

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS
Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife
1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. F17-3424

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 met at the MS Chamber of Commerce Building in Cleveland, MS on December 15, 2011, and under authority of Section 25-43-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following size and creel limits on sport fish and lake closures/openings. This was done under authority of Sections 49-7-41, 49-7-90 and 49-1-29, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notices F16-3424 is hereby amended and the following rules and regulations relative to sport fishing are adopted:

Statewide creel limits on game and sport fish are as follows:

Species	Creel Per Day
Black Bass (combined largemouth, spotted and smallmouth)	10 *
Sauger	10
Walleye	3 **
Striped Bass and Hybrids with 15" minimum size	6 *
Crappie (combined black and white)	30 *
Bream (combined bluegill, redear and other sunfish)	100
Alligator Gar	2****
Paddlefish	2 ***

* Creel limits for black bass, bream, crappie, striped bass, and striped bass hybrids in waters touched by the state boundary (border waters) shall be that of the adjacent state, or the Mississippi limit, whichever is greater.

** Harvest and possession of walleye is prohibited in Davis Lake (Tombigbee NF) and Old Tombigbee River and its tributaries north of Hwy 278 (Monroe, Itawamba and Prentiss Co.)

*** Paddlefish greater than 30" must be immediately released when caught sport fishing in Mississippi. Paddlefish are measured from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail. No paddlefish harvest is allowed in the Tenn-Tom Waterway, Tombigbee River or its tributaries and Pickwick Lake.

**** No Alligator Gar harvest is allowed on Bee Lake in Holmes County.

Violation of any of the Mississippi state laws or state regulations pertaining to paddlefish will be considered a Class I offense as specified in Section 49-7-90 of the Mississippi State Code of 1972 as amended.

Harvest and possession of all sturgeon species (Alabama, Atlantic, Pallid and Shovelnose) are prohibited in all Mississippi waters.

Be it ordered that the correct method for measuring fish and the definitions for length limits are as follows:

Correct Method for Measuring Fish Length:

Fish measurements for length limit regulations shall be taken with the total length being measured using a flatboard with fish mouth closed and tail squeezed together to give the maximum over-all measurement. Paddlefish are measured from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail.

Minimum Length Limit (MLL):

All fish on or less than the regulated size length in inches must be returned to the water immediately after capture and may not be in possession on the designated waters. All fish over the minimum length limit in total length may be kept not to exceed the legal daily creel limit.

Maximum Length Limit (MAXLL):

All fish on or more than the regulated size length in inches must be returned to the water immediately after capture and may not be in possession on the designated waters. All fish under the maximum length limit in total length may be kept not to exceed the legal daily creel limit.

Slot Length Limit (SLL):

All fish on or between the designated range of lengths in inches must be returned to the water immediately upon capture and may not be in possession on designated waters. All fish shorter than the lowest length limit and all fish longer than the highest length limit may be kept not to exceed the legal daily creel limit.

Be it further ordered that all freshwater game fish must remain intact (with head, tail, skin and scales) while fishing lakes or waters having an established MDWFP length/slot limit in Mississippi.

Be it further ordered until such time that it is amended by the Commission, the following length and creel limit regulations shall be in effect for crappie (combined black and white crappie):

Lake	County	Length Limit	Creel Limit
Arkabutla Lake	Tate, Desoto	12" MLL	20
Enid Lake	Yalobusha, Lafayette, Panola	12" MLL	20
Grenada Lake	Grenada, Calhoun, Yalobusha	12" MLL	20
Horn Lake	Desoto Co.	10" MLL	30
Lake Okhissa	Franklin	10" MLL	10
Lake Washington	Washington	10" MLL	30 (5 under 10")
Lake	County	Length Limit	Creel Limit
Moon Lake (includes part east of Hwy 1)	Coahoma	10" MLL	30 (5 under 10")
Pickwick & Tenn-Tom Waterway	Hwy 25 in Divide Section to Aliceville Lock & Dam	9" MLL	30
Sardis Lake	Lafayette, Marshall, Panola	12" MLL	20
Spillways of Arkabutla	To Prichard Road Bridge		20
Enid	To I-55		20
Grenada	To Hwy 51		20
Sardis & Barrow Lake	To Spaulding Creek		20

Be it further ordered that each person with a valid sport fishing license or those exempt under 49-7-5 may fish no more than five (5) poles or rods with two (2) hooks or lures per pole while fishing on Arkabutla, Sardis, and Enid. Each person with a valid sport fishing license or those exempt under 49-7-5 may fish no more than three (3) poles or rods with two (2) hooks or lures per poles while fishing on Grenada Lake. (Lakes & counties noted above)

