



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

No Net Loss of Hunting Lands 2022-23 Annual Report

The 2006 Florida Legislature committed the State of Florida to the preservation of hunting lands and hunting opportunities for the future. Section 379.3001(6), Florida Statutes (F.S.), “No Net Loss of Hunting Lands”, requires the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Commission) to provide an annual report to the Legislature on the status of hunting lands available to the public.

This report describes the acreage managed by the Commission that was open and closed to hunting during Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23. As defined in s. 379.3001(2), F.S., “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 s. 379.3001(7), F.S., 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 s. 379.3001(4), F.S., 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). This 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 lands existed on the effective date of the act. The total acreage of Commission-managed public hunting lands existing as of June 30, 2023, is 3,627,076. 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 295,591 acres of Commission-managed public hunting lands.

In addition to the 3,627,076 acres of Commission-managed public hunting lands, there were approximately 2,450,175 acres of federally owned lands in the wildlife management area system available for public hunting during FY 2022-23. This resulted in a total of 6,077,251 acres of land managed by the Commission open for public hunting in Florida. Exhibit 1 provides the complete list of these properties. Exhibit 2 shows the list of Commission-managed lands that were *not* open for public hunting, 34,438 acres, during FY 2022-23.

Exhibit 1

Lands Managed by the Commission Open for Public Hunting in FY 2022-23

Commission Administrative Regions

Exhibit 1-A Northwest Region

Exhibit 1-B North Central Region

Exhibit 1-C Northeast Region

Exhibit 1-D Southwest Region

Exhibit 1-E South



Exhibit 1-A

There were 1,904,999 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the Northwest Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Apalachee WMA ² | Jackson | 7,952 |
| Apalachicola WMA ² | Franklin/Leon/Liberty/Wakulla | 581,290 |
| Apalachicola WMA-Bradwell Unit ² | Franklin/Leon/Liberty/Wakulla | 1,420 |
| Apalachicola River WEA | Franklin/Gulf | 108,287 |
| Aucilla WMA | Jefferson/Taylor | 50,549 |
| Beaverdam Creek WMA | Liberty | 1,317 |
| Blackwater WMA | Okaloosa/Santa Rosa | 203,237 |
| Blackwater WMA-Carr Unit | Santa Rosa | 590 |
| Blackwater WMA-Hutton Unit | Santa Rosa | 7,629 |
| Box-R WMA | Franklin | 18,454 |
| Chipola River WMA | Jackson | 9,094 |
| Choctawhatchee River WMA | Bay/Holmes/Walton/Washington | 57,650 |
| Econfina Creek WMA | Bay/Washington | 41,193 |
| Eglin Air Force Base WMA ² | Santa Rosa/Okaloosa/Walton | 463,448 |
| Escambia River WMA | Escambia/Santa Rosa | 35,413 |
| Escribano Point WMA | Santa Rosa | 4,131 |
| Joe Budd WMA | Gadsden | 11,178 |
| Juniper Creek WMA ² | Calhoun | 914 |
| L. Kirk Edwards WEA | Leon | 1,782 |
| Lafayette Creek WMA | Walton | 2,541 |
| Ochlockonee River WMA | Leon | 2,790 |
| Perdido River WMA | Escambia | 6,261 |
| Plank Road WMA | Leon/Jefferson | 8,096 |
| Pine Log WMA | Bay/Washington | 7,091 |
| Point Washington WMA | Walton | 15,355 |
| Talquin WMA | Leon | 3,053 |
| Tate's Hell WMA | Franklin/Liberty | 186,695 |
| Tate's Hell -St. James Island | Franklin | 8,182 |
| Tate's Hell WMA-Womack Creek | Franklin/Liberty | 13,754 |



Exhibit 1-A continued

There were 1,904,999 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the Northwest Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tyndall Air Force WMA ² | Bay | 14,400 |
| Wakulla WMA | Wakulla | 4,045 |
| Yellow River WMA | Santa Rosa/Okaloosa | 27,208 |
| SUBTOTAL | | 1,904,999 |

¹ The following area designations apply: WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area; WMA – Wildlife Management Area.

² Area includes federally-owned lands.



