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

PUBLIC NOTICE OF RULE NUMBER W5 3775

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 Crawford, Mississippi on May 24, 2011, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, adopted 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Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W4 3775 is hereby repealed, and the following wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

2011-2012 Regulations for
Sky Lake Wildlife Management Area

Humphreys and Leflore Counties

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see DEER DATA COLLECTION, LEGAL BUCKS and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Archery – Permit Only	Oct. 1	Nov. 5	Antlerless deer and legal bucks. (Thursday, Friday, & Saturday only.)
Youth Gun	Nov. 10	Nov. 12	Antlerless deer and legal bucks. (Thursday, Friday, & Saturday only.)
Primitive Weapon – Permit Only	Nov. 17	Jan. 7	Antlerless deer and legal bucks. (Thursday, Friday, & Saturday only.)
Archery – Permit Only	Jan. 12	Jan. 28	Antlerless deer and legal bucks. (Thursday, Friday, & Saturday only.)
TURKEY			SEASON CLOSED
YOUTH SQUIRREL	Oct. 9	Oct. 12	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday only.

SQUIRREL	Oct. 16	Jan. 25	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday only.
	Jan. 29	Feb. 28	Daily
RACCOON	Jul. 1	Sep. 30	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM & BOBCAT	Oct. 1	Jan. 31	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday only.
	Feb. 1	Feb. 28	Daily
TRAPPING	Feb. 1	Feb. 28	
WATERFOWL – Permit Only	See Federal Regulations.		Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday only. Shooting hours end at 12:00 noon. See WATERFOWL in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
RABBIT	Oct. 16	Jan. 31	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday only.
	Feb. 1	Feb. 28	Daily
QUAIL	Nov. 27	Jan. 31	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday only.
	Feb. 1	Mar. 3	Daily

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.

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 by recording the number of animals harvested 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 a self-service deer check station located on Sky Lake WMA by the hunter who harvested them before leaving the WMA (see map). 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.

DEER HUNTING PERMITS: Deer hunting, except for the youth gun hunt, is 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 BUCKS: Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 12 inches OR one main beam length of at least 15 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 only 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.

SMALL GAME HUNTING: Small game seasons for species not listed will be open on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during their respective statewide season dates until January 31. After January 31 these seasons will be open daily.

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting during the youth deer hunt. Other deer seasons are restricted to archery and primitive weapons.

WATERFOWL: All waterfowl hunts, except for the waterfowl youth hunts, are draw hunts only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. See application for hunt dates, application deadlines, and other information about permitted hunts. Shooting hours are one half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. All hunt participants, spent shot shells, and equipment must be removed from the WMA by 1:00 pm. There are no waterfowl hunt units on Sky Lake, you may hunt anywhere on the WMA.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed 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. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hunting hours.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

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.

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 36, will be enforced. For additional information, contact the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers at (601) 631-5000.

Public Notice of Rule No. W5 3775

This adopted public notice will become effective June 26, 2011. Witness my hand and seal this the 24th day of May 2011.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Charles Rigdon, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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

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

_____
NOTARY

(SEAL)