

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 W12 3549

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 April 18, 2012, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following wildlife management area regulations. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W11 3549 is hereby repealed, and the following wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

**Regulations for
Tuscumbia Wildlife Management Area**

Alcorn County

SPECIES	SEASON	COMMENTS
<u>UNIT 1</u>		
DEER		For deer hunting regulations see DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Archery	Oct. 1 through the Friday prior to Thanksgiving.	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Youth Deer	Saturday two weeks prior to opening day of Gun season through the Friday prior to Thanksgiving.	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun	Saturday prior to Thanksgiving - Dec. 1	Antlerless deer and legal bucks only.
Primitive Weapon	Dec. 2 - Dec. 15	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun	Dec. 16 - Dec. 23	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.

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April 18, 2012 Commission Meeting

Gun	Dec. 24 - until 47 days of regular gun hunting for entire deer season.	Legal Bucks only.
Primitive Weapon	Day after the final day of Gun season - Jan. 31	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
YOUTH TURKEY	Mar. 8 - Mar. 14	
TURKEY	Mar. 15 - May 1	
YOUTH SQUIRREL	Saturday prior to opening day of Squirrel season through the following Friday.	
SQUIRREL	Saturday nearest Oct. 1 – Feb. 28	
RACCOON	Jul. 1 - Sept. 30	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	
TRAPPING	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28	See TRAPPING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
WATERFOWL	See Federal Regulations.	See WATERFOWL in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
RABBIT	Saturday nearest Oct. 15 - Feb. 28	
<u>UNIT 2</u>		
DEER		For deer hunting regulations see DEER HUNTING - Unit 2 and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Archery	Oct. 1 – Jan. 31	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Youth Gun	Saturday two weeks prior to opening day of Gun season through the Friday prior to Thanksgiving.	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
YOUTH TURKEY	Mar. 8 – Mar. 14	
TURKEY	Mar. 15 – May 1	
RACCOON	Jul. 1 – Sept. 30	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RABBIT, SQUIRREL, RACCOON	Feb. 1 – Feb. 28	

DOVE	See Federal Regulations.	First season only.
TRAPPING	Feb. 1 – Feb. 28	See TRAPPING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
WATERFOWL – Permit Only	See Federal Regulations.	See WATERFOWL in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
POST SEASON LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER	Open after waterfowl season. See Federal Regulations.	

Whenever the opening date set above falls on a Sunday, the season shall begin on the preceding Saturday.

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.

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.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits.

LEGAL BUCKS: Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 10 inches OR one main beam length of at least 13 inches. For hunters 15 years of age or younger any antlered buck is a legal buck.

DEER DATA COLLECTION: All deer harvested must be checked at a check station by the hunter 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.

DEER HUNTING – UNIT 2: Once the waterfowl draw hunts begin, archery hunting will be allowed only on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

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.

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

TRAPPING: All kill type traps must be at least 50% submerged in water.

WATERFOWL:

UNIT 1: Open with state seasons and bag limits. Shooting hours on Unit 1 are one-half hour before sunrise until 3:00 pm.

UNIT 2: Waterfowl hunting on UNIT 2 is by special permit only. All waterfowl hunts, except for the waterfowl youth hunts and the post season light goose conservation order, 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.

All hunters must remain inside their assigned hunt station areas at all times. All hunters must be checked in and out by area personnel. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. All hunters and equipment must be removed from area by 1:00 pm. Spent shot shells must be removed from area.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: ORVs/ATVs are allowed on designated roads or trails for hunting and fishing access only. Off-road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for the retrieval of harvested deer or hogs.

HORSES: No horses allowed.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

BEARS: Black bears may occur on this WMA. Hunting or disturbing bears is prohibited. Please report any bear sightings on your daily visitor use permit.

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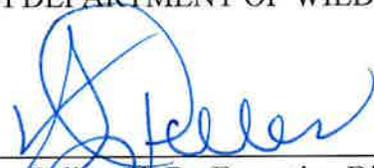
April 18, 2012 Commission Meeting

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 May 18, 2012.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY:  _____
William "Billy" Deviney, 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

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Secretary of State
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ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

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OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: ORVs/ATVs are allowed on designated roads or trails for hunting and fishing access only. Off-road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for the retrieval of harvested deer or hogs. ATVs are only allowed for retrieval of harvested deer and hogs for waterfowl draw hunt and waterfowl youth weekend access on Unit 2 the day of the hunt. When retrieving harvested deer by ATV, no firearms may be in possession.

HORSES: No horses allowed.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

BEARS: Black bears may occur on this WMA. Hunting or disturbing bears is prohibited. Please report any bear sightings on your daily visitor use permit.

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April 18, 2012 Commission Meeting

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 May 18, 2012. 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~~ William "Billy" Deviney, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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

NOTARY

(SEAL)