Exhibit 1-B

There were 750,364 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the North Central Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Alligator Lake SGA | Columbia | 484 |
| Andrews WMA | Levy | 3,579 |
| Bayard WMA | Clay | 6,521 |
| Belmore WMA | Clay | 8,737 |
| Big Bend WMA-Hickory Mound Unit | Taylor | 14,441 |
| Big Bend WMA-Jena Unit | Dixie | 15,549 |
| Big Bend WMA-Snipe Island Unit | Taylor | 10,689 |
| Big Bend WMA-Spring Creek | Taylor | 13,384 |
| Big Bend WMA-Tide Swamp Unit | Taylor | 19,538 |
| Big Shoals WMA | Hamilton | 2,140 |
| Camp Blanding WMA | Clay | 39,728 |
| Cary WMA | Duval/Nassau | 11,644 |
| Cedar Key Scrub WMA | Levy | 6,480 |
| Citrus WMA | Citrus/Hernando | 49,317 |
| Cypress Creek WMA | Hamilton | 1,328 |
| 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 |
| Gulf Hammock WMA | Levy | 23,015 |
| Hatchet Creek WMA | Alachua | 2,760 |
| Holton Creek WMA | Hamilton | 2,531 |
| Homosassa WMA | Citrus | 5,675 |
| Jennings Forest WMA | Clay | 23,269 |
| Lafayette Forest WEA | Lafayette | 1,958 |
| Little River WMA | Suwannee | 2,203 |
| Lochloosa WMA | Alachua | 11,149 |



Exhibit 1-B continued

There were 750,364 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the North Central Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Log Landing WMA | Dixie | 5,015 |
| Lower Econfina River WMA | Taylor | 3,007 |
| Mallory Swamp WMA | Lafayette | 31,225 |
| Middle Aucilla WMA | Jefferson/Madison/Taylor | 2,245 |
| Osceola WMA ² | Baker/Columbia | 266,270 |
| Potash Corp-White Springs WMA | Hamilton | 1,300 |
| Potts WMA | Citrus | 4,155 |
| Raiford WMA | Bradford/Union | 9,141 |
| Ralph E. Simmons Memorial WMA | Nassau | 3,630 |
| Santa Fe Swamp WEA | Bradford | 7,326 |
| Steinhatchee Springs WMA | Lafayette/Dixie/Taylor | 24,422 |
| Suwannee Ridge Mitigation Park WEA | Hamilton | 1,425 |
| Thomas Creek WMA | Duval | 2,429 |
| Troy Springs WMA | Lafayette | 1,750 |
| Twin Rivers WMA | Madison/Hamilton/Suwannee | 11,023 |
| Twin Rivers WMA-Blue Springs Unit | Hamilton | 2,084 |
| Watermelon Pond WEA | Alachua | 4,687 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 750,364 |

¹ The following area designations apply: SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area; WMA – Wildlife Management Area.

² Area includes federally-owned lands.



Exhibit 1-C

There were 1,040,318 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the Northeast Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Buck Lake WMA | Brevard/Volusia | 9,320 |
| 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 | 5,174 |
| Etoniah Creek WMA | Putnam | 7,185 |
| Fellsmere Area 1 SGA | Indian River | 4,189 |
| Fort Drum WMA | Indian River | 20,858 |
| Gores Landing WMA | Marion | 4,357 |
| Guana River WMA | St. Johns | 9,818 |
| Half Moon WMA | Sumter | 9,554 |
| Herky Huffman Bull Creek WMA | Osceola | 23,646 |
| Jumper Creek WMA | Sumter | 10,552 |
| Kissimmee Chain of Lakes - Misc Area | Polk/Osceola | 21,028 |
| 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 ² | Lake/Marion/Putnam | 385,349 |
| Ocklawaha Prairie SGA | Marion | 2,400 |
| Orange Creek SGA | Marion/Alachua | 3,423 |
| Pine Meadows | Lake | 769 |
| Richloam WMA | Sumter/Hernando/Pasco/Lake | 58,146 |
| Richloam WMA-Baird Unit | Sumter | 11,567 |
| Rock Springs Run WMA | Lake/Orange | 14,046 |
| Ross Prairie WMA | Marion | 3,527 |
| Salt Lake WMA | Brevard | 7,868 |



Exhibit 1-C continued

There were 1,040,318 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the Northeast Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Seminole Forest WMA | Lake | 12,616 |
| Seminole Forest WMA-Lake Tracy Unit | Lake | 9,311 |
| Seminole Ranch WMA | Orange | 6,000 |
| Silver Springs Forest WMA | Marion | 4,900 |
| 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 |
| Upper St. Johns River Marsh WMA | Brevard/Indian River | 120,386 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 1,040,318 |

¹ The following area designations apply: SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area; WMA – Wildlife Management Area.

