STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Order No. EO 20-26

Special Regulations for the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land, and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution hereby establishes, by order, special regulations for the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land, and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas. These special regulations are necessary due to excessively high water levels that have jeopardized wildlife. The special regulations are as follows:

- (1) The L4 and L5 levee roads are closed to all public access.
- (2) Public access, including vehicles, airboats, ATVs, and all other public access, is prohibited in the remainder of the area, except:
 - a. Water Conservation Area 2 (2A and 2B) and that portion of Water Conservation Area 3A South located east of the Miami Canal between 1-75 and the L-67A levee remains open to public access.
 - b. Boat ramps remain open. Vessels, other than airboats, may be operated in established canals.
 - c. Licensed and permitted individuals may participate in the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, waterfowl hunting, fishing, frogging, recreational boating, and non-native reptile removal. Access for these activities is limited to vessels, other than airboats, and participants shall maintain a minimum distance of 100 yards from any tree island to minimize disturbance to terrestrial wildlife.
 - d. Python removal contractors employed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or the South Florida Water Management District may use vehicles on levee roads other than the L4 and L5 levee roads.
- (3) The taking of wildlife is prohibited except light geese, ducks and coot may be taken pursuant to 68A-13.003, alligator may be taken pursuant to the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program, and frogging is allowed pursuant to 68A-15.004.
- (4) Any provisions of Rule 68A-15.064 or 68A-15.004, F.A.C., which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby superseded.

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This order shall take effect at 10:00 PM, Friday, August 14, 2020, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by subsequent order.

AUTHORITY:

Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

Rules 68-1.009 F.A.C. and 68A-14.001, F.A.C.

Law Implemented:

Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution, §375.313 F.S.



ATTEST:

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA THIS 11th DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.

Thomas Reinert, Regional Director for Eric Sutton, Executive Director

APPROVED as to form and legality:

/s/ Anthony Pinzino

Commission Attorney