

MISSISSIPPI MAIL SURVEY OF GAME
HARVEST AND HUNTER EFFORT FOR 1997-98

by

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the game harvest survey is to establish yearly indices of harvest and hunter effort for each game species. These indices provide trend data which allow staff to monitor changes in harvest and effort through time. When interpreting these data, it is important to consider habitat changes, species abundance, the current socio-economic climate of the state as well as changes in management strategies.

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP) uses a mail survey to obtain trend data on total harvest, average daily kill, average seasonal harvest, and total man-days hunted for each game species. The estimates obtained for each of these categories contain serious sampling, response and nonresponse biases, therefore the accuracy of these estimates is unknown. Fillion (1980) provided a good review of these biases and their effect on the estimates. Recognizing that these biases exist and assuming all biases remain constant, the estimates obtained from the survey provide adequate indices for monitoring trends in hunter harvest and effort.

The primary objective of the mail survey for the 1997-98 hunting season was to obtain a reliable set of statewide indices for each game species in Mississippi. The secondary objective was to provide district indices for these species. The survey is also used as a tool to monitor

hunter attitudes and perceptions on specific issues. The results of the survey are used to help guide future management decisions.

METHODS

The sampling frame for the survey consisted of resident holders of a Type 00 - Sportsman, Type 01 - All Game Hunting and Fishing, or Type 03 - Small Game Hunting and Fishing licenses purchased during the 1997-98 license year. A 2.52 percent random sample of these hunting license buyers was selected from the 198,378 licenses processed from July 1, 1997 - February 2, 1998.

An initial sample of 12,070 Type 00, 2,765 Type 01 and 165 Type 03 license holders was selected. All Types were combined into a single computer file for mailing purposes. Incorrect zip codes and bad addresses were deleted from the file, resulting in 4,997 names on the file.

The initial mailing consisting of the questionnaire (Figure 1), a cover letter (Figure 2) and a No. 9 postage-paid business reply envelope was mailed in a No. 10 window envelope on March 12, 1998 to the 4,997 sampled hunters. Three weeks after the initial mailing reminder post cards (Figure 3) were mailed to 3,584 sampled hunters who had not returned their questionnaire. The final mailing composed of the identical questionnaire, cover letter (Figure 4) and business reply envelope was mailed three weeks after the reminder post card mailing to the 3,292 nonrespondents. First mailing questionnaires were given identification numbers from 100,001 to

104,997 while the final mailing was given a 200,000 numbering sequence to differentiate responses between mailings. Questionnaires returned after July 22 were not considered in the analyses.

Questionnaire design and mailing procedures were outlined by Steffen (1981). Procedures for editing and data entry of returned questionnaires were also identical to Steffen (1981).

Estimates and their standard errors for each species were calculated for the following indices; total kill, average seasonal kill per hunter, proportion of licensed hunters, total licensed hunters, proportion of hunters who were successful, total man-days spent hunting, average days afield per hunter and the average daily kill. These indices were calculated both on a statewide and district (Figure 5) basis.

The 1997-98 survey obtained information about two different license years. Turkey harvest indices were partially calculated from hunters who hunted during the spring 1997 turkey season which was the 96/97 license year. Indices for other species were determined for the 1997-98 season alone. Because of prior irregularities in the license sales structure, only surveys beginning with the 1982-83 season had well defined sampling frames with a known number of license buyers (Steffen 1981, 1983 a,b), therefore spring 1997 turkey indices were calculated based on the respondents who also purchased a big game license during the previous July 1, 1996 - June 30, 1997 fiscal year (Question 6 on survey).

Estimates and standard errors of total turkey and man-days of effort were calculated as a linear combination of the spring 1997 estimates plus the fall 1997 estimates. The computer programs were altered to reflect these changes. All other calculations follow Steffen 1981.

RESULTS

Based on all three mailings, 407 (8.1%) of the 4,997 questionnaires were returned as non-deliverable by the post office. Therefore 4,590 individuals were assumed to have been contacted to participate in the survey. Of these 2,399 (52.2%) returned their questionnaires for possible analysis and 2,191 (47.8%) were nonresponses.

Statewide expansions were calculated based on the 207,727 total hunting licenses sold and accounted for by the July 21, 1998. There existed 207,727 individuals licensed to hunt small game and 200,069 (Types 00 +01) of these license holders also were eligible to pursue big game (deer and turkey) during the 1997-98 hunting seasons. The spring, 1997 turkey hunting estimates were based on the 198,591 big game license holders accounted for in the 1996-97 license sales totals.

Based on the 2,399 usable responses, 92.9 ± 0.52 (SE) percent of all resident license holders actually participated in a hunting activity during the 1997-98 hunting season. Therefore an estimated $192,978 \pm 1,087$ (SE) licenses actually utilized their license for hunting purposes.

The expanded statewide summaries of total harvest, average daily kill, average seasonal kill, the percent of hunters and the percent of total licenses that hunted are provided in Table 1 for all game species included in the survey. Table 2 provides the expanded statewide estimates of total harvest and the variability of these (standard errors and 95 percent confidence limits) for all game species surveyed.

Tables 3-8 summarize small game hunting on a statewide and district basis. Waterfowl hunting is summarized in Tables 9-11. Tables 12-15 summarize fox (red and gray), bobcat and coyote hunting. Statewide and district summaries of deer (buck and doe data from the archery, primitive weapon and gun seasons) and turkey hunting are provided in Tables 16-24. Statewide totals will not necessarily equal the sum of the district totals. All figures were calculated independently and were the best statistical estimates available.

Table 25 summarizes the responses to the opinion questions in Part B.

