MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS
OFFICE OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
BUREAU OF FISHERIES
1505 Eastover Drive
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39211

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NO. F12-3428

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 in a meeting in Louisville, MS on February 11, 2013, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, adopted the following regulations on sport fishing. This is done under the authority of Section 49-1-29, 49-7-81 of the Mississippi Code of 1972:

Be it ordered that Public Notice F11-3428 is hereby amended and the following rules and regulations relative to sport fishing are adopted:

1. Be it ordered that each person with a valid sport fishing license or those exempt under 49-7-5 may fish no more than 100 single hooks(in aggregate) among the following devices as described:

   A. Sport fishing trotlines, throwlines, limblines and set hooks may have no more than a total of 100 single hooks in aggregate and these hooks shall be spaced at least two (2) feet apart and fixed to where they cannot slip together.

   B. No more than a total of 25 yo-yos may be fished by an individual. No more than two (2) single hooks may be attached to a yo-yo. When fished on a line, yo-yo's, limblines, and set hooks must be attached at least two (2) feet apart and fixed to where they cannot slip together.

   C. No more than 25 free floating fishing devices (FFFD) (Jugs) may be fished by an individual, also, no more than two (2) single hooks may be attached to each of these devices. In Mississippi waters that border adjacent states, the legal number of FFFDs shall be that of the adjacent state or the Mississippi limit, whichever is greater, but not to exceed 50 FFFDs by any individual.

   On Eagle Lake in Warren County, Lake Washington in Washington County,

Sardis Lake in Panola, Lafayette and Marshall Counties, Enid Lake in Lafayette, Panola and Yalobusha Counties, Grenada Lake in Grenada, Calhoun and Yalobusha Counties and Arkabutla Lake in Tate and Desoto Counties, all Yo-Yos and FFFDs must be legibly marked with either waterproof ink, stamped, or

tagged to show the angler's full name and residence address with zip code. Yo-Yo tags shall be attached above water line and furnished by the angler.

Yo-yos & FFFDs must be attended during daylight hours on borderline waters between Arkansas and Mississippi, Eagle Lake, Lake Washington, Sardis Lake, Enid Lake,Grenada Lake and Arkabutla Lake. Attended means devices must remain in sight of the angler during daylight hours. These devices may be fished at night without attendance.

2. Be it further ordered that legal sport fishing trotlines and/or throwlines, set hooks, limblines, FFFDs, and yo-yos may not be fished in the waters listed in 2A – 2M.

2A. Ross Barnett Reservoir– that portion of the reservoir north of the main dam and to a line between the point where Twin Harbors channel enters the main lake under the Natchez Trace in Madison County and the Fannin Landing boat launch in Rankin County, as well as that "the portion of Pelahatchie Bay within one hundred (100) yards from the shoreline of any residence on Pelahatchie Bay and within any marked navigational channel," also such fishing is prohibited within one hundred (100) yards of any sandbar or in any marked navigational channel between State Highway 43 and Ratliff Ferry.

2B. Sardis Lower Lake from the outlet structure to Spaudling Creek (Barrow Lake); however, FFFDs are permitted in the Barrow Lake area.

2C. Bay Springs Lock from outlet downstream to Mississippi Hwy 4 overpass.

2D. Lock "E" from spillway outlet downstream to Mile Marker 406.

2E. Lock "D" from spillway outlet downstream to Mile Marker 398.

2F. Lock "C" from spillway outlet downstream to Hwy 78 overpass.

2G. Lock "B" from spillway outlet downstream to Mile Marker 375.

2H. Lock "A" from spillway outlet downstream to Hwy 6 overpass.

2I. Aberdeen Lake from spillway outlet downstream to U.S. highway 45 overpass, including the auxiliary spillway and associated bank fishing access area in the Tombigbee River cutoff below the dam.

2J. Columbus Lake from spillway outlet downstream to Mile Marker 334, including the auxiliary spillway and associated bank fishing access area in the Tombigbee River Cutoff below the dam.

2K. Spillways of Ross Barnett and Okatibbee Reservoirs, Grenada, Enid, Sardis and Arkabutla Lakes from spillway outlets to the end of rip rap.

2L. Bluff Lake spillway in Noxubee County

2M. Lowhead dam on Ross Barnett Reservoir from the dam to the end of the Idle Speed Only/No Wake Zone area downstream of the dam.