Be it further ordered until such time that it is amended by the Commission, the following length and creel limit regulations shall be in effect for black bass (combined largemouth, spotted and smallmouth):

Lake	County	Length Limit	Creel Limit
Aberdeen Lake	Monroe	14" MLL	10
Arkabutla Lake	Desoto, Tate	None	7
Atchafalaya Bayou	Humphreys	None	10
Charles Nix WMA Ponds	Panola	None	0
Columbus Lake	Lowndes, Monroe, Clay	14" MLL	10
Eagle Lake	Warren	16" MLL	10
Elvis Presley State Lake	Lee	None	30
Enid Lake	Yalobusha, Lafayette, Panola	None	7
Grenada Lake	Grenada, Calhoun, Yalobusha	None	7
Holmes County State PK	Holmes	None	10
Lake Bill Waller	Marion	18-22" SLL	15 (1 over 2")

Lake Bogue Homa	Jones	15" MLL	5
Lake Bolivar (Scott, MS)	Bolivar	None	2
Lake Calling Panther	Copiah	20" MAX LL	30 (1 over 20")
Lake Columbia	Marion	14-18" SLL	5 (1 over 18")
Lake Jackson	Washington	None	5
Lake Mary Crawford	Lawrence	None	30
Lake Monroe	Monroe	None	30
Lake Okhissa	Franklin	18-22" SLL	10 (1 over 22")
Lake Tom Bailey	Lauderdale	15" MLL	5 (1 over 20")
Lake Washington	Washington	15" MLL	5 (2 under 15")
Leroy Percy State Park	Washington	None	5
Little Eagle Lake	Humphreys	12" MLL	5
Lowndes State PK Lake	Lowndes	None	30
Malmaisson WMA Lakes	Grenada	15" MLL	2
Moon Lake	Coahoma (includes east of Hwy 1)	None	2
Natchez State Park	Adams	18-22" SLL	7 (1 over 22")
Neshoba Co. Lake	Neshoba	16-20" SLL	10 (1 over 20")
North Abutment Lake	Grenada	None	0
Pascagoula River	George and Jackson Co. Merrill, Ms to Hwy 90 Bridge includes all connected oxbow lakes and the East and West Pascagoula Rivers and all water areas in between the two said rivers	12" MLL	10
Paul B. Johnson State Park	Forrest	18-22" SLL	10 (1 over 22")
RecCon Lake	Bolivar	None	2
Ross Barnett Reservoir	Madison, Rankin, Leake, Hinds, Scott	12" MLL	7
Sardis Lake	Lafayette, Panola, Marshal	None	7
Tippah Co. Lake	Tippah	None	30
Tombigbee State PK Lake	Lee	None	30
Trace State Park Lake	Pontotoc	None	30
Wolf/Broad Lake	Yazoo, Humphreys	12" MLL	5

Be it further ordered until such time that it is amended by the Commission, the following creel limit regulations shall be in effect for Channel catfish:

Lake	County	Length Limit	Creel Limit
Charles R. Nix WMA Lks	Panola	None	5
Lake Okhissa	Franklin	None	5
ReCon Lake	Bolivar	None	10
All MDWFP State Lakes	Statewide	None	10

Be it further ordered that the length limit on catfish (blue, channel and flathead) shall be no more than 1 catfish over 34 inches per person on reciprocated waters with AL, and TN. There is no creel limit on catfish.

Be it further ordered until such time that it is amended by the Commission, the following creel limit regulations shall be in effect for Bluegill and Redear:

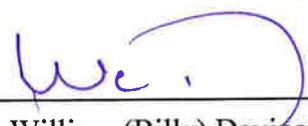
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Lake Okhissa	Franklin	None	50

Be it further ordered that in addition to statewide regulations, persons fishing in the Pearl River from the Ross Barnett Reservoir dam to the City of Jackson water intake may take only one Striped bass or Hybrid striped bass over 24 inches.

No person shall take in any one calendar day, no more than the daily creel or bag limit of fish. No person shall at any time, by any means, or in any manner, transport more than seven (7) daily creel or bag limits of fish for each qualified angler present in the vehicle. A single angler may only transport his or her own limit (s) of fish, not to exceed seven (7) daily limits.

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, 1505 Eastover Dr., Jackson, MS 39211, no later than January 19, 2012.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: 
 William (Billy) Deviney, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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

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