MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS
DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 451
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W14 3445(I)

TO: The Honorable Delbert Hosemann
Secretary of State
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205
AND
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on April 21, 2009, under authority of Section 25-43-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following wildlife management area regulations for the 2009-10 hunting year. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W13 3445 is hereby repealed, and the following 2009-10 wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

2009-2010 Regulations for
Copiah County Wildlife Management Area

Copiah County

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see DEER DATA COLLECTION, LEGAL BUCKS, SPECIAL BUCK TAGS, DOG RESTRICTIONS, and LEGAL WEAPONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Archery	Oct. 1	Nov. 20	Does and legal bucks.
Youth Gun	Nov. 14	Nov. 20	Does and legal bucks.
Gun	Nov. 21	Dec. 1	Does and legal bucks.
Primitive Weapon	Dec. 2	Dec. 15	Does and legal bucks.
Gun	Dec. 16	Jan. 2	Legal bucks only.
Archery	Jan. 4	Jan. 30	Does and legal bucks.
YOUTH TURKEY	Mar. 8	Mar. 13	
TURKEY	Mar. 15	May 1	
YOUTH SQUIRREL	Oct. 10	Oct. 16	
SQUIRREL	Oct. 17	Feb. 27	
RACCOON	Jul. 3	Sep. 25	Friday nights only.

RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1	Feb. 27	
TRAPPING	Nov. 2	Feb. 27	
RABBIT	Oct. 17	Feb. 27	
QUAIL	Nov. 26	Mar. 6	
DOVE	See Federal Regulations.		Each Wednesday and Saturday of open dove season.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COPIAH COUNTY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
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WMA USER PERMIT: All persons using this wildlife management area, except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must carry on their person an annual statewide Wildlife Management Area User Permit. This permit is required in addition to the daily visitor use permit and any required license and may be purchased wherever licenses are sold.

NO SUNDAY HUNTING.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits.

PERMIT STATIONS: All visitors must obtain a DAILY VISITOR USE PERMIT card from a self-service permit station. Parts A and B of this permit must be legibly filled out before using the WMA. Part A of the permit must be deposited in the return box at a permit station before using the WMA. Part B must be displayed on the dash of the vehicle so that the name, address, and date are visible from outside the vehicle. Permits are invalid if not properly dated or if date has been changed. Before leaving the WMA, visitors must complete the reverse side of Part B of the permit and deposit it in the return box at a permit station. It is the responsibility of the Area Manager and other Agency personnel to have permit cards completed.

DEER DATA COLLECTION: All deer harvested must be checked at WMA Headquarters by the hunter who harvested them before leaving the WMA. If WMA personnel are not available to check the deer, the hunter is responsible for collecting and legibly recording ALL biological data. Instructions and equipment will be provided.

LEGAL BUCKS: Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 12 inches OR one main beam length of at least 15 inches. For hunters less than 16 years of age, one of the three buck bag limit may be any buck.

ANTLERLESS DEER REGULATIONS: This WMA is NOT open to antlerless deer hunting during statewide either-sex gun days (Dec. 19-20).

DOG RESTRICTIONS: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season.

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting. Legal weapons for small game hunting (excluding waterfowl) during daylight hours are shotguns using #2 shot or smaller, rifles or handguns no larger than .22 rimfire magnum, muzzleloading rifles .40 caliber or smaller, and archery equipment using arrows with points other than broadheads. Only archery equipment and shotguns with #2 shot or smaller may be used for turkey hunting.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed only for the retrieval of harvested deer. No loaded weapon may be in possession when retrieving harvested game.

HORSES: Horseback riding is prohibited during WMA deer and turkey seasons. At all other times, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hunting hours. Small game hunting from horseback is allowed only by special permit from area manager.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

BEARS: Black bears may occur on this WMA. They are federally protected as a threatened subspecies. Hunting or disturbing bears is prohibited. Please report any bear sightings on your daily visitor use permit.

Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than May 21, 2009.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
John C Stanley IV, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director