² Area includes federally-owned lands.



Exhibit 1-D

There were 471,979 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the Southwest Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Arbuckle WMA | Polk | 13,530 |
| Avon Park WMA ² | Highlands/Polk | 80,000 |
| Babcock Ranch Preserve | Charlotte/Lee | 50,771 |
| Babcock/Webb WMA | Charlotte | 66,474 |
| Babcock/Webb WMA-Yucca Pens Unit | Charlotte/Lee | 15,230 |
| Chassahowitzka WMA ² | Hernando | 36,120 |
| Croom WMA | Hernando/Sumter | 20,595 |
| Everglades Headwaters WMA ² | Polk/Okeechobee | 7,160 |
| 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 |
| Kicco WMA | Polk/Osceola | 6,647 |
| Kissimmee River PUA | Osceola/Okeechobee/Highlands/Glades | 27,215 |
| Kissimmee Chain of Lakes-Rolling Meadows Unit | Polk | 1,800 |
| Lake Marion Creek WMA | Polk/Osceola | 8,028 |
| Lake Panasoffkee SGA | Sumter | 647 |
| Lake Wales Ridge - Royce Unit WEA | Highlands | 2,641 |
| Lower Hillsborough WMA | Hillsborough | 2,774 |
| Myakka State Forest SGA | Sarasota | 7,295 |
| Orange Hammock | Sarasota | 5,777 |
| Tenoroc PUA | Polk | 938 |
| Upper Hillsborough WMA | Pasco/Polk | 5,178 |
| Walk-in-the-Water WMA | Polk | 6,034 |
| Weekiwachee WMA | Hernando | 2,845 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 471,979 |

¹ The following area designations apply: FMA – Fish Management Area; PUA – Public Use Area; SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; WTF – Water Treatment Facility. ² Area includes federally-owned lands.



Exhibit 1-E

There were 1,909,591 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the South Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 FEB SGA | Palm Beach | 16,908 |
| Allapattah Flats WMA | Martin | 20,945 |
| Big Cypress WMA ² | Collier/Monroe/Miami-Dade | 728,273 |
| 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 | 18,380 |
| Frog Pond North SGA | Miami-Dade | 100 |
| Holeyland WMA | Palm Beach/Broward | 35,350 |
| J.W. Corbett WMA | Palm Beach | 60,498 |
| John G. & Susan H. Dupuis WEA | Martin/Palm Beach | 21,935 |
| Jones/Hungryland WEA | Martin/Palm Beach | 16,969 |
| Okaloacoochee Slough WMA | Hendry/Collier | 58,880 |
| Picayune Strand WMA | Collier | 74,138 |
| Rocky Glades SGA | Miami-Dade | 5,143 |
| Rotenberger WMA | Palm Beach/Broward | 29,700 |
| Southern Glades WEA | Miami-Dade | 30,080 |
| Spirit of the Wild WMA | Hendry | 7,486 |
| Stormwater Treatment Area 1 WEST SGA | Palm Beach | 11,279 |
| Stormwater Treatment Area 5 SGA | Hendry | 16,508 |
| C-23/24 Reservoir SGA | St. Lucie | 1,139 |
| Stormwater Treatment Area 3/4 SGA | Palm Beach | 16,772 |
| Stormwater Treatment Area 2 SGA | Palm Beach | 16,655 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 1,909,591 |

¹ The following area designations apply: SGA - Small-Game Hunting Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area; WMA – Wildlife Management Area.

² Area includes federally-owned lands.