3. Be it further ordered that the following regulations apply in the waters listed in 3A-3D:

i. Anglers fishing these waters may use no more than one (1) pole or rod per person except for those persons fishing in 3C.

ii. December 1 until the last day of February, anglers may use no more than two (2) single hooks no larger than #2. No bare or baited treble hooks are allowed.

iii. From March 1 until November 30, anglers may use no more than two (2) single hooks of any size. No bare or baited treble hooks are allowed.

iv. Hooks must be secured at least one inch apart.

v. Artificial lures can have no more than three (3) treble hooks with no larger than # 2 hooks and may be fished year around.

vi. No other gear can be used in these waters except for the gear permitted for bait.

3A. Spillways of Ross Barnett and Okatibbee Reservoirs, Grenada, Enid, Sardis and Arkabutla Lakes from spillway outlets to the end of rip rap.

3B. Bluff Lake spillway in Noxubee County

3C. Lowhead dam on Ross Barnett Reservoir from the dam to the end of the Idle Speed Only/No Wake Zone area downstream of the dam.

3D. Aberdeen and Columbus Spillways.

4. Buffalo, carp, gar, catfish, shad and bowfin may be taken throughout the year with a bow and arrow, crossbow, spear or gig. Catfish may be taken with spear or gig during the period from July 16 – April 30. Persons taking fish using any of these gears must have a valid

sport fishing license or be exempt under 49-7-5.

5. Be it further ordered that taking of non-game gross fish only by hand or rope (no attachments) is legal during the statewide season from May 1 to July 15. However, it is unlawful to alter any natural areas by placing of boards, wire or any other obstruction to said logs, holes etc. or to take fish from such altered devices. Also, it is unlawful to raise any part of a natural or artificial device out of the water thereby aiding in the capture of enclosed fish. Only wooden containers may be used. It is unlawful to place structures such as plastic or metal barrels, hot water tanks, concrete pipe, tires and other non-biodegradable materials in any public waters of the state. Any person grabbling for fish must have a valid sport fishing license. It shall be illegal to place any cavity-type structure, intended to be used for hand grabbling purposes, in all Mississippi water of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

6. Fish Attractors: It shall be unlawful to place structures such as plastic or metal barrels, plastic or metal pipes and tubing larger than 4 inches in diameter, hot water tanks, concrete pipe and tires and any other nonbiodegradable material into the public waters of the state for use as fish attractors. However, wooden materials and plastic tubing and pipe materials may be used as fish attractors provided that the plastic materials are no larger than 4 inches in diameter. Concrete, rope, wire and nails may be used to construct fish attractors. It is legal to place such fish attractor materials into the public waters of the state provided written permission to do so is obtained from the federal or state agency which owns the specific water body. The person placing fish attractor materials into the public waters of the state must carry a copy of the written permission on them at all times when transporting and placing such material.

7. A sport fishing license is required to harvest freshwater crawfish and freshwater shrimp for personal use. A commercial fishing license is required to sell freshwater crawfish harvested from public waters. Crawfish and shrimp traps fished in public waters shall be marked with a waterproof tag provided by the fisherman, which contains the fisherman's full name and MDWFP Customer ID number.

   Legal gear: Crawfish traps are any device constructed of coated wire with openings of the throat of flutes not exceeding 2 inches and which are used for the sole purpose of taking crawfish. Crawfish traps are typically of the pillow or pyramid style with a minimum mesh size no smaller than ¾ inch by 11/16 inch.

   Legal gear: Freshwater shrimp traps: It is unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take Freshwater shrimp by the use of any trap which exceeds the following dimensions: 36 inches long (from rear of the heart to the leading edge of the trap), by 24 inches wide (between the leading edges of the trap, or heart opening), by 12 inches high; or has external or unattached wings, weirs, or other devices intended to funnel shrimp to the trap heart.

8. It shall be illegal to possess on the water, both commercial and sport fishing gear in the

same boat.

9. Conservation officers may seize any sport fishing gear determined to be unsafe or illegal or which is not tagged as per these regulations.

10. It is unlawful to take fish from, tamper with or use any sport fishing gear without the consent of the gear's owner.

This adopted public notice will become effective March 21,2013. Witness my hand and seal this the 11th day of February, 2013.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS

BY: _____
Jerry Munro, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS

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