

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

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE NUMBER W14 3514(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 March 16, 2011, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following wildlife management area regulations for the 2011-12 hunting year. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice W13 3514 is hereby repealed, and the following wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

**2011-2012 Regulations for
 Black Prairie Wildlife Management Area**

Lowndes County

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see DEER HUNTING PERMITS, LEGAL BUCKS, and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Youth Gun - Permit Only	Oct. 1	Oct. 2	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Archery - Permit Only	Oct. 3	Oct. 16	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun - Permit Only	Oct. 20 Oct. 27 Nov. 3 Nov. 10	Oct. 23 Oct. 30 Nov. 6 Nov. 13	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun - Permit Only	Dec. 27	Dec. 31	Legal bucks only.
Archery/Youth Gun	Jan. 10	Jan. 19	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.

TURKEY – Permit Only	Apr. 6 Apr. 13 Apr. 20 Apr. 27	Apr. 8 Apr. 15 Apr. 22 Apr. 29	See TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
SQUIRREL	Oct. 15 Oct. 24 Oct. 31 Nov. 7 Nov. 14 Nov. 21 Dec. 5 Dec. 13 Dec. 19 Jan. 10 Jan. 30 Feb. 8 Feb. 13 Feb. 20	Oct. 19 Oct. 26 Nov. 2 Nov. 9 Nov. 18 Dec. 2 Dec. 6 Dec. 16 Dec. 26 Jan. 19 Jan. 31 Feb. 10 Feb. 17 Feb. 23	
RACCOON	Jul. 1	Sep. 30	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1	Feb. 28	
TRAPPING	No trapping allowed.		
RABBIT	Oct. 15 Oct. 24 Oct. 31 Nov. 7 Nov. 14 Nov. 21 Dec. 13 Dec. 19 Jan. 10 Jan. 30 Feb. 8 Feb. 13 Feb. 20	Oct. 19 Oct. 26 Nov. 2 Nov. 9 Nov. 18 Dec. 2 Dec. 16 Dec. 26 Jan. 16 Jan. 31 Feb. 10 Feb. 17 Feb. 20	
QUAIL - Training Only	Oct. 15 Oct. 24 Oct. 31	Oct. 19 Oct. 26 Nov. 2	See BIRD DOG TRAINING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

	Nov. 7	Nov. 9	
	Nov. 14	Nov. 18	
	Nov. 21	Dec. 2	
	Dec. 13	Dec. 16	
	Dec. 19	Dec. 26	
	Jan. 10	Jan. 16	
	Jan. 30	Jan. 31	
	Feb. 8	Feb. 10	
	Feb. 13	Feb. 17	
	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	
QUAIL - Permit Only	Mar. 1	Mar. 3	See BAG LIMITS and QUAIL HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
DOVE	See Federal Regulations.		See DOVE HUNTING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

The WMA is closed to hunting during special event dates (see SPECIAL EVENTS section below).

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits EXCEPT:
Quail - party limit of 8 quail per day.
Turkey - A bag limit of one (1) legal gobbler per permit.
Rabbit - party limit of 8 rabbits per day.
Deer - One legal buck and one antlerless deer per permit.

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 while on the WMA. 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 HUNTING PERMITS: Deer hunting will be allowed by special permit only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. See application for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about permitted hunts. Hunters who check in a 1 ½ year old or older doe during their permitted hunt will be issued a permit to harvest one (1) legal buck. This buck permit will be valid for the duration of the permitted hunt and during the legal bucks only deer hunt (Dec. 27 – Dec. 31).

DEER DATA COLLECTION: All deer harvested must be checked at the Area Headquarters by the hunters 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 15 years of age or younger any antlered buck is a legal buck.

WILD HOGS: Wild hogs are classified as nuisance animals and hunters are encouraged to kill them at every lawful opportunity. The opportunity to kill hogs on WMAs is provided only for population control purposes and not for sport. Wild hogs may be killed during daylight hours during any open WMA hunting season with weapons and ammunition legal for that season. Trapping (including snaring) of hogs is prohibited. Moving or transporting live hogs is prohibited.

DOG RESTRICTIONS: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season. Hunting, running, or pursuing hogs with the use of dogs is prohibited.

TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS: Turkey hunting will be allowed by special permit only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. See application for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about permitted hunts.

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only archery equipment, centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Hunting dog field trials and other special events will be allowed by special use permit only. These permits may be obtained from the MDWFP, see Area Manager for additional information. Special events will be restricted to the following dates: Sep. 24-25, Nov. 19-20, Dec. 3-4, Dec. 7-12, Dec. 17-18, Jan. 1-9, Jan. 20-27, Jan. 28-29, Feb. 1-7, Feb. 11-12, Feb. 18-19, Feb. 24-29. The WMA is closed to hunting during special event dates. Anyone participating in permitted special events must obey conduct rules as designated and posted by club or group permitted to hold event.

BIRD DOG TRAINING: During bird dog training dates, a person may not use area facilities more than 4 consecutive days.

