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 3467 (T)

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 August 15, 2012, under authority of Section 25-43-7 and 25-43-3.108, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following wildlife management area regulations for the 2012-13 hunting year to go into effect immediately upon filing. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W15 3467 is hereby repealed, and the following wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

Regulations for
Sunflower Wildlife Management Area

Sharkey County

SPECIES	SEASON	COMMENTS
DEER		For deer hunting regulations see LEGAL BUCKS, DEER DATA COLLECTION, DOG RESTRICTIONS, and LEGAL WEAPONS 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 through Dec. 1	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Primitive Weapon	Dec. 2 – Dec. 15	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun	Dec. 16 – Dec. 23	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.

Gun	Dec. 24 until 47 days of regular gun hunting for entire deer season.	Legal bucks with dogs
Primitive Weapon	Day after the final day of Gun season - Jan. 31.	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
TURKEY		See TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
Youth Turkey Season – PERMIT ONLY	April 2 – 8	
Turkey – PERMIT ONLY	April 9 – 15	
Turkey	April 16 – May 1	
YOUTH SQUIRREL	Saturday prior to Zone 2 opening day of Squirrel season through the following Friday.	
SQUIRREL	Saturday nearest Oct. 15 – Feb. 28	
RABBIT	Saturday nearest Oct. 15 – Feb. 28	
RACCOON	Jul. 1 – Sep. 30	Friday and Saturday nights only.
RACCOON, OPPOSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1 – Feb. 28	
TRAPPING	Nov. 1 – Feb. 28	
WATERFOWL	See Federal Regulations.	See WATERFOWL in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

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 participating in hunting, fishing, or trapping on 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 except that for permitted turkey hunts the daily bag limit is one gobbler per permit.

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 recorded on DAILY VISITOR USE PERMIT card before leaving the area. All deer harvested must be checked at a self-service data collection station (see map) 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.

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: Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season. Hog hunting with dogs is allowed during any deer with dogs season. Hog hunting with dogs is allowed during daylight hours only during Feb. 1 - Feb. 28 with weapons legal for small game.

TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS: Turkey hunting for April 9 -15 is allowed by special permit only. Youth turkey season, April 2–8, 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 WEAPONS: Only centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs or buckshot, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting.

WATERFOWL: Shooting hours end at 12:00 noon in artificially flooded greentree reservoirs. During waterfowl season, hunting on artificially flooded greentree reservoirs will be limited to waterfowl only.

FOR LOCATION OF FLOODED GREENTREE RESERVOIRS, see map at permit stations or at www.mdwfp.com/wma.

NO HUNTING from greentree reservoir levees or their rights-of-way. No hunting from pipelines.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road vehicle use will be governed by U.S. Forest Service regulations.

HORSES: Hunting from horseback is allowed.

CAMPING: Camping is allowed subject to U.S. Forest Service regulations.

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. Forest Service at (662) 873-6256.

This adopted public notice will become effective September 23, 2012. Witness my hand and seal this the 15th day of August, 2012.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Jerry Munro, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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