DISCUSSION

For comparison purposes, it should be noted that not all districts had the same doe opportunity on private lands during the deer season. In District 1 doe hunting was closed from December 24 - January 22 in Tippah, Alcorn, Prentiss, Tishomingo, Union, Pontotoc, Lee, and Itawamba counties. In District 4 doe hunting was closed from December 24 - January 22 in Covington, Scott and Smith counties. All of District 6 which includes the counties of Lamar, Forrest, Perry, Greene, Pearl River, Stone, George, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson was closed to doe harvest from December 24 - January 22. Other districts were open for doe hunting during all deer seasons.

Harvests showed a slight increase for most small game species except ducks. The increase may be in part due to an increase in license holders. However, this apparent increase may be the result of better agent reporting of license sales rather than a real increase in total license buyers. Deer harvest continued to show the effects of the implementation of the four

point rule for buck harvest, coupled with the legal bag limit of 3 bucks and 5 does. Total deer harvest was down slightly, but this was expected due to the poor weather conditions for hunting during most of the season. The percentage of bucks to does was almost exactly 50%. Archery and primitive weapon harvest increased while gun harvest was down 3.5% Turkey harvest for spring and fall of 1997 showed a 10% increase from last year.

Over 60% of hunters approved of a 1/8 of one percent sales tax increase to acquire and maintain lands for wildlife management areas, state parks, and natural areas, support conservation education programs and provide matching funds for local conservation and recreational projects.

Turkey hunters strongly approve of the rule prohibiting the harvest of jakes, while 46% supported a mandatory \$10 permit to hunt turkeys in addition to the regular hunting license.

For management purposes, it should be reemphasized that the hunting data provided are only indices to harvest and effort, for use in conjunction with past (and future) mail surveys to determine trends. The current survey was conducted similarly to all past surveys and is therefore useful for comparison purposes.

Response and nonresponse biases continue to exist with the survey as previously noted by Steffen (1981). Therefore discretion must be used when considering these data as absolute estimates. Assuming the biases remain consistent over time, the best uses of these data are as indices for trend determinations.

As previously recommended, the annual survey should be continued with a sample of 3,000-5,000 sportsmen. Periodically (e.g., every 5 years) a survey of 11,000 - 12,000 hunters should be conducted to provide more precise estimates on a district basis. The next large sample

survey should be conducted after the 1998-99 hunting seasons. To avoid changes in biases, attention to the consistency of survey methodology should be continued in future surveys.

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TABLE 1. EXPANDED STATEWIDE SUMMARY OF THE 1997-98 MISSISSIPPI MAIL SURVEY OF GAME HARVEST BASED ON 207,727 SMALL GAME LICENSE HOLDERS AND 200,069 BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS.

SPECIES	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)
DOVE	1,657,651	5.92	21.48	92.6	276,009	3.62	77,411	37.3
QUAIL	111,100	2.21	10.09	75.6	49,806	4.63	11,170	5.4
WOODCOCK	1,992	0.20	2.09	72.7	9,785	10.27	952	0.5
RABBIT	402,265	1.22	7.88	86.7	321,582	6.51	51,347	24.7
SQUIRREL	1,163,375	2.30	13.62	88.6	492,377	5.84	85,723	41.3
RACCOON	135,915	0.53	8.86	89.8	235,250	16.47	15,413	7.4
GEESE	10,564	0.55	2.26	68.5	19,058	4.15	4,676	2.3
RED FOX	2,338	0.07	1.53	76.5	16,212	13.36	1,472	0.7
GRAY FOX	3,031	0.18	2.00	76.5	13,270	11.77	1,472	0.7
BOBCAT	7,447	0.30	1.40	94.5	17,950	5.15	4,762	2.3
COYOTE	32,125	0.38	2.46	88.0	54,628	5.56	12,296	5.9
TOTAL DEER	333,218	0.097	1.96	64.6	3,144,706	18.81	170,003	85.0
BUCK	166,077	0.048	0.98	50.4				
DOE	166,495	0.048	0.98	45.4				
ARCHERY DEER	48,147	0.071	0.87	44.0	589,352	11.55	54,978	27.5
BUCK	15,476	0.023	0.28	21.6				
DOE	32,643	0.048	0.59	35.3				
PRIMITIVE DEER	29,735	0.104	0.59	41.2	236,622	5.10	50,597	25.3
BUCK	13,149	0.046	0.26	23.1				
DOE	16,586	0.057	0.33	26.0				
GUN DEER	254,877	0.103	1.54	62.8	2,297,853	14.15	165,364	82.7
BUCK	137,289	0.056	0.83	48.1				
DOE	117,166	0.047	0.71	39.7				
TOTAL TURKEY	32,127	0.035	0.83	53.1	296,234		40,316	18.6
SPRING 1997	30,475	0.096	0.81	52.6	285,777	8.03	37,621	18.9
FALL 1997	1,652	0.133	0.61	48.4	10,457	4.62	2,695	1.3

(A) DEER AND TURKEY PERCENTAGES BASED ON BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS; ALL OTHERS BASED ON SMALL GAME LICENSE HOLDERS.