QUAIL HUNTING PERMITS: Quail hunting from Mar. 1-3 is allowed by special permit only. Hunters wishing to apply must appear in person at the WMA headquarters on Jan. 14, 2012 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm to complete and submit an application. Only one application per hunter will be accepted. The applications will be entered into the computer and participants will be randomly selected. Hunters who are selected will be notified by mail.

DOVE HUNTING: A youth dove hunt will be held on a designated field Sep. 3, 2011, beginning at 1:00 pm. Dove hunting will be allowed on designated fields after the Sep. 3 youth hunt, beginning at 12:00 noon, on Wednesdays and Saturdays only.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed for the retrieval of harvested deer or hogs only. No loaded weapon may be in possession when operating an off-road motorized vehicle/ATV on the WMA.

HORSES: During WMA deer seasons, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hours.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

FISHING: Fishing is allowed. Boats prohibited.

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 04/25/2011.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: 
Charles Rigdon, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE NUMBER W14 3514(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 ~~March 16, 2011~~ ~~May 19, 2010~~, under authority of Section 25-43-3.1037, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt ~~adopted~~ the following wildlife management area regulations for the ~~2011-12~~ ~~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 W13~~W12~~ 3514 is hereby repealed, and the following ~~2010-11~~ wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

**2010-2011-2012 Regulations for
 Black Prairie Wildlife Management Area**

Lowndes County

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see DEER HUNTING PERMITS, LEGAL BUCKS, and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Youth Gun - Permit Only	Oct. 1 - 2	Oct. 2 - 3	HUNTING PERMITS <u>Antlerless deer</u> Does and legal bucks. See DEER in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
<u>Archery - Permit Only</u>	<u>Oct. 3</u>	<u>Oct. 16</u>	<u>Antlerless deer and legal bucks</u>
Gun - Permit Only	Oct. 20 7 Oct. 27 14	Oct. 23 10 Oct. 30 17	<u>Antlerless deer and legal bucks.</u> <u>Legal bucks only.</u> See DEER HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL

	Nov. 28 Oct. 31	Nov. 31 Oct. 10	INSTRUCTIONS:
Gun - Permit Only	Dec. 11 Jan. 10	Dec. 20 Jan. 19	Legal bucks only.
Archery/Youth Gun	Jan. 10 Jan. 11	Jan. 19 Jan. 20	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
TURKEY – Permit Only	Apr. 6 Apr. 13 Apr. 20 Apr. 27	Apr. 8 Apr. 15 Apr. 22 Apr. 29	See TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
SQUIRREL	Oct. 15 Oct. 24 Oct. 31 Nov. 7 Nov. 14 Nov. 21 Dec. 5 Dec. 13 Dec. 19 Jan. 10 Jan. 30 Feb. 8 Feb. 13 Feb. 20	Oct. 19 Oct. 26 Nov. 2 Nov. 9 Nov. 18 Dec. 2 Dec. 6 Dec. 16 Dec. 26 Jan. 19 Jan. 31 Feb. 10 Feb. 17 Feb. 23	
RACCOON	Jul. 1 Jul. 2	Sep. 30 Sep. 25	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1 Oct. 2	Feb. 28 Feb. 29	
TRAPPING	No trapping allowed.		
RABBIT	Oct. 15 Oct. 24 Oct. 31 Nov. 7 Nov. 14 Nov. 21 Dec. 13 Dec. 19	Oct. 19 Oct. 26 Nov. 2 Nov. 9 Nov. 18 Dec. 2 Dec. 16 Dec. 26	

	Jan. 10-11	Jan. <u>16-14</u>	
	Jan. 30-17	Jan. <u>31</u>	
	Feb. <u>8</u>	<u>Feb. 10</u>	
	<u>Feb. 13</u>	<u>Feb.- 17</u>	
	<u>Feb. 20-16</u>	Feb. <u>20</u> - Feb.- <u>18</u>	
QUAIL - Training Only	Oct. 15-1	Oct. <u>19-1</u>	See BIRD DOG TRAINING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
	Oct. 24-11	Oct. <u>26-13</u>	
	Oct. 31-18	Nov. <u>2-5</u>	
	Nov. <u>7-1</u>	<u>Nov. 9</u>	
	Nov. 14-17	Nov. <u>18</u>	
	<u>Nov. 21</u>	Dec. <u>2-3</u>	
	Dec. 13-1	Dec. <u>16</u>	
	<u>Dec. 19</u>	<u>Dec. 26</u>	
	Jan. 10-11	Jan. <u>16-14</u>	
	Jan. 30-17	Jan. <u>31</u>	
	Feb. <u>8</u>	<u>Feb. 10</u>	
	<u>Feb. 13</u>	<u>Feb. 17</u>	
	<u>Feb. 20-16</u>	Feb. <u>20</u> - 18	
QUAIL - Permit Only	Mar. <u>1-3</u>	Mar. <u>3-5</u>	
DOVE	See Federal Regulations.		See DOVE HUNTING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

The WMA is closed to hunting during special event dates (see SPECIAL EVENTS section below).

