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

**P-002A (INTENT) FIREARMS IN STATE PARKS**

The Mississippi Commission of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on April 8, 2010, under authority of Section §25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), made known its intent to adopt the following *intent* regulations under the authority of Section 49-4-4 and 55-3-3, Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), relative to governing the operation and control of all state parks and recreational facilities as well as all state lakes and other properties under the jurisdiction of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

Be it ordered that Public Notice P-002A on State Park Firearms in State Parks is hereby promulgated.

Due to recent changes in State laws regarding firearms, the Commission has adopted the following regulation regarding firearms on State Parks.

Pursuant to the terms of Miss. Code Ann. § 45-9-101, as amended by Senate Bill 2862, 2010 Regular Session, any person possessing a valid permit to carry a concealed handgun, as issued by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety - or any state which Mississippi recognizes as having reciprocal requirements for issuing such licenses – may carry a handgun concealed upon his or her person while in or on any Mississippi State Park. Open carry of a firearm is prohibited on all Mississippi State Parks except for sworn and certified law enforcement officers in pursuit of their lawful duties.

Pursuant to the terms of Miss. Code Ann. § 97-37-1, a firearm is not considered to be unlawfully “concealed” if it is within any motor vehicle. Any person, not in possession of a valid concealed carry permit, going onto a State Park with a firearm in his or her vehicle, camper or conveyance, must keep the firearm in a secured condition, not readily accessible and preferably locked in a secure case, for the duration of their stay at the Park.

No provision of this regulation shall be construed as to conflict with any applicable provision of statutory law.

This Public Notice will become effective the month and day of May 19, 2010.  
Witness my hand and seal on this the 8th day of April, 2010.

Mississippi Commission on Wildlife,  
Fisheries and Parks

Mississippi Department of Wildlife,  
Fisheries and Parks

BY:   
Bryan Jones, Chairman

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