

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 W16 3434(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 regulations concerning **2011 – 2012 White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-1-29, 49-5-13, 49-7-20.1, 49-7-31, 49-7-35, 49-7-37, 49-7-39, 49-7-41, and 49-7-96, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W15 3434 is hereby repealed, and the following 2011 – 2012 White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits are adopted.

WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS:

Zone 1 – Areas east of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and east of U.S. Highway 61, excluding areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

AND

Zone 3 – Areas west of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and west of U.S. Highway 61. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

Archery

October 1, 2011 – November 18, 2011 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Early Primitive Weapon

November 7 – 18, 2011 (ANTLERLESS DEER ONLY on private land and open public land)

The Commission finds there is a surplus deer population in the State of Mississippi. These

special deer hunts are established pursuant to the authority granted the Commission in Sections 49-7-37(2), (3), & (4), Mississippi Code of 1972.

All deer hunters must wear 500 square inches of unbroken hunter orange while this special hunt is in effect.

ONLY ANTLERLESS DEER MAY BE HARVESTED WITH PRIMITIVE WEAPONS DURING THE EARLY PRIMITIVE WEAPONS HUNT.

Gun (with dogs)

November 19, 2011 – December 1, 2011 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

Primitive Weapon

December 2 – 15, 2011 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (without dogs)

December 16 – 23, 2011 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (with dogs)

December 24, 2011 – January 18, 2012 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

Archery /Primitive Weapon

January 19 – 31, 2012 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Zone 2 - Areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

Archery

October 15, 2011 – November 18, 2011 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (with dogs)

November 19, 2011 – December 1, 2011 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

Primitive Weapon

December 2 – 15, 2011 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (without dogs)

December 16 – 23, 2011 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (with dogs)

December 24, 2011 – January 18, 2012 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

Archery / Primitive Weapon

January 19 – January 31, 2012 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

February 1 – 15, 2012 (Legal bucks only on private land and open public land) **Special Hunts:**

Statewide Special Deer Hunts (Zones 1, 2, & 3):

Special Archery Hunt

November 19, 2011 – January 18, 2012 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

The Commission finds there is a surplus deer population in the State of Mississippi. These special deer hunts are established pursuant to the authority granted the Commission in Sections 49-7-37(2), (3), & (4), Mississippi Code of 1972.

All archery and primitive weapons hunters must wear hunter orange while these special hunts are in effect. Legal bucks and antlerless deer may be harvested during the Special Archery Hunt.

Youth Deer Hunts:

Zone 1 & 3: Private lands, and authorized state and federal lands

November 5, 2011 – January 31, 2012

Zone 2: Private lands, and authorized state and federal lands

November 5, 2011 – February 15, 2012

Authorized state and federal lands include Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U. S. Corps of Engineers managed lands which designate the youth deer season in their regulations and open U. S. Forest Service National Forest lands.

Persons eligible to participate in Youth Deer Hunts are those who are fifteen (15) years of age or younger. A child at least twelve (12) years of age and under sixteen (16) years of age must have a certificate of satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by the department before hunting in this state or be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when hunting. A child under the age of twelve (12) must be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when the child is hunting. A licensed hunter supervising a child as provided in this section must hold a

valid Mississippi license for the species being hunted.

Youths may carry and use any firearm with which they can safely hunt, and in compliance with other applicable laws, rules and regulations.

Both youth and adults must wear 500 square inches of unbroken hunter orange, except while the hunters are in a fully enclosed deer stand. Archery hunters must wear 500 square inches of unbroken hunter orange while these special hunts are in effect. Bucks and antlerless deer may be harvested during the Youth Deer Hunts. Hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger may harvest any antlered buck regardless of antler size for all three (3) of their three (3) buck bag limit.

Bag limit:

Antlered Buck Deer:

The bag limit on antlered buck deer is one (1) buck per day, not to exceed three (3) per license year. Legal bucks must meet the following antler criteria within the appropriate deer zone.

Zone 1 & 2 Legal Buck:

Only antlered buck deer with either a minimum inside spread of ten (10) inches OR a minimum main beam length of thirteen (13) inches may be taken.

Zone 3 Legal Buck:

Only antlered buck deer with either a minimum inside spread of twelve (12) inches OR a minimum main beam length of fifteen (15) inches may be taken.

Statewide:

Hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger may harvest any antlered buck regardless of antler size for all three (3) of their three (3) buck bag limit.

Antlerless Deer:

The bag limit on antlerless deer is one (1) per day, not to exceed five (5) per license year.

Antlerless deer are defined as any female deer and any male deer without hardened antler above the hairline.

