MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS
1505 EASTOVER DRIVE
JACKSON, MS 39211-6374

PUBLIC NOTICE OF RULE LE6-3779

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 May 16, 2012, under authority of §25-43-3.103 Mississippi Code of 1972, adopted the following regulations concerning nuisance animals. The following regulation is promulgated under authority of §49-7-1.

Be it ordered that Public Notice LE5-3779 and LE-3760a are hereby repealed and all regulations below are adopted.

Miss. Code Ann. §49-7-1, as amended, classifies nutria, beaver, fox, skunks, wild hogs and coyotes (as defined in Miss. Code Ann. Section 49-7-140) as "nuisance" animals. Pursuant to the same authority in the amended statute, the Commission issues this regulation stating that nuisance animals may be taken at any time subject to the following:

Nuisance animals may be hunted, taken, killed, chased, or pursued during daylight hours on private lands and/or on public lands, where the governmental agency charged with the management of said lands has passed laws or regulations allowing the taking of nuisance animals, from opening day of deer archery season to the last day of February and during spring turkey season with the type of weapons and ammunition legal to hunt with during that season. Outside of the above mentioned time-frames, the hunting of nuisance animals is allowed during daylight hours on private lands with no caliber restrictions. Persons hunting nuisance animals during nighttime hours from one half (1/2) hour after sunset to one half (1/2) hour before sunrise, with or without the aid of a light, are restricted to using standard rim-fire rifles or handguns no larger than .22 caliber long rifle (all magnums excluded) and/or shotguns with shot size no larger than No. 6.

Except for the following:

> Landowners may hunt nuisance animals year-round at any time of day or night with no caliber restrictions on property deeded in their name.

Anyone hunting nuisance animals with weapons and ammunition that are not legal from opening day of deer archery season to the last day of February and spring turkey season, or that exceed nighttime weapons and ammunition restrictions, upon lands that are not deeded/titled in his or her name, must have written permission from the landowner in his or her possession, when hunting.

- Permission letters must be signed and dated by the landowner, shall include the contact information of the landowner and the permitted person, and specify a date of expiration, not to exceed 30 days from date of issuance.
- Persons hunting property that is not deeded in their name during nighttime hours must notify the appropriate MDWFP Regional Office in advance of their intent to hunt.
- North Region – Tupelo, MS 662-840-5172 8am-5pm M-F
- Central Region – Canton, MS 601-859-3421 8am-5pm M-F
- South Region – Magnolia, MS 601-783-2911 8am-5pm M-F
- Jackson Office – 601-432-2170 Nights and Weekends

Nuisance animals may not be hunted or pursued with dogs during the open spring turkey season.

For the purpose of this public notice, "Wild hogs" are hereby defined as any feral hog, wild swine, Russian boar, or any pig that is not domesticated or has a wild-looking appearance or behavior.

Wild hogs may not be transported within the State of Mississippi between the hours of sunset and sunrise and may not be released or removed alive from any mobile device or vehicle, except that wild hogs may be released alive for the purpose of slaughter into an enclosure no larger than 500 square feet in size and constructed in a manner that prevents the escape of any wild hog. A violation of this is a Class 1 violation and is punishable as provided under section 49-7-141.

- Anyone transporting a live wild hog within the State of Mississippi must first obtain a Live Wild Hog Transportation Permit for each wild hog being transported. Permits may be obtained by contacting the department's 24 hour Communications Dispatcher at ph. (601) 432-2170. A violation of this regulation is a Class III violation, punishable as provided in Section 49-7-101, Mississippi Code of 1972.
  - Required information for a Live Wild Hog Transportation Permit will be:
    1. Date and time of transportation
    2. Name and physical address of permittee
    3. Hunting License No.
    4. County

5. Point of origin (Road or Highway No.)
6. Number of live wild hogs being transported
7. Final destination
8. Description of the transporting vehicle and license plate number

Wild hogs may not be caught or trapped and released into the wild at a location different from the location where the wild hog was caught or trapped. A violation of this is a Class 1 violation and is punishable as provided under section 49-7-141.

Wild hogs may be hunted with the aid of feed/bait with the following exceptions:

- Any food or food products, except whole grains, chopped or ground-up grains, may be placed upon the ground, above the ground, in any type container year round for the purpose of hunting wild hogs only.
- Grain or grain products may be used, if placed inside any legally designed live capture-type trapping device for the sole purpose of trapping wild hogs.

Any live cage-type trap used to trap wild hogs must be tagged or labeled in plain view (written in waterproof ink or stamped) with the owner or users name, address, phone number and/or trapper license ID#. All live cage-type traps must be checked every 36 hours. All non-targeted wild or domestic animals caught must be released immediately upon detection. A wild hog live-cage-type trap is described as a permanent or mobile containment system made of any type material capable of confining the mobility of a wild hog until otherwise removed. The trap must consist of a trap door, slide gate, or similar mechanism. The roof or tops of these traps must be constructed in a manner with ample opening in the top to allow non-targeted deer, turkey, or bear to escape.

Persons trapping nuisance animals, *other than wild hogs*, must have a valid Mississippi trapping license, unless otherwise exempt.

Persons trapping wild hogs must possess a valid Lifetime, All Game, Sportsman, or Trapping License, unless otherwise exempt.

Persons hunting nuisance animals must possess a valid Lifetime, All Game, or Sportsman's License, unless otherwise exempt.

Persons hunting nuisance animals with crossbows must possess either the General Crossbow License or the Special Crossbow License in addition to the All-Game or Sportsman, unless otherwise exempt.

Unless otherwise exempt, persons hunting nuisance animals with archery equipment and/or with primitive weapons during archery or primitive weapons season must possess

either a Sportsman License or an All Game Hunting License and the Archery/Primitive Weapon Permit.

The holder of a Lifetime, All Game, Sportsman or Trapping License may sell any part of any nuisance animal year-round.

Persons hunting wild hogs during any open gun season on deer will be required to wear, in full view, 500 square inches of solid unbroken hunter orange, unless they are hunting from a fully enclosed stand.

Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of electronic calls.

Exceptions to nuisance animal regulations may be allowed by making application to the MDWFP for an Animal Control Permit.

LE6-3779
May 16, 2012 Commission Meeting

This adopted public notice will become effective the 25 day of June, 2012. Witness my hand and seal this the 16th day of May, 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

Annette S. Clark
NOTARY

(SEAL)

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI NOTARY PUBLIC ID # 93475 ANNETTE S. CLARK Commission Expires June 29, 2013 RANKIN COUNTY