TABLE 2. EXPANDED STATEWIDE ESTIMATES OF TOTAL HARVEST (AND THE VARIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES) FOR ALL GAME SPECIES IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

SPECIES	TOTAL HARVEST	STANDARD ERROR		95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
		SE	AS % OF TOTAL (A)	LOWER LIMIT	UPPER LIMIT
DOVE	1,657,651	83,699	5.0	1,490,253	1,825,049
QUAIL	111,100	18,194	16.4	74,712	147,488
WOODCOCK	1,992	861	43.2	270	3,714
RABBIT	402,265	29,250	7.3	343,765	460,765
SQUIRREL	1,163,375	65,604	5.6	1,032,167	1,294,583
RACCOON	135,915	21,250	15.6	93,415	178,415
GEESE	10,564	2,531	24.0	5,502	15,626
RED FOX	2,338	816	34.9	706	3,970
GRAY FOX	3,031	1,772	58.5	-513	6,575
BOBCAT	7,447	1,258	16.9	4,931	9,963
COYOTE	32,125	4,631	14.4	22,863	41,387
TOTAL DEER	333,218	9,601	2.9	314,016	352,420
BUCK	166,077	5,245	3.2	155,587	176,567
DOE	166,495	5,988	3.6	154,519	178,471
ARCHERY DEER	48,147	3,404	7.1	41,339	54,955
BUCK	15,476	1,382	8.9	12,712	18,240
DOE	32,643	2,563	7.9	27,517	37,769
PRIMITIVE DEER	29,735	2,078	7.0	25,579	33,891
BUCK	13,149	1,163	8.8	10,823	15,475
DOE	16,586	1,420	8.6	13,746	19,426
GUN DEER	254,877	7,395	2.9	240,087	269,667
BUCK	137,289	4,467	3.3	128,355	146,223
DOE	117,166	4,464	3.8	108,238	126,094
TOTAL TURKEY	32,127	2,278	7.1	27,571	36,683
SPRING 1997	30,475	2,233	7.3	26,009	34,941
FALL 1997	1,652	451	27.3	750	2,554

(A) % = 100(SE/TOTAL HARVEST)

TABLE 3. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF DOVE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	237,015 (29,202) 2,376	5.52 (0.66) 147	18.07 (1.71) 150	94.0 (1.9) 150	42,687 (5,772) 2,365	3.31 (0.36) 147	13,087 (1,035) 876	17.1 (1.3) 876
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	259,309 (34,488) 2,376	5.82 (0.59) 149	19.91 (2.13) 149	90.6 (2.4) 149	44,795 (5,454) 2,365	3.42 (0.32) 149	13,087 (1,035) 876	17.1 (1.3) 876
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	376,636 (45,969) 2,376	6.38 (0.49) 173	24.48 (2.41) 176	92.0 (2.0) 176	59,024 (6,554) 2,365	3.88 (0.33) 173	15,355 (1,114) 876	20.1 (1.4) 876
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	360,812 (35,634) 2,376	6.32 (0.45) 191	21.45 (1.52) 192	93.8 (1.8) 192	57,180 (6,083) 2,365	3.41 (0.28) 191	16,838 (1,162) 876	22.0 (1.4) 876
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	168,122 (37,837) 2,376	5.50 (1.03) 76	24.97 (4.90) 77	94.8 (2.5) 77	30,478 (6,999) 2,365	4.51 (0.91) 77	6,805 (758) 876	8.9 (1.0) 876
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	247,244 (34,330) 2,376	5.67 (0.42) 123	22.27 (2.43) 127	90.6 (2.6) 127	39,437 (5,318) 2,365	3.65 (0.37) 123	11,254 (964) 876	14.7 (1.2) 876
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,657,651 (83,699) 2,394	5.92 (0.24) 873	21.48 (0.92) 889	92.6 (0.9) 889	276,009 (13,887) 2,379	3.62 (0.15) 874	77,411 (2,051) 2,399	37.3 (1.0) 2,399

PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 4. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF QUAIL HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	27,581 (8,215) 2,395	1.77 (0.40) 33	9.35 (2.32) 34	76.5 (7.4) 34	15,538 (4,968) 2,393	5.42 (1.48) 33	2,946 (502) 127	26.8 (3.9) 127
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	33,913 (12,010) 2,395	3.08 (0.85) 28	13.96 (4.27) 28	71.4 (8.7) 28	11,024 (3,512) 2,393	4.54 (1.19) 28	2,427 (456) 127	22.0 (3.7) 127
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	7,719 (3,194) 2,395	4.05 (0.97) 15	5.93 (1.99) 15	80.0 (10.7) 15	1,910 (548) 2,393	1.47 (0.19) 15	1,300 (335) 127	11.8 (2.9) 127
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	13,877 (5,948) 2,395	2.58 (0.79) 17	9.41 (3.43) 17	70.6 (11.4) 17	5,382 (2,145) 2,393	3.65 (1.19) 17	1,473 (356) 127	13.4 (3.0) 127
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,515 (1,395) 2,395	1.61 (0.80) 8	3.63 (1.66) 8	75.0 (16.4) 8	1,563 (625) 2,393	2.25 (0.45) 8	693 (245) 127	6.3 (2.2) 127
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	24,285 (8,683) 2,395	1.68 (0.33) 22	12.17 (3.62) 23	78.3 (8.8) 23	14,236 (4,298) 2,393	7.45 (1.64) 22	2,167 (431) 127	19.7 (3.5) 127
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	111,100 (18,194) 2,397	2.21 (0.27) 124	10.09 (1.41) 127	75.6 (3.8) 127	49,806 (7,744) 2,394	4.63 (0.60) 124	11,170 (957) 2,399	5.4 (0.5) 2,399

