

Trapping Wild Hogs

A depredation permit is required to trap wild hogs with the aid of bait. *However, a person may trap wild hogs with the aid of bait on private lands, without a permit from the day after close of spring turkey season till the day prior to the opening of deer archery season.*

- Persons trapping wild hogs who are 16 years of age or older must possess either a Lifetime, All Game or Sportsman License.
- All live cage-type traps used to trap wild hogs must be tagged or labeled in plain view with the owner or users name and address
- All live cage-type traps must be checked every 36 hours.
- A 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.
- Trap tops or roofs must be constructed in a manner with ample opening in the top to allow non-target deer, turkeys, or bears to escape. *(Death or injury to any black bear in Mississippi as a result of a failure to comply with trap design and 36 hour check regulations are subject to fines and penalties as provided in the Federal Endangered Species Act, up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to 1 year in jail). For trap design technical guidance you may contact the MDWFP Wildlife Bureau at (601) 432-2199.*

License Requirements

Persons hunting or trapping on their own land are exempt from the license requirement.

HUNTING:

- Unless exempt from purchasing an annual hunting license, persons must possess an All-Game Hunting License, Sportsman License or Lifetime License.
- If using a crossbow, a General Crossbow License or Special Crossbow License is required in addition to an All-Game or Sportsman License.

TRAPPING:

- Any person 16 years of age or older must possess a Trapping License.
- A trapper ID# must be obtained prior to purchasing any trapping license. To obtain your trapper ID#, call the MDWFP at 601-432-2170.
- Trapping Licenses are only available from any MDWFP District Office, Jackson Office, State Park Offices, and State Lake Offices.

Nuisance Animal Technical Guidance

To receive technical guidance and information in regards to nuisance animal management and control, you may contact the following agencies:

MDWFP Wildlife Bureau - (601) 432-2199
USDA Wildlife Services (MS) - (662) 325-3014

The MDWFP is an equal opportunity employer and provider of programs and services. If anyone believes they have been subjected to discrimination on the basis of political affiliation, race, color, national origin, marital status, sex, religion, creed, age, or disability, they may file a complaint alleging discrimination with either the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, Office of Administrative Services, 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211-6374, or the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20507.

Nuisance Wildlife

IN MISSISSIPPI



REGULATIONS

Some species of wildlife, both native and non-native, regularly cause conflicts through their interactions with humans. This may occur around homes and other buildings, gardens, livestock areas, ponds, crops, and gardens. Conflicts can range from mere irritating circumstances to significant property damage. Nuisance animal regulations have been developed to provide homeowners and landowners legal options for management and control of these species. Beaver, coyote, fox, nutria, skunk, and wild hogs are classified as "nuisance animals" in Mississippi.

Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
Fisheries & Parks
1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211-6374



Any nuisance animal control or management program must begin with an assessment of the conditions that may attract wildlife to a location that develops into a nuisance situation. Wildlife in both rural and suburban areas will utilize food sources, as well as buildings and other physical structures that are not intended for use by wildlife. Depending on the situation, once wildlife become accustomed to food sources or structures, deterring them may be very difficult or seem impossible. In many cases, a nuisance situation exists due to conditions created by humans. Some nuisance wildlife situations may be amplified during poor wildlife population health conditions, poor habitat conditions, or during nesting, young rearing, and denning. In other situations, wildlife will merely take advantage of opportunities that exist within their home range. Nuisance animal regulations provide opportunity for homeowners and landowners to protect their property against nuisance animals and the damage that they may cause.

REGULATIONS

The following regulations have been developed to provide a legal means to control species of wildlife classified as “nuisance animals” in Mississippi.

Pursuant to the authority in the Miss. Code Ann. - §49-7-1 and 49-7-140, the Commission issues this regulation stating that nuisance animals may be taken at any time subject to the following:

From March 1 to the day prior to the opening of deer archery season: Nuisance animals may be taken, killed, chased, or pursued on private lands at any time with no weapon restrictions and/or on public lands where the government agency charged with the management of said lands has passed laws or regulations allowing the taking of nuisance animals. However, nuisance animals may not be hunted or pursued with dogs during spring turkey season. Crossbows may be used to take nuisance animals by persons possessing either a General Crossbow License or Special Crossbow License in addition to an All-Game or Sportsman License.



Ricky Flynt-MDWFP

From opening of deer archery season to the last day of February: (*private lands and open public lands that have statewide seasons without special regulations*) Nuisance animals may be hunted, taken, killed or pursued during daylight hours with weapons legal to use for the hunting season open at the time. Persons hunting nuisance animals from ½ hour after sunset until ½ 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 (all magnums are excluded) and/or shotguns with shot size no larger than No. 6 shot. 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 Archery/Primitive Weapon License in addition to an All-Game License.

From the opening of deer archery season to the last day of February (Special Permit) Landowners, agricultural leaseholders, or their designated agents may apply to the appropriate MDWFP District Office for a permit which will allow them to hunt, take or kill nuisance animals at anytime without weapon restrictions on lands owned or leased by them. This permit is only valid for the dates specified and only on the property listed on the permit application. A copy of this permit must be on the person of each individual while hunting under the authority of this permit. Any penalty associated with the possession of this permit shall be waived if proof is provided to the arresting officer or the courts that the MDWFP had issued a permit for the property prior to the date

of the citation and the person had landowner or agricultural leaseholder permission to hunt. Crossbows may be used to take nuisance animals under the authority of this permit, by hunters possessing either a General Crossbow License or Special Crossbow License in addition to an All-Game or Sportsman License.

General Regulations

- Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of electronic calls.
- The holder of an All-Game License, Sportsman License, or Trapping License may sell any part of any nuisance animal year-round.
- Nuisance animals may not be be hunted with the aid of bait. Landowners and/or agricultural lease holders may make application to the appropriate MDWFP District Office for a “Depredation Permit” which will allow them to use bait to take nuisance animals under controlled circumstances.
- Wild hogs may not be 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 Miss. Code Ann. §49-7-13.
- Persons hunting wild hogs during any open gun season on deer are required to wear, in full view, a minimum of 500 square inches of solid unbroken hunter orange, unless they are hunting from a fully enclosed stand.
- Non-Exempt persons hunting nuisance animals must possess a Lifetime, All Game or Sportsman Hunting License and persons trapping nuisance animals, except wild hogs, must possess a Trapping License.
- Persons trapping wild hogs must possess either a Lifetime, All Game or Sportsman Hunting License.

Trapping – Beaver, Coyote, Fox, Nutria, and Skunk

- A trapping license is required for anyone 16 years of age or older who traps on any land other than their own.
- It is illegal to trap with the aid of bait, recordings of bird or animal calls, or electrically amplified imitations of calls of any kind. However, lure is allowed for trapping furbearers, beaver, nutria, coyote, and fox, provided that no more than two and one-half (2.5) cubic inches of such lure may be placed or located within twenty (20) feet of any trap. (The lure amount of 2.5 cubic inches is approximately the volume equivalent of a regulation-sized golfball). All lure within twenty (20) feet of any trap must be covered and not visible from above. However, there are no lure restrictions when used inside live-cage type traps that do not exceed forty-two (42) inches in length, fifteen (15) inches in width, and twenty (20) inches in height. Liquid scents may be used.
- All other regulations in regards to trapping apply (*see Trapping and Fur Dealing Regulations pamphlet for complete regulations*).

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