

## Florida

### [Florida Department of Agriculture](#)

The Florida Department of Agriculture has the duty to make rules regarding plants and plant products in transit through the state as necessary to prevent the introduction into and dissemination within the state of plant pests and noxious weeds and control of such plants.

### [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission](#)

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) oversees the Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management, Division of Habitat and Species Conservation, Division of Hunting and Game Management, and Division of Law Enforcement. Its authority includes “such powers, duties, responsibilities, and functions as are necessary to protect and conserve the state’s diverse and unique fish and wild animal life.”

	Provision Summary	Citation
<b>Invasive Plants</b>	No person or public agency shall control, eradicate, remove, or otherwise alter any aquatic weeds or plants in waters of the state without a FWCC permit except where the waters are expressly exempted by FWCC rule. Violation may lead to civil action up to \$10,000 in fines.	<a href="#">Fla. Stat. Ann. § 369.20</a> ; <a href="#">Fla. Stat. Ann. § 379.502</a>
	Prohibits introduction or release of plant pests, noxious weeds or any other organism which may directly or indirectly affect the plant life of the state.	<a href="#">Fla. Stat. Ann. § 581.083</a>
	State may quarantine or confiscate noxious aquatic plant material incidentally adhering to a boat or boat trailer.	<a href="#">Fla. Stat. Ann. § 369.20(11)</a>
	List of noxious weeds and invasive plants is provided by the University of Florida or other experts, reviewed every two years, and can be updated by emergency order. Includes a lists of factors of when a plant species should be considered a noxious weed/invasive plant.	<a href="#">Fla Admin. Code r. 5B-57.010</a>
<b>Invasive Animals</b>	It is unlawful to import or to release within the state any species of the animal kingdom not native to Florida, except pursuant to a permit issued by the FWCC.	<a href="#">Fla. Stat. Ann. § 379.231</a>
	No person shall transport into the state, introduce, or possess for any purpose that might reasonably be expected to result in liberation into the state, any freshwater fish, aquatic invertebrate, marine plant, marine animal, or wild animal life not native to the state, without having secured a permit from	<a href="#">Fla. Admin. Code r. 68-5.003</a>

	the Commission, with an exception for two fishes: flathead minnow and variable platy.	
<b>Use of Bait (unrelated to licensing)</b>	No live goldfish or carp shall be transported, possessed, or used for bait for freshwater fish in any waters.	Fla. Admin. Code <a href="#">§ 68A-23.007(1)</a>