TABLE 5. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF WOODCOCK HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	520 (520) 2,399	0.15 (.) 1	6.00 (.) 1	100.0 (.) 1	3,464 (3,464) 2,399	40.00 (.) 1	87 (87) 11	9.1 (9.1) 11
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	0 (0) 2,399	0.00 (.) 1	0.00 (.) 1	0.0 (.) 1	173 (173) 2,399	2.00 (.) 1	87 (87) 11	9.1 (9.1) 11
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	346 (346) 2,399	0.27 (.) 1	4.00 (.) 1	100.0 (.) 1	1,299 (1,299) 2,399	15.00 (.) 1	87 (87) 11	9.1 (9.1) 11
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	87 (87) 2,399	0.50 (0.50) 2	0.50 (0.50) 2	50.0 (50.0) 2	173 (122) 2,399	1.00 (0.00) 2	173 (122) 11	18.2 (12.2) 11
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	520 (520) 2,399	1.50 (.) 1	6.00 (.) 1	100.0 (.) 1	346 (346) 2,399	4.00 (.) 1	87 (87) 11	9.1 (9.1) 11
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	520 (274) 2,399	0.12 (0.06) 5	1.20 (0.37) 5	80.0 (20.0) 5	4,329 (2,497) 2,399	10.00 (4.07) 5	433 (193) 11	45.5 (15.7) 11
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,992 (861) 2,399	0.20 (0.07) 11	2.09 (0.68) 11	72.7 (14.1) 11	9,785 (4,478) 2,399	10.27 (3.72) 11	952 (287) 2,399	0.5 (0.1) 2,399
PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES									

TABLE 6. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF RABBIT HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	55,084 (8,519) 2,372	1.03 (0.13) 91	6.84 (0.80) 92	91.3 (3.0) 92	53,123 (8,633) 2,354	6.62 (0.84) 91	8,043 (822) 570	16.1 (1.5) 570
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	51,932 (11,119) 2,372	1.74 (0.33) 70	8.12 (1.48) 73	82.2 (4.5) 73	29,474 (6,712) 2,354	4.77 (0.94) 70	6,470 (740) 570	13.0 (1.4) 570
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	88,450 (18,214) 2,372	1.84 (0.39) 88	10.98 (1.97) 92	87.0 (3.5) 92	46,769 (10,524) 2,354	6.02 (1.21) 88	8,043 (822) 570	16.1 (1.5) 570
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	71,373 (11,848) 2,372	1.37 (0.15) 110	7.18 (1.00) 113	87.6 (3.1) 113	52,064 (6,966) 2,354	5.36 (0.52) 110	9,879 (907) 570	19.8 (1.7) 570
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	53,158 (10,453) 2,372	0.93 (0.19) 66	8.67 (1.38) 70	92.9 (3.1) 70	54,888 (12,798) 2,354	9.42 (1.89) 66	6,120 (721) 570	12.3 (1.4) 570
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	72,337 (11,586) 2,372	0.87 (0.12) 123	6.56 (0.89) 126	81.7 (3.5) 126	81,008 (15,019) 2,354	7.46 (1.22) 123	11,278 (966) 570	22.6 (1.8) 570
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	402,265 (29,250) 2,394	1.22 (0.09) 564	7.88 (0.50) 588	86.7 (1.4) 588	321,582 (25,042) 2,370	6.51 (0.45) 564	51,347 (1,830) 2,399	24.7 (0.9) 2,399
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 7. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF SQUIRREL HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	114,623 (21,104) 2,365	2.36 (0.26) 107	11.97 (1.91) 109	87.2 (3.2) 109	48,434 (7,643) 2,346	5.06 (0.64) 108	9,641 (898) 961	11.4 (1.0) 961
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	105,049 (12,540) 2,365	1.65 (0.19) 144	8.14 (0.72) 147	84.4 (3.0) 147	63,664 (9,429) 2,346	4.99 (0.62) 144	12,884 (1,029) 961	15.3 (1.2) 961
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	127,359 (20,175) 2,365	2.29 (0.26) 115	12.18 (1.60) 119	86.6 (3.1) 119	53,393 (9,286) 2,346	5.24 (0.78) 115	10,430 (932) 961	12.4 (1.1) 961
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	273,515 (35,443) 2,365	2.53 (0.26) 203	14.97 (1.67) 208	90.4 (2.0) 208	107,228 (11,797) 2,346	5.97 (0.52) 203	18,319 (1,210) 961	21.7 (1.3) 961
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	177,161 (27,537) 2,365	2.21 (0.28) 145	13.63 (1.83) 148	89.2 (2.6) 148	79,602 (13,279) 2,346	6.20 (0.91) 145	12,972 (1,033) 961	15.4 (1.2) 961
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	350,018 (42,148) 2,365	2.53 (0.17) 222	17.71 (1.82) 225	92.4 (1.8) 225	130,339 (14,820) 2,346	6.63 (0.63) 222	19,984 (1,258) 961	23.7 (1.4) 961
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,163,375 (65,604) 2,393	2.30 (0.10) 961	13.62 (0.69) 984	88.6 (1.0) 984	492,377 (26,226) 2,371	5.84 (0.28) 962	85,723 (2,088) 2,399	41.3 (1.0) 2,399
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 8. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF RACCOON HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	24,760 (11,144) 2,391	0.35 (0.16) 17	15.00 (5.97) 19	94.7 (5.3) 19	58,889 (29,711) 2,381	39.71 (18.12) 17	1,650 (377) 171	11.1 (2.4) 171
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	9,904 (4,870) 2,391	0.56 (0.17) 18	5.43 (2.45) 21	76.2 (9.5) 21	16,925 (9,290) 2,381	10.78 (5.50) 18	1,824 (396) 171	12.3 (2.5) 171
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	21,807 (10,579) 2,391	1.16 (0.11) 20	11.95 (5.31) 21	85.7 (7.8) 21	18,496 (8,302) 2,381	10.60 (4.24) 20	1,824 (396) 171	12.3 (2.5) 171
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	16,681 (4,102) 2,391	0.39 (0.15) 28	6.62 (1.09) 29	93.1 (4.8) 29	42,575 (18,099) 2,381	17.43 (6.77) 28	2,518 (465) 171	17.0 (2.9) 171
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	15,030 (5,848) 2,391	0.60 (0.18) 28	5.97 (2.08) 29	89.7 (5.8) 29	22,945 (9,145) 2,381	9.39 (3.36) 28	2,518 (465) 171	17.0 (2.9) 171
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	42,657 (11,870) 2,391	0.57 (0.18) 49	9.63 (2.35) 51	92.2 (3.8) 51	69,969 (23,253) 2,381	16.37 (4.97) 49	4,516 (620) 171	30.4 (3.5) 171
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	135,915 (21,250) 2,398	0.53 (0.09) 164	8.86 (1.23) 177	89.8 (2.3) 177	235,250 (44,554) 2,385	16.47 (2.87) 164	15,413 (1,112) 2,399	7.4 (0.5) 2,399
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 9. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF ALL DUCK HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	39,679 (14,313) 2,382	1.98 (0.44) 17	23.95 (6.87) 19	78.9 (9.6) 19	18,709 (5,519) 2,376	12.59 (2.19) 17	1,654 (378) 297	6.4 (1.4) 297
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	151,391 (31,158) 2,382	2.05 (0.25) 64	25.53 (4.31) 68	88.2 (3.9) 68	72,390 (12,319) 2,376	12.74 (1.52) 65	6,007 (713) 297	23.2 (2.5) 297
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	237,813 (37,350) 2,382	2.14 (0.18) 120	22.54 (2.93) 121	90.9 (2.6) 121	113,306 (13,921) 2,376	10.54 (0.91) 123	10,796 (944) 297	41.8 (2.9) 297
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	17,790 (5,685) 2,382	1.50 (0.29) 26	7.85 (2.02) 26	76.9 (8.4) 26	11,890 (3,201) 2,376	5.23 (0.99) 26	2,264 (442) 297	8.8 (1.6) 297
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	32,964 (9,245) 2,382	2.02 (0.30) 28	13.50 (2.86) 28	96.4 (3.6) 28	16,349 (4,096) 2,376	6.68 (1.13) 28	2,438 (458) 297	9.4 (1.7) 297
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	28,953 (10,085) 2,382	1.17 (0.29) 28	10.71 (3.26) 31	83.9 (6.7) 31	19,059 (5,695) 2,376	7.79 (1.84) 28	2,699 (482) 297	10.4 (1.8) 297
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	521,096 (52,104) 2,395	1.99 (0.11) 294	19.63 (1.66) 306	88.2 (1.8) 306	258,027 (20,533) 2,387	9.95 (0.58) 298	26,843 (1,423) 2,399	12.9 (0.7) 2,399
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 11. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF GOOSE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,127 (817) 2,397	0.52 (0.48) 6	2.17 (1.42) 6	50.0 (22.4) 6	2,167 (1,368) 2,396	4.17 (2.20) 6	520 (212) 52	11.5 (4.5) 52
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	4,333 (1,948) 2,397	0.77 (0.42) 14	3.33 (1.27) 15	73.3 (11.8) 15	5,549 (2,770) 2,396	4.57 (2.00) 14	1,300 (335) 52	28.8 (6.3) 52
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,813 (1,283) 2,397	0.41 (0.19) 22	2.00 (0.53) 22	72.7 (9.7) 22	9,277 (4,062) 2,396	4.86 (1.91) 22	1,907 (405) 52	42.3 (6.9) 52
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	433 (229) 2,397	0.42 (0.19) 7	0.71 (0.29) 7	57.1 (20.2) 7	1,040 (424) 2,396	1.71 (0.29) 7	607 (229) 52	13.5 (4.8) 52
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	0 (0) 2,397	. (.) .	. (.) .	. (.) .	0 (0) 2,396	. (.) .	0 (0) 52	0.0 (0.0) 52
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	173 (173) 2,397	0.40 (0.16) 2	1.00 (1.00) 2	50.0 (50.0) 2	433 (357) 2,396	2.50 (1.50) 2	173 (123) 52	3.8 (2.7) 52
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	10,564 (2,531) 2,399	0.55 (0.16) 53	2.26 (0.45) 54	68.5 (6.4) 54	19,058 (5,137) 2,398	4.15 (0.98) 53	4,676 (629) 2,399	2.3 (0.3) 2,399