Exhibit 2

Commission-Managed Lands Not Open for Public Hunting FY 2022-23

Commission Administrative Regions

Exhibit 2-A Northwest Region

Exhibit 2-B North Central Region

Exhibit 2-C Northeast Region

Exhibit 2-D Southwest Region

Exhibit 2-E South



Exhibit 2-A

There were 401 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the Northwest Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES <u>NOT</u> OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Alligator Point CWA | Franklin | 66 |
| Flag Island CWA | Franklin | 1 |
| Judges Cave WEA | Jackson | 37 |
| Lanark Reef CWA | Franklin | 65 |
| St. George Causeway CWA | Franklin | 32 |
| Tyndall CWA ² | Bay | 200 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 401 |

¹ The following area designations apply: CWA – Critical Wildlife Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area.

² Area includes federally-owned lands.

Exhibit 2-B

There were 1,136 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the North Central Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES <u>NOT</u> OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Amelia Island CWA | Nassau | 10 |
| Bell Ridge Longleaf WEA | Gilchrist | 720 |
| Nassau Sounds Island CWA | Duval | 7 |
| Brannan Field Mitigation Park WEA | Clay/Duval | 386 |
| Fort George Inlet CWA | Duval | 10 |
| Withlacoochee Caves CWA | Citrus | 3 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 1,136 |

¹ The following area designations apply: CWA – Critical Wildlife Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area.

Exhibit 2-C

There were 3,617 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the Northeast Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES <u>NOT</u> OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|---|---------|--|
| BC49 CWA | Brevard | 6 |
| 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 |



Exhibit 2-C continued

There were 3,617 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the Northeast Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES NOT OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lake Tohopekaliga-Makinson Island | Osceola | 132 |
| Lake Tohopekaliga-Paradise Island | Osceola | 98 |
| Matanzas Inlet CWA | St. Johns | 28 |
| Port Orange CWA | Volusia | 4 |
| Split Oak Mitigation Park WEA | Orange/Osceola | 1,689 |
| Stick Marsh CWA | Brevard | 1 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 3,617 |

¹The following area designations apply: CWA – Critical Wildlife Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area.

Exhibit 2-D

There were 22,908 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the Southwest Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES NOT OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alafia Banks CWA | Hillsborough | 60 |
| Big Carlos Pass CWA | Lee | 2 |
| Broken Islands CWA | Lee | 31 |
| Bullfrog Creek WEA | Hillsboro | 833 |
| Chinsegut Nature Center WEA | Hernando | 853 |
| Coconut Point CWA | Lee | 4 |
| Crooked Lake WEA | Polk | 1,147 |
| Dot Dash Dit CWA | Manatee | 5 |
| Hemp Key CWA | Lee | 10 |
| Hickey Creek Mitigation Park WEA | Lee | 768 |
| Janet Butterfield Brooks WEA | Hernando | 319 |
| Lake Wales Ridge WEA | Highlands | 14,993 |
| Little Estero Island CWA | Lee | 6 |
| Little Gator Creek WEA | Pasco | 566 |
| Matanzas Pass Island CWA | Lee | 4 |
| Moody Branch Mitigation Park WEA | Manatee | 960 |
| Myakka River CWA | Sarasota | 1 |



Exhibit 2-D continued

There were 22,908 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the Southwest Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES <u>NOT</u> OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Perry Oldenberg Mitigation Park WEA | Hernando | 368 |
| Platt Branch Mitigation Park WEA | Highlands | 1,973 |
| Robert's Bay CWA | Sarasota | 5 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 22,908 |

¹The following area designations apply: CWA – Critical Wildlife Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area

Exhibit 2-E

There were 6,376 Acres of Land Not Open for Public Hunting in the South Region

| AREA ¹ | COUNTY | ACRES <u>NOT</u> OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| ABC Islands CWA | Collier | 75 |
| Big Marco Pass CWA | Collier | 30 |
| Bill Sadowski CWA | Dade | 700 |
| Bird Island MC2 CWA | Martin | 8 |
| Deerfield Island Park CWA | Broward | 56 |
| Florida Keys WEA | Monroe | 5,502 |
| Pelican Shoal CWA | Monroe | 1 |
| Rookery Island CWA | Collier | 1 |
| Second Chance CWA | Collier | 3 |
| | SUBTOTAL | 6,376 |

¹The following area designations apply: CWA – Critical Wildlife Area; WEA – Wildlife and Environmental Area.