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Army managed lands are authorized to harvest antlerless deer on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge, Corps of Engineers, or U.S. Army for details.

Legal Weapons for use during the following seasons:

Archery: Longbows, recurves, and compound bows. There is no minimum or maximum

draw weight. There is no minimum length arrow. Fixed or mechanical broadheads may be used.

Primitive Weapons: primitive firearms as defined in Public Notice WL6-2280 and crossbows.

Gun: There are no caliber or magazine capacity restrictions on firearms. Crossbows and primitive firearms as defined in Public Notice WL6-2280 may be used during the gun seasons.

Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP):

Management Buck Tags:

Any antlered buck deer may be taken by permit if it is necessary to manage deer on lands under the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) or on Wildlife Management Areas. A written management justification issued by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks must accompany any request for such a permit. Any antlered deer harvested under this permit must be identified with a tag immediately upon possession. Antlered buck deer taken by permit shall not be subject to the daily bag limit or the annual bag limit on antlered deer.

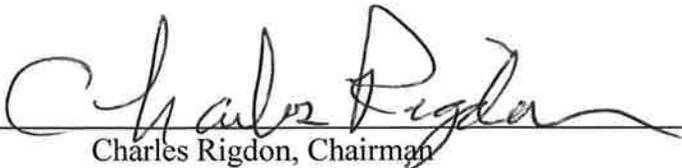
Doe Tags:

The annual and daily bag limit on antlerless deer shall not apply to private lands under the DMAP or the Fee-based Antlerless Program (FMAP) as approved by the Department. However, all harvested antlerless deer that exceed an individual hunter's daily or annual bag limit must be tagged prior to moving with a DMAP or FMAP tag provided by the Department.

When transported from the hunting area, all deer or parts thereof harvested under these permits must be tagged.

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. 451, Jackson, MS 39025, 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 W16 3434(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~~July 22, 2010~~, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to~~did~~ adopt the following regulations concerning~~2010— 2011 – 2012~~ **White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-1-29, 49-5-13, 49-7-20.1, 49-7-31, 49-7-35, 49-7-37, 49-7-39, 49-7-41, and 49-7-96, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W15~~W14~~ 3434 is hereby repealed, and the following 2011 – 2012~~2010-11~~ White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits are adopted.

WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS:

Zone 1 – Areas east of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and east of U.S. Highway 61, excluding areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

AND

Zone 3 – Areas west of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and west of U.S. Highway 61. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

Archery

October 1, 20110 – November 18, 2011~~19, 2010~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Early Primitive Weapon

November 7 – 18, 2011 (ANTLERLESS DEER ONLY on private land and open public land)

The Commission finds there is a surplus deer population in the State of Mississippi. These special deer hunts are established pursuant to the authority granted the Commission in Sections 49-7-37(2), (3), & (4), Mississippi Code of 1972.

All deer hunters must wear 500 square inches of unbroken hunter orange while this special hunt is in effect.

ONLY ANTLERLESS DEER MAY BE HARVESTED WITH PRIMITIVE WEAPONS DURING THE EARLY PRIMITIVE WEAPONS HUNT.

Gun (with dogs)

November ~~19, 2011~~~~20, 2010~~ – December 1, 201~~1~~~~0~~ (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

Primitive Weapon

December 2 – 15, 201~~1~~~~0~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (without dogs)

December 16 – 23, 201~~1~~~~0~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (with dogs)

December 24, 201~~1~~~~0~~ – January ~~18, 201~~2~~~~~~19, 201~~1~~~~ (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

Archery /Primitive Weapon

January ~~19~~~~20~~ – 31, 201~~2~~~~1~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Zone 2 - Areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

Archery

October 15, 201~~1~~~~0~~ – November ~~18, 201~~1~~~~~~19, 201~~0~~~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (with dogs)

November ~~19, 201~~1~~~~~~20, 201~~0~~~~ – December 1, 201~~1~~~~0~~ (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

Primitive Weapon

December 2 – 15, 2011~~0~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Gun (without dogs)

December 16 – ~~23, 2011~~~~17, 2010~~ (Either sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

~~December 18 – 19, 2010~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

~~December 20 – 23, 2010~~ (Either sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

Gun (with dogs)

December 24, 2011~~0~~ – January ~~18, 2012~~~~19, 2011~~ (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

Archery / Primitive Weapon

January ~~19~~~~20~~ – January 31, 2012~~1~~ (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

February 1 – 15, 2012~~1~~ (Legal bucks only on private land and open public land)

Special Hunts:

Statewide Special Deer Hunts (Zones 1, 2, & 3):

Special Archery Hunt

November ~~19, 2011~~~~20, 2010~~ – January ~~18, 2012~~~~19, 2011~~ (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

Special Primitive Weapon Hunt

November ~~8 – 19, 2010~~ (~~ANTLERLESS DEER ONLY~~ on private land and open public land)

The Commission finds there is a surplus deer population in the State of Mississippi. These special deer hunts are established pursuant to the authority granted the Commission in Sections 49-7-37(2), (3), & (4), Mississippi Code of 1972.

