Dade	700
Caxambas Pass CWA	Collier	1
Deerfield Island Park CWA	Broward	56
Florida Keys WEA	Monroe	3,089
Pelican Shoal CWA	Monroe	1

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Table 2. Commission-managed lands closed to public hunting (cont.)

Commission Administrative Region

Area*	County	Acres Not Open for Public Hunting
<u>South Region</u>		
Rookery Island CWA	Collier	5
Spirit of the Wild WMA-Caloosahatchee Tract	Hendry	160
	Total	29,388

*The following area designations apply:

CWA - Critical Wildlife Area

SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area

WEA - Wildlife and Environmental Area

WMA - Wildlife Management Area

** Area includes federally-owned lands

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Table 3. Commission-managed lands removed from the wildlife management area system during Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Florida Administrative Region

<u>Area</u> *	<u>County</u>	<u>Acreage Removed</u>	<u>Reasons for the Change</u>
<u>Northeast Region</u>			
Ft. McCoy WMA	Marion	8,730	Request from the landowner, Plum Creek Timber Co., to remove lands.
<u>North Central Region</u>			
Combs Farm SGA	Baker	36	Request from private landowner, Mr. Gene Combs to remove lands.
	Total	8,766	

*The following area designations apply:
 SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area
 WMA - Wildlife Management Area