TABLE 12. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF RED FOX HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	520 (300) 2,399	0.30 (0.28) 4	1.20 (0.49) 5	80.0 (20.0) 5	867 (625) 2,396	2.50 (1.50) 4	433 (193) 17	29.4 (11.4) 17
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	173 (173) 2,399	0.11 (0.13) 2	1.00 (1.00) 2	50.0 (50.0) 2	1,647 (1,204) 2,396	9.50 (2.50) 2	173 (122) 17	11.8 (8.1) 17
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	173 (122) 2,399	1.00 (0.00) 2	1.00 (0.00) 2	100.0 (0.0) 2	173 (123) 2,396	1.00 (0.00) 2	173 (122) 17	11.8 (8.1) 17
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	87 (87) 2,399	. (.) .	. (.) .	. (.) .	0 (0) 2,396	. (.) .	0 (0) 17	0.0 (0.0) 17
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	346 (274) 2,399	0.01 (0.02) 3	1.00 (0.71) 4	50.0 (28.9) 4	8,930 (8,672) 2,396	34.33 (32.83) 3	346 (173) 17	23.5 (10.6) 17
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,039 (671) 2,399	0.09 (0.04) 3	3.00 (1.41) 4	100.0 (0.0) 4	4,595 (2,780) 2,396	17.67 (3.93) 3	346 (173) 17	23.5 (10.6) 17
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,338 (816) 2,399	0.07 (0.04) 14	1.53 (0.42) 17	76.5 (10.6) 17	16,212 (9,204) 2,396	13.36 (6.95) 14	1,472 (356) 2,399	0.7 (0.2) 2,399
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 13. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF GRAY FOX HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI FURRING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL AL MANDAYS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	346 (212) 2,399	0.22 (0.26) 3	1.00 (0.41) 4	75.0 (25.0) 4	781 46 (619) 73 2,395 17	23.5 (10.6) 17
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	173 (122) 2,399	0.00 (.) 1	0.50 (0.50) 2	50.0 (50.0) 2	1,041 73 (1,041) 22 2,395 17	11.8 (8.1) 17
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	87 (87) 2,399	1.00 (.) 1	1.00 (.) 1	100.0 (.) 1	87 87 (87) 87 2,395 17	5.9 (5.9) 17
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,992 (1,738) 2,399	3.14 (0.92) 3	5.75 (4.75) 4	100.0 (0.0) 4	607 46 (451) 73 2,395 17	23.5 (10.6) 17
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	173 (122) 2,399	0.02 (0.03) 4	0.50 (0.29) 4	50.0 (28.9) 4	9,020 46 (8,676) 73 2,395 17	23.5 (10.6) 17
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	260 (194) 2,399	0.05 (.) 1	1.50 (0.50) 2	100.0 (0.0) 2	1,735 73 (1,735) 22 2,395 17	11.8 (8.1) 17
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,031 (1,772) 2,399	0.18 (0.18) 13	2.00 (1.13) 17	76.5 (10.6) 17	13,274 72 (8,943) 56 2,395 399	0.7 (0.2) 2,399
							PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES