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR BLACK PRAIRIE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
 PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER W14 3514(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.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits EXCEPT:

Quail - party limit of 8 quail per day.
Turkey - A bag limit of one (1) legal gobbler per permit.
Rabbit - party limit of 8 rabbits per day.
Deer - One legal buck and one antlerless deer legal doe per permit.

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 kept with the dash of the vehicle ~~visitor~~ while on the WMA. 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 HUNTING PERMITS: Deer hunting will be allowed by special permit only. You may apply ~~for youth gun and gun permits~~ online at www.mdwfp.com. ~~See Only one application for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about will be accepted per hunter for the Black Prairie WMA permitted hunts~~ deer hunt. ~~Hunters may apply for permitted deer hunts on no more than 3 WMAs statewide during the 2010-11 season. Completed applications must be received by Sep. 1, 2010 to be eligible for drawing. Hunters who check in a 1 ½ year old or older~~ legal doe during their permitted hunt will be issued a permit to harvest one (1) legal buck. This buck permit will be valid for the duration of the permitted hunt and during the legal bucks only deer hunt (Dec. 27 – Dec. 31).

DEER DATA COLLECTION: All deer harvested must be checked at the Area Headquarters by the hunters 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~~¹² inches OR one main beam length of at least ~~18~~¹⁵ inches. For hunters ~~15~~^{less than 16} years of age or younger any antlered buck is, a legal ~~buck may be any~~ buck.

WILD HOGS: Wild hogs are classified as nuisance animals and hunters are encouraged to kill them at every lawful opportunity. The opportunity to kill hogs on WMAs is provided only for population control purposes and not for sport. Wild hogs may be killed during daylight hours during any open WMA hunting season with weapons and ammunition legal for that season. Trapping (including snaring) of hogs is prohibited. Moving or transporting live hogs is prohibited.

DOG RESTRICTIONS: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season. Hunting, running, or pursuing hogs with the use of dogs is prohibited.

TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS: Turkey hunting will be allowed by special permit only. ~~Four 3 day permit turkey hunts will be held (Apr. 1-3, Apr. 8-10, Apr. 15-17, and Apr. 22-24, 2011). A bag limit of one (1) legal gobbler per permit will be enforced. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. See www.mdwfp.com. Only one application will be accepted per hunter for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about the Black Prairie WMA permitted hunts~~ turkey hunt. ~~Hunters may apply for permitted turkey hunts on no more than~~

~~3 WMAs statewide during the Spring 2011 season. Completed applications must be received by Feb. 15, 2011 to be eligible for drawing.~~

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only archery equipment, centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Hunting dog field trials and other special events will be allowed by special use permit only. These permits may be obtained from the MDWFP, see Area Manager for additional information. Special events will be restricted to the following dates: Sep. ~~24-25-26, Nov. 6-7, Nov. 11-16, Nov. 19-20, 21, Nov. 25-26, Nov. 30, Dec. 3-4-5, Dec. 7-12-13, Dec. 17-18-16-26, Jan. 1-9-10, Jan. 20-27, Jan. 28-29, 21-30, Feb. 1-7, 5-6, Feb. 11-12-15, Feb. 18-19, -20, Feb. 24-29-25~~ Mar. 2, and Mar. 6. The WMA is closed to hunting during special event dates. Anyone participating in permitted special events must obey conduct rules as designated and posted by club or group permitted to hold event.

BIRD DOG TRAINING: During bird dog training dates, a person may not use area facilities more than 4 consecutive days.

QUAIL HUNTING PERMITS: Quail hunting from Mar. ~~1-3-5~~ is allowed by special permit only. Hunters wishing to apply must appear in person at the WMA headquarters on Jan. ~~14, 2012-15, 2011~~ between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm to complete and submit an application. Only one application per hunter will be accepted. The applications will be entered into the computer and participants will be randomly selected. Hunters who are selected will be notified by mail.

DOVE HUNTING: A youth dove hunt will be held on a designated field Sep. ~~3, 2011-4, 2010~~, beginning at 1:00 pm. Dove hunting will be allowed on designated fields after the Sep. ~~3-4~~ youth hunt, beginning at 12:00 noon, on Wednesdays and Saturdays only.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are ~~only~~ allowed on ~~roads and trails designated for the~~ATV use. ~~Off road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for~~ retrieval of harvested deer or hogs only. No loaded weapon may be in possession when operating an off-road motorized vehicle/ATV on the WMA retrieving harvested game.

HORSES: During WMA deer seasons, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hours.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

FISHING: Fishing is allowed. ~~will be permitted on area ponds. Fishing is subject to special regulations posted at each pond.~~ Boats prohibited.

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 _____.

~~This adopted public notice will become effective _____.~~ Witness my hand and seal this the 19th day of May 2010.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Charles Rigdon Bryan Jones, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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

NOTARY

(SEAL)