MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS
DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 451
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER W10 3445

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on May 18, 2005, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent and thirty days thereafter did adopt the following wildlife management area regulations for the 2005-06 hunting year. This was done under authority of Sections 49-1-29, 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W9 3445a is hereby amended, and the following 2005-06 wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

2005 - 2006 Regulations for
Copiah County Wildlife Management Area

Copiah County

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see DEER DATA COLLECTION, LEGAL BUCKS, SPECIAL BUCK TAGS, DEER WEIGHT LIMIT, DOG RESTRICTIONS, and LEGAL WEAPONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Archery	Oct. 1	Nov. 18	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Youth Gun	Nov. 12	Nov. 18	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun	Nov. 19	Dec. 1	Legal bucks only.
Primitive Weapon	Dec. 2	Dec. 15	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
Gun	Dec. 16	Dec. 31	Legal bucks only.
Archery	Jan. 2	Jan. 31	Antlerless deer and legal bucks.
YOUTH TURKEY	Mar. 8	Mar. 14	
TURKEY	Mar. 15	May 1	
YOUTH SQUIRREL	Oct. 8	Oct. 14	
SQUIRREL	Oct. 15	Feb. 28	
RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1	Feb. 28	See RACCOON, OPOSSUM, AND BOBCAT in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

TRAPPING	Nov. 1	Feb. 28	
RABBIT	Oct. 15	Feb. 28	
QUAIL	Jan. 2	Mar. 4	
DOVE	See Federal Regulations.		Each Wednesday and Saturday of open dove season.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COPIAH COUNTY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER W10 3445

NO SUNDAY HUNTING.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits.

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 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 checked at WMA Headquarters before leaving 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 four or more antler points AND an inside spread of at least 12 inches. For hunters less than 16 years of age, one of the three buck bag limit may be any antlered buck.

SPECIAL BUCK TAGS: For research purposes, a limited number of special buck tags, which allow the harvest of bucks with at least one unforked antler, will be issued to hunters. To apply, send an 8 ½" X 11" piece of paper with your name, address, social security number and Copiah WMA to Copiah County WMA Special Buck Tags, 304 South Second Street, Brookhaven, MS 39601. Only one application per hunter will be accepted. Applications must be received by Sept. 15, 2005 to be eligible for drawing. Hunters who are selected will be notified by mail. Tags must be attached to deer immediately after harvest.

DEER WEIGHT LIMIT: All antlerless deer must weigh a minimum of 65 pounds live weight to be legal for harvest. The average live weight of an adult doe on this WMA is 102 pounds. Any harvested antlerless deer less than 65 pounds live weight is an illegal deer.

DOG RESTRICTIONS: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season.

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons (as defined by Public Notice 2280.002), and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting. Legal weapons for small game hunting (excluding waterfowl) during daylight hours are shotguns using #2 shot or smaller and rifles or handguns no larger than .22 rimfire magnum. When hunting with a handgun, no other gun may be in possession. Only archery equipment and shotguns with #2 shot or smaller may be used for turkey hunting.

RACCOON, OPOSSUM, AND BOBCAT: During deer seasons, raccoon, opossum, and bobcat hunting is allowed without dogs during daylight hours and with dogs from one-half hour after sunset until 4:00 a.m.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed only for the retrieval of harvested deer. No loaded weapon may be in possession when retrieving harvested game.

HORSES: Horseback riding is prohibited during WMA deer and turkey seasons. At all other times, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hunting hours.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

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.

This adopted public notice will become effective July 31, 2005. Witness my hand and seal this the 30th day of June 2005.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Noble Lee, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

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

I certify this to be a true and correct copy.

_____
Executive Director

_____
Notary

Notary Public State of Mississippi At Large
My Commission Expires: May 15, 2006
Bonded Thru Heiden, Brooks & Garland, Inc.

SHARON S. MILLER
NOTARY
PUBLIC
HINDS COUNTY, MS