TABLE 14. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF BOBCAT HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE	867	0.48	1.67	100.0	1,831	3.50	520	11.5
	(SE) N	(424) 2,396	(0.18) 6	(0.49) 6	(0.0) 6	(1,330) 2,383	(2.31) 6	(212) 52	(4.5) 52
2	ESTIMATE	1,647	0.52	2.29	100.0	2,528	4.83	607	13.5
	(SE) N	(845) 2,396	(0.13) 6	(1.13) 7	(0.0) 7	(1,581) 2,383	(2.51) 6	(229) 52	(4.8) 52
3	ESTIMATE	1,040	0.32	1.50	100.0	2,441	4.67	694	15.4
	(SE) N	(406) 2,396	(0.16) 6	(0.27) 8	(0.0) 8	(1,663) 2,383	(2.79) 6	(245) 52	(5.1) 52
4	ESTIMATE	1,474	0.47	1.07	93.3	1,656	2.38	1,300	28.8
	(SE) N	(396) 2,396	(0.24) 8	(0.12) 15	(6.7) 15	(934) 2,383	(1.12) 8	(335) 52	(6.3) 52
5	ESTIMATE	954	0.09	0.88	75.0	5,579	9.14	694	15.4
	(SE) N	(377) 2,396	(0.06) 7	(0.23) 8	(16.4) 8	(2,868) 2,383	(3.45) 7	(245) 52	(5.1) 52
6	ESTIMATE	1,214	0.27	1.63	100.0	3,574	6.83	694	15.4
	(SE) N	(474) 2,396	(0.12) 6	(0.38) 8	(0.0) 8	(2,659) 2,383	(4.66) 6	(245) 52	(5.1) 52
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	7,447	0.30	1.40	94.5	17,950	5.15	4,762	2.3
	(SE) N	(1,258) 2,399	(0.06) 40	(0.17) 55	(3.1) 55	(4,816) 2,384	(1.14) 40	(635) 2,399	(0.3) 2,399

TABLE 15. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF COYOTE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,813 (962) 2,397	0.39 (0.14) 20	1.50 (0.30) 24	83.3 (7.8) 24	7,018 (3,133) 2,368	4.00 (1.59) 20	2,080 (423) 140	17.1 (3.2) 140
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	7,626 (3,041) 2,397	0.65 (0.25) 21	3.36 (1.25) 25	84.0 (7.5) 25	8,509 (3,113) 2,368	4.62 (1.39) 21	2,167 (431) 140	17.9 (3.2) 140
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,720 (1,349) 2,397	0.46 (0.09) 22	2.44 (0.34) 27	88.9 (6.2) 27	9,123 (3,156) 2,368	4.73 (1.32) 22	2,340 (448) 140	19.3 (3.3) 140
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,373 (1,269) 2,397	0.32 (0.09) 23	1.96 (0.33) 28	92.9 (5.0) 28	13,509 (4,825) 2,368	6.70 (1.99) 23	2,427 (456) 140	20.0 (3.4) 140
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,380 (1,049) 2,397	0.20 (0.07) 17	1.63 (0.39) 24	87.5 (6.9) 24	8,334 (3,338) 2,368	5.59 (1.84) 17	2,080 (423) 140	17.1 (3.2) 140
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,633 (2,602) 2,397	0.38 (0.29) 8	5.25 (2.08) 12	100.0 (0.0) 12	6,404 (3,088) 2,368	9.13 (3.20) 8	1,040 (300) 140	8.6 (2.4) 140
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	32,125 (4,631) 2,399	0.38 (0.07) 112	2.46 (0.32) 142	88.0 (2.7) 142	54,628 (8,683) 2,369	5.56 (0.72) 112	12,296 (1,001) 2,399	5.9 (0.5) 2,399

