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

PUBLIC NOTICE LE4-3779

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in Waveland, Mississippi on June 22, 2010, 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 LE3-3779 is hereby amended and all regulations below are adopted.

Miss. Code Ann. -§49-7-1, as amended, classifies nutria, beaver, fox, skunks, wild hogs and coyotes (as defined in Miss. Code Ann. Section 49-7-140) 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 and/or on public lands, where the governmental agency charged with the management of said lands has passed laws or regulations allowing the taking of nuisance animals, at any time with no weapon restriction. However, nuisance animals may not be hunted or pursued with dogs during the open spring turkey season. Crossbows may be used to hunt nuisance animals by persons possessing either the General Crossbow License or the Special Crossbow License in addition to the All-Game, Lifetime, 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, taken, killed, or pursued during daylight hours with weapons legal to use for the hunting season open at the time. Persons hunting nuisance animals from one half hour (1/2) after sunset until one half hour (1/2) before sunrise, with or without the aid of a light, are restricted to using standard rim fire rifles or handguns no larger than .22 caliber (all magnums are excluded) and/or shotguns with shot size no larger than No. 6. Unless otherwise exempt, 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 an All Game Hunting License and the Archery/Primitive Weapon Permit. Persons trapping nuisance animals, *other than wild hogs*, must have a valid trapping license, unless otherwise exempt.

(3) Wild Hogs

Wild hogs may be hunted, taken, killed, chased or pursued on private lands during daylight and nighttime hours throughout the year with no firearm restrictions. Wild hogs may also be hunted, taken, killed, chased or pursued, with dogs, except during the spring turkey season.

Wild hogs may be hunted with the aid of feed/bait with the following exceptions:

- Any food or food products, except whole grains, chopped or ground-up grains, may be placed upon the ground, above the ground, in any type container year round for the purpose of hunting wild hogs only.
- Grain or grain products may be used, if placed inside any legally designed live capture-type trapping device for the sole purpose of trapping wild hogs.

Any live cage-type trap used to trap wild hogs must be tagged or labeled in plain view (written in waterproof ink or stamped) with the owner or users name, address, and/or trapper ID#. All live cage-type traps must be checked every 36 hours. All non-targeted wild or domestic animals caught must be released immediately upon detection. 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. The roof or tops of these traps must be constructed in a manner with ample opening in the top to allow non-targeted deer, turkey, or bear to escape.

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.

Any person trapping wild hogs must possess a valid and current hunting license of <u>one</u> of the following four types: Lifetime, Sportsman, All-Game, or Trapping.

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.

(4) Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of electronic calls.

(5) The holder of an All Game Hunting, Sportsman, Lifetime, or Trapping License may sell any part of any nuisance animal year-round.

(6) Non-Exempt persons hunting nuisance animals must possess a valid Lifetime, All Game, or Sportsman License. Persons trapping nuisance animals, <u>*except wild hogs*</u>, must possess a valid Trapping License.

(7) Exceptions to nuisance animal regulations may be allowed by making application to the MDWFP for an Animal Control Permit.

This adopted public notice will become effective July _____, 2010. Witness my hand and seal this the 22nd day of June, 2010.

Mississippi Commission on
Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Bryan Jones, Chairman

(seal)

SALLY L. SUTHERLAND
NOTARY PUBLIC
Expires
May 31,
2011
RANKIN COUNTY, MS

Mississippi Department of
Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director

Sally L. Sutherland
Notary

I certify this to be a true and correct copy.

Executive Director