



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

No Net Loss of Hunting Lands 2023-24 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) 2023-24. 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, 2024, is 3,669,578. 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 338,093 acres of Commission-managed public hunting lands.

In addition to the 3,669,578 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 2023-24. This resulted in a total of 6,119,753 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, 51,696 acres, during FY 2023-24.

Exhibit 1

Lands Managed by the Commission Open for Public Hunting in FY 2023-24

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 1,921,004 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
Garcon Point	Santa Rosa	3,245
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	187,071
Tate's Hell WMA -St. James Island	Franklin	8,182
Tate's Hell WMA-Womack Creek	Franklin/Liberty	13,754



Exhibit 1-A continued

There were 1,921,004 Acres of Land Open for Public Hunting in the Northwest Region

AREA ¹	COUNTY	ACRES OPEN FOR PUBLIC HUNTING
Telogia Creek SGA	Liberty	12,384
Tyndall Air Force WMA ²	Bay	14,400
Wakulla WMA	Wakulla	4,045
Yellow River WMA	Santa Rosa/Okaloosa	27,208
	SUBTOTAL	1,921,004

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

² Area includes federally-owned lands.



Exhibit 1-B

There were 774,515 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	2,282
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 774,515 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	290,279
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	774,515

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 474,039 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	66,685
Babcock/Webb WMA-Yucca Pens Unit	Charlotte/Lee	15,230
Chassahowitzka WMA ²	Hernando	36,102
Croom WMA	Hernando/Sumter	20,595
Everglades Headwaters WMA ²	Polk/Okeechobee	9,027
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	474,039

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 1,909,877 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
Holey Land 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	16,941
	SUBTOTAL	1,909,877

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 2023-24

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 22,915 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	15,000
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 22,915 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	22,915

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

Exhibit 2-E

There were 23,627 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
Dinner Island Ranch – Caracara Unit	Hendry	17,251
Florida Keys WEA	Monroe	5,502
Pelican Shoal CWA	Monroe	1
Rookery Island CWA	Collier	1
Second Chance CWA	Collier	3
	SUBTOTAL	23,627

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