TABLE 16. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF ARCHERY DEER HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,106 (1,037) 2,312	0.054 (0.011) 65	0.79 (0.13) 75	45.3 (5.8) 75	74,527 (13,993) 2,255	12.92 (1.86) 65	6,490 (737) 623	12.0 (1.3) 623
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,663 (1,117) 2,312	0.060 (0.009) 100	0.69 (0.10) 111	42.3 (4.7) 111	86,948 (11,969) 2,255	9.80 (0.95) 100	9,605 (890) 623	17.8 (1.5) 623
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	7,788 (1,342) 2,312	0.096 (0.014) 80	1.02 (0.14) 88	52.3 (5.4) 88	79,673 (11,415) 2,255	11.23 (1.04) 80	7,615 (796) 623	14.1 (1.4) 623
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	10,298 (1,550) 2,312	0.076 (0.010) 119	0.94 (0.12) 127	46.5 (4.4) 127	127,228 (14,698) 2,255	12.05 (0.89) 119	10,990 (948) 623	20.4 (1.6) 623
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	10,125 (1,918) 2,312	0.095 (0.016) 92	1.16 (0.19) 101	48.5 (5.0) 101	97,950 (12,574) 2,255	12.00 (0.94) 92	8,740 (851) 623	16.2 (1.5) 623
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	7,442 (1,466) 2,312	0.049 (0.008) 110	0.69 (0.12) 121	33.1 (4.3) 121	116,226 (14,236) 2,255	11.91 (0.95) 110	10,471 (927) 623	19.4 (1.6) 623
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	48,147 (3,404) 2,327	0.071 (0.005) 578	0.87 (0.05) 638	44.0 (2.0) 638	589,352 (30,299) 2,267	11.55 (0.43) 578	54,978 (1,851) 2,329	27.5 (0.9) 2,329
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)

(A) CALCULATED AS A PERCENT OF BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS ONLY.

TABLE 17. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF ARCHERY BUCK AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	BUCKS				DOES			
		TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS
1	ESTIMATE	1,644	0.018	0.25	21.3	3,461	0.036	0.53	32.0
	(SE) N	(431) 2,312	(0.005) 65	(0.06) 75	(4.8) 75	(799) 2,312	(0.008) 65	(0.11) 75	(5.4) 75
2	ESTIMATE	1,731	0.015	0.18	15.3	4,932	0.045	0.51	36.0
	(SE) N	(440) 2,312	(0.004) 100	(0.04) 111	(3.4) 111	(855) 2,312	(0.007) 100	(0.08) 111	(4.6) 111
3	ESTIMATE	2,942	0.037	0.39	27.3	4,846	0.059	0.64	39.8
	(SE) N	(645) 2,312	(0.008) 80	(0.07) 88	(4.8) 88	(927) 2,312	(0.009) 80	(0.10) 88	(5.2) 88
4	ESTIMATE	3,548	0.024	0.32	24.4	6,750	0.052	0.61	38.6
	(SE) N	(694) 2,312	(0.004) 119	(0.06) 127	(3.8) 127	(1,100) 2,312	(0.007) 119	(0.09) 127	(4.3) 127
5	ESTIMATE	2,856	0.028	0.33	24.8	7,269	0.067	0.83	40.6
	(SE) N	(615) 2,312	(0.005) 92	(0.06) 101	(4.3) 101	(1,541) 2,312	(0.013) 92	(0.16) 101	(4.9) 101
6	ESTIMATE	2,510	0.018	0.23	17.4	4,932	0.031	0.45	26.4
	(SE) N	(578) 2,312	(0.004) 110	(0.05) 121	(3.5) 121	(1,056) 2,312	(0.006) 110	(0.09) 121	(4.0) 121
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	15,476 (1,382) 2,327	0.023 (0.002) 578	0.28 (0.02) 638	21.6 (1.6) 638	32,643 (2,563) 2,329	0.048 (0.004) 578	0.59 (0.04) 640	35.3 (1.9) 640

TABLE 18. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF PRIMITIVE WEAPON DEER HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,028 (952) 2,308	0.128 (0.022) 70	0.76 (0.12) 76	47.4 (5.8) 76	33,360 (4,996) 2,255	5.37 (0.50) 70	6,585 (743) 569	13.4 (1.4) 569
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,548 (902) 2,308	0.104 (0.015) 108	0.56 (0.08) 115	39.1 (4.6) 115	46,757 (5,784) 2,255	4.88 (0.39) 108	9,964 (906) 569	20.2 (1.7) 569
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	4,941 (916) 2,308	0.133 (0.022) 72	0.70 (0.11) 81	46.9 (5.6) 81	32,118 (4,632) 2,255	5.03 (0.43) 72	7,018 (766) 569	14.2 (1.5) 569
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,901 (795) 2,308	0.082 (0.014) 91	0.46 (0.08) 98	32.7 (4.8) 98	38,949 (5,303) 2,255	4.82 (0.43) 91	8,578 (844) 569	17.4 (1.6) 569
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,808 (914) 2,308	0.125 (0.016) 89	0.66 (0.08) 101	47.5 (5.0) 101	37,618 (4,699) 2,255	4.76 (0.33) 89	8,751 (852) 569	17.8 (1.6) 569
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,294 (621) 2,308	0.067 (0.013) 85	0.39 (0.06) 97	33.0 (4.8) 97	43,474 (6,398) 2,255	5.76 (0.59) 85	8,405 (835) 569	17.0 (1.6) 569
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	29,735 (2,078) 2,328	0.104 (0.007) 526	0.59 (0.04) 588	41.2 (2.0) 588	236,622 (12,711) 2,266	5.10 (0.19) 526	50,597 (1,802) 2,329	25.3 (0.9) 2,329
PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)									

(A) CALCULATED AS A PERCENT OF BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS ONLY.

