

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS
1505 EASTOVER DRIVE
JACKSON, MS 39211-6374

PUBLIC NOTICE LE2-3779 (Intent)

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in John Kyle State Park, Sardis, Mississippi, August 22, 2007, under authority of §25-43-3.103 Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following regulations concerning nuisance animals. The following regulation is promulgated under authority of §49-7-1, as amended by House Bill 911, Regular Session of the Mississippi State Legislature, 2007.

Be it ordered that Public Notice LE1 3779 is hereby amended and all regulations below are adopted.

Miss. Code Ann. §49-7-1, as amended, classifies nutria, beaver, fox, skunks, wild hogs (as defined in Miss. Code Ann. Section 49-7-140) and coyotes as "nuisance" animals. Pursuant to the same authority in the amended statute, the Commission issues this regulation stating that nuisance animals may be taken at any time subject to the following:

1. From March 1 to the day prior to the opening of deer archery season

Nuisance animals may be hunted, taken, killed, chased, or pursued on private lands at any time with no weapon restriction. However, nuisance animals may not be hunted with dogs during spring turkey season. Crossbows may be used to hunt nuisance animals by hunters possessing either the General Crossbow License or the Special Crossbow License in addition to the All-Game or Sportsman License.

2. From opening of deer archery season to the last day of February

(Private lands and open public lands that have statewide seasons without special regulations)

Nuisance animals may be hunted during daylight hours with weapons legal to use for the hunting season open at the time and may be hunted at night on private lands, with the aid of a light using standard rim fire rifles or handguns no larger than .22 caliber (all magnums are excluded) and shotguns with shot size no larger than No. 6. Persons hunting nuisance animals with archery equipment and/or with primitive weapons during archery or primitive weapons season must possess either a Sportsman License or possess the Archery/Primitive Weapon License in addition to an All Game License.

3. From the opening of deer archery season to the last day of February *(Special Permit)*

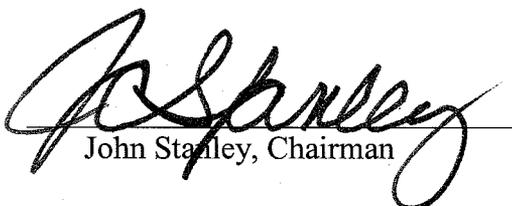
A permit issued by the MDWFP allows landowners, agricultural leaseholders, or their designated agents to hunt nuisance animals without weapon restrictions during daylight hours and nighttime hours. This permit is only valid for the dates specified and only on the property listed on the permit application. A copy of this permit must be on the person of each individual while hunting under the authority of this permit. Any penalty associated with the possession of this permit shall be waived if proof is provided to the arresting officer or the courts that the MDWFP had issued a permit for the property prior to the date of the citation and the person had landowner or agricultural leaseholder permission to hunt. Crossbows may be used to hunt nuisance animals, under the authority of this permit, by hunters possessing either the General Crossbow License or the Special Crossbow License in addition to the All-Game or Sportsman License.

4. **Trapping** A depredation permit is required to trap wild hogs with the aid of bait. However, a person may trap wild hogs with the aid of bait on private lands, without a permit from May 2 to the day prior to the opening of deer archery season. All live cage-type traps used to trap wild hogs must be tagged or labeled in plain view with the owners name, address, phone number(s), and trapper ID#. All live cage-type traps must be checked every 36 hours. All non-target animals and game animals must be released immediately. A wild hog live cage-type trap is described as a permanent or mobile containment system made of any type material capable of confining the mobility of a wild hog until otherwise removed. The trap must consist of a trap door, slide gate, or similar mechanism. Trap tops or roofs must be constructed in a manner with ample opening in the top to allow non-target deer, turkeys, or bears to escape.
5. Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of electronic calls.
6. The holder of an All Game License, Sportsman License, or Trapping License may sell any part of any nuisance animal year-round.
7. Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of bait and lures, on private lands, with a depredation permit issued by the MDWFP.
8. Wild hogs may not be caught or trapped and released into the wild at a location different from the location where the wild hog was caught or trapped. A violation of this is a Class 1 violation and is punishable as provided under section 49-7-141.
9. Unless otherwise exempt, persons hunting nuisance animals must possess an All Game Hunting or Sportsman License and persons trapping nuisance animals must possess a Trapping License, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §49-7-13.
10. Persons hunting wild hogs during any open gun season on deer will be required to wear, in full view, 500 square inches of solid unbroken hunter orange, unless they are hunting from a fully enclosed stand.

Anyone wishing to comment on the above this Public Notice may do so by writing to the Executive Director, 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, prior to September 22, 2007.

Mississippi Commission on
Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Mississippi Department of
Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks


John Stanley, Chairman


Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director