All archery and primitive weapons hunters must wear hunter orange while these special hunts are in effect. Legal bucks and antlerless deer may be harvested during the Special Archery Hunt. ~~ONLY ANTLERLESS DEER MAY BE HARVESTED WITH PRIMITIVE WEAPONS DURING THE SPECIAL PRIMITIVE WEAPONS HUNT.~~

Youth Deer Hunts:

Zone 1 & 3: Private lands, and authorized state and federal lands~~Lands Only~~

November ~~5, 2011 – 6 – 7, 2010~~ – Youth Weekend

~~November 8 – 19, 2010~~

~~December 2—15, 2010~~
~~January 20—31, 2012~~ †

Zone 2: Private lands, and authorized state and federal lands~~Lands Only~~
November ~~5, 2011~~ ~~6—7, 2010~~ **Youth Weekend**
~~November 8—19, 2010~~
~~December 2—15, 2010~~
~~January 20—~~ February 15, 2012 †

Authorized state and federal lands include Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U. S. Corps of Engineers managed lands which designate the youth deer season in their regulations and open U. S. Forest Service National Forest lands.

Persons eligible to participate in Youth Deer Hunts are those who are fifteen (15) years of age or younger. A child at least twelve (12) years of age and under sixteen (16) years of age must have a certificate of satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by the department before hunting in this state or be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when hunting. A child under the age of twelve (12) must be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when the child is hunting. A licensed hunter supervising a child as provided in this section must hold a valid Mississippi license for the species being hunted.

~~Youths~~~~The firearm type and caliber restrictions, set forth above, shall not apply to hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger, who are hunting during any Youth Hunting Season as set by the Commission.~~ Youths hunting during special youth hunting seasons may carry and use any firearm with which they can safely hunt, and in compliance with other applicable laws, rules and regulations.

Both youth and adults must wear 500 square inches of unbroken hunter orange, except while the hunters are in a fully enclosed deer stand. Archery hunters must wear 500 square inches of unbroken hunter orange while these special hunts are in effect. ~~Bucks~~~~Legal bucks~~ and antlerless deer may be harvested during the Youth Deer Hunts. ~~Hunters~~~~For hunters~~ fifteen (15) years of age and younger, ~~one (1) of the three (3) buck bag limit~~ may harvest ~~be~~ any antlered buck regardless of antler size for all three (3) of their three (3) buck bag limit.

~~U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Army managed lands:~~

~~These lands are authorized to provide youth deer hunting opportunities on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge, Corps of Engineers, or U.S. Army for details.~~

~~These lands are authorized to harvest antlerless deer on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge, Corps of Engineers, or U.S. Army for details.~~

Bag limit:

Antlered Buck Deer:

The bag limit on antlered buck deer is one (1) buck per day, not to exceed three (3) per license year. Legal bucks must meet the following antler criteria within the appropriate deer zone.

Zone 1 & 2 Legal Buck:

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Zone 3 Legal Buck:

Only antlered buck deer with either a minimum inside spread of twelve (12) inches OR a minimum main beam length of fifteen (15) inches may be taken.

Statewide:

~~Hunters~~ For hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger, ~~one (1) of the three (3) buck bag limit~~ may harvest any antlered buck regardless of antler size for all three (3) of their three (3) buck bag limit.

Antlerless Deer:

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Legal Weapons for use during the following seasons:

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Management Buck Tags:

Any antlered buck deer may be taken by permit if it is necessary to manage deer on lands under the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) or on Wildlife Management Areas. A written management justification issued by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks must accompany any request for such a permit. Any antlered deer harvested under this permit must be identified with a tag immediately upon possession. Antlered buck deer taken by permit shall not be subject to the daily bag limit or the annual bag limit on antlered deer.

Doe Tags:

The annual and daily bag limit on antlerless deer shall not apply to private lands under the DMAP or the Fee-based Antlerless Program (FMAP) as approved by the Department. However, all harvested antlerless deer that exceed an individual hunter's daily or annual bag limit must be tagged prior to moving with a DMAP or FMAP tag provided by the Department.

When transported from the hunting area, all deer or parts thereof harvested under these permits must be tagged.

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. 451, Jackson, MS 39025, no later than _____.

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

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE,
FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Charles Rigdon, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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