TABLE 19. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF PRIMITIVE WEAPON BUCK AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	BUCKS				DOES			
		TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS
1	ESTIMATE	2,340	0.059	0.36	30.3	2,687	0.069	0.41	32.9
	(SE) N	(525) 2,308	(0.012) 70	(0.07) 76	(5.3) 76	(579) 2,308	(0.016) 70	(0.08) 76	(5.4) 76
2	ESTIMATE	2,774	0.055	0.28	25.2	2,774	0.049	0.28	23.5
	(SE) N	(531) 2,308	(0.010) 108	(0.05) 115	(4.1) 115	(559) 2,308	(0.010) 108	(0.05) 115	(4.0) 115
3	ESTIMATE	2,774	0.075	0.40	33.3	2,167	0.058	0.31	24.7
	(SE) N	(585) 2,308	(0.016) 72	(0.07) 81	(5.3) 81	(525) 2,308	(0.014) 72	(0.07) 81	(4.8) 81
4	ESTIMATE	1,820	0.041	0.21	18.4	2,080	0.041	0.24	19.4
	(SE) N	(449) 2,308	(0.010) 91	(0.05) 98	(3.9) 98	(533) 2,308	(0.010) 91	(0.06) 98	(4.0) 98
5	ESTIMATE	2,080	0.045	0.24	22.8	3,727	0.080	0.43	31.7
	(SE) N	(440) 2,308	(0.010) 89	(0.04) 101	(4.2) 101	(716) 2,308	(0.014) 89	(0.07) 101	(4.7) 101
6	ESTIMATE	693	0.014	0.08	8.2	2,601	0.053	0.31	25.8
	(SE) N	(245) 2,308	(0.005) 85	(0.03) 97	(2.8) 97	(559) 2,308	(0.012) 85	(0.06) 97	(4.5) 97
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	13,149	0.046	0.26	23.1	16,586	0.057	0.33	26.0
	(SE) N	(1,163) 2,328	(0.004) 526	(0.02) 588	(1.7) 588	(1,420) 2,328	(0.005) 526	(0.03) 588	(1.8) 588

TABLE 20. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF REGULAR GUN DEER HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	30,677 (3,037) 2,250	0.095 (0.007) 206	1.50 (0.12) 230	61.3 (3.2) 230	273,568 (24,557) 2,096	13.91 (0.85) 206	20,450 (1,275) 1,856	12.4 (0.8) 1,856
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	48,906 (3,810) 2,250	0.118 (0.007) 297	1.70 (0.10) 324	68.5 (2.6) 324	396,511 (27,283) 2,096	13.94 (0.60) 298	28,771 (1,477) 1,856	17.5 (0.9) 1,856
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	40,281 (3,883) 2,250	0.126 (0.009) 245	1.72 (0.13) 263	68.4 (2.9) 263	311,367 (23,346) 2,096	13.21 (0.60) 247	23,459 (1,354) 1,856	14.3 (0.8) 1,856
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	53,174 (3,845) 2,250	0.094 (0.005) 367	1.49 (0.08) 402	61.7 (2.4) 402	518,213 (32,483) 2,096	14.75 (0.61) 368	35,765 (1,613) 1,856	21.8 (1.0) 1,856
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	50,151 (4,255) 2,250	0.112 (0.008) 269	1.89 (0.12) 298	70.8 (2.6) 298	412,833 (31,674) 2,096	16.08 (0.83) 269	26,381 (1,424) 1,856	16.1 (0.9) 1,856
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	30,855 (2,919) 2,250	0.074 (0.006) 300	1.06 (0.08) 328	48.8 (2.8) 328	390,497 (26,751) 2,096	13.50 (0.58) 303	29,391 (1,490) 1,856	17.9 (0.9) 1,856
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	254,877 (7,395) 2,318	0.103 (0.003) 1,732	1.54 (0.04) 1,914	62.8 (1.1) 1,914	2,297,853 (50,137) 2,143	14.15 (0.27) 1,739	165,364 (1,570) 2,329	82.7 (0.8) 2,329
									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)

(A) CALCULATED AS A PERCENT OF BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS ONLY.

TABLE 21. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF REGULAR GUN BUCK AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	BUCKS				DOES			
		TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS
1	ESTIMATE	17,502	0.056	0.86	52.2	13,131	0.038	0.64	32.9
	(SE) N	(1,741) 2,252	(0.004) 206	(0.07) 230	(3.3) 230	(1,767) 2,255	(0.005) 206	(0.08) 231	(3.1) 231
2	ESTIMATE	27,096	0.065	0.94	54.3	21,737	0.053	0.75	43.1
	(SE) N	(2,233) 2,252	(0.004) 297	(0.06) 324	(2.8) 324	(2,185) 2,255	(0.005) 298	(0.07) 325	(2.8) 325
3	ESTIMATE	20,966	0.067	0.90	48.7	19,253	0.058	0.82	47.3
	(SE) N	(2,271) 2,252	(0.006) 245	(0.08) 263	(3.1) 263	(2,047) 2,255	(0.005) 246	(0.07) 264	(3.1) 264
4	ESTIMATE	28,429	0.050	0.79	47.9	24,665	0.043	0.69	37.6
	(SE) N	(2,263) 2,252	(0.003) 368	(0.05) 403	(2.5) 403	(2,255) 2,255	(0.004) 367	(0.06) 402	(2.4) 402
5	ESTIMATE	24,431	0.055	0.92	51.0	25,641	0.058	0.97	53.0
	(SE) N	(2,316) 2,252	(0.005) 269	(0.07) 298	(2.9) 298	(2,424) 2,255	(0.005) 269	(0.08) 298	(2.9) 298
6	ESTIMATE	18,568	0.044	0.64	37.7	12,244	0.029	0.42	26.7
	(SE) N	(1,954) 2,252	(0.004) 301	(0.06) 329	(2.7) 329	(1,478) 2,255	(0.003) 302	(0.05) 330	(2.4) 330
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	137,289	0.056	0.83	48.1	117,166	0.047	0.71	39.7
	(SE) N	(4,467) 2,320	(0.002) 1,734	(0.03) 1,916	(1.1) 1,916	(4,464) 2,324	(0.002) 1,736	(0.03) 1,920	(1.1) 1,920

TABLE 22. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF SPRING TURKEY