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 W15 3458(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 8, 2010, 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 2010-11 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**Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W14 3458 is hereby repealed, and the following 2010-11 wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.**

**2010-2011 Regulations for**
**O'Keefe Wildlife Management Area**

**Quitman County**

| SPECIES | OPENING DATE | CLOSING DATE | COMMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| DEER | | | For deer hunting regulations see CLOSED AREA, DEER DATA COLLECTION, LEGAL BUCKS, SPECIAL BUCK TAGS, and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS. |
| Archery | Oct. 1 | Nov. 19 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Youth Deer | Nov. 13 | Nov. 19 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Primitive Weapon | Nov. 20 | Dec. 15 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Gun | Dec. 16 | Dec. 31 | Legal bucks and management bucks. |
| Primitive Weapon | Jan. 1 | Jan. 31 | Does and legal bucks. |
| TURKEY | Closed | | |
| YOUTH SQUIRREL | Sep. 25 | Oct. 1 | |
| SQUIRREL | Oct. 2 | Feb. 28 | |
| RACCOON | Jul. 2 | Sep. 25 | Friday and Saturday nights. |
| RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT | Oct. 1 | Feb. 28 | |
| TRAPPING | Nov. 1 | Feb. 28 | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WATERFOWL | See Federal Regulations. | Waterfowl hunting closes at 12:00 noon. Hunters may not access the hunt area prior to 5:00 am. |
| POST SEASON LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER | Open after waterfowl season. See Federal Regulations. | |
| RABBIT | Oct. 16 Feb. 28 | |
| DOVE | See Federal Regulations. | |

## SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR O'KEEFE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W15 3458(I)

**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.

**CLOSED AREA**: The portion of the WMA in Tallahatchie County. No deer hunting in flooded greentree reservoir prior to 1:00 PM.

**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 the 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 15 inches OR one main beam length of at least 18 inches. For hunters less than 16 years of age, one of the three buck bag limit may be any buck.

SPECIAL BUCK TAGS: For research purposes, a limited number of special buck tags which allow the harvest of 1 buck per year with at least one unforked antler will be available for hunters during the Dec. 16-31 gun season. It is the hunter's responsibility to check on the availability of Special Buck Tags. If available, tags may be acquired at the WMA headquarters or at the self-service deer check station. After harvest of a qualifying buck, hunters must retrieve a tag and attach it to the buck before leaving the WMA. An unforked antler is defined as: a main beam with no other points or broken points.

**DOG RESTRICTIONS**: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season. Hog hunting with dogs is allowed during daylight hours from Feb. 1 - Feb. 28.

**LEGAL WEAPONS**: Only centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting. Only rimfire rifles .22 caliber or smaller or any caliber handgun may be used when hunting hogs with dogs.

**OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs**: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed from Sep. 1 - Feb. 28 on designated roads or trails for hunting and fishing access only. Off-road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for retrieval of harvested deer or hogs. No loaded weapon may be in possession when retrieving harvested game.

**HORSES**: Horseback riding is prohibited during WMA deer seasons. At all other times, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles and designated ATV trails. Squirrel hunting from horses is allowed in February on entire area. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hours.

**CAMPING**: No camping allowed.

**BEARS**: Black bears may occur on this WMA. 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 10, 2010.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Bryan Jones, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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