

Concerns Raised Over JW Corbett Road Construction Impacting Hunter Access.
Please express your support of our proposed solution with your local FWC Office.

Palm Beach County, FL The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is moving forward with long-anticipated repairs to the North Grade Road in the JW Corbett Wildlife Management Area. Scheduled work is to begin this week following the awarding of a contract and vendor for the project. The scope of work includes the removal and resurfacing of the North Grade.

As a result, **North Grade access and Camps A and B will be closed** for the project's duration. Reopening is tentatively estimated for April 2026, though no firm timeline is confirmed.

The **Florida Sportsmen's Conservation Association (FSCA)** has formally expressed concern over the impacts this closure will have, particularly during hunting season. According to FSCA, more than **75% of hunters and recreational users** access the North entrance. Closing this access point will severely overload the South Grade Road, which faces significant traffic issues during the peak season.

Additionally, many camps along the North Grade and some camper trailers cannot safely navigate the steep incline at the low water crossing north of Road 6. These campers **depend on the North gate for safe entry and exit.**

FSCA believes these closures will disproportionately impact public land users, particularly hunters. They are urging FWC to follow the precedent set by South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) projects, where **every effort to maintain public hunting access, even during construction, is vital.**

FSCA Proposed Solutions:

1. **Reschedule the Project** – Delay construction until after the general gun hunting season. This delay would avoid the busiest time of year and only impact small game and spring turkey seasons.
2. **Weekend Access Option** – Allow hunters access to the North gate and check station from **5 PM Fridays to 7 AM Mondays**, including the Friday before the archery season. This limited opening would reduce disruption while allowing construction to proceed during the week.
3. **Temporary Alternative Access** – Open the school board property gate and install a **temporary check station**. While not a perfect solution, it would ease pressure on the South entrance. However, this does not solve the camper access issue north of Road 6.

FSCA remains hopeful that FWC will reconsider the current access restrictions and work collaboratively to find a solution that serves the area's infrastructure needs and the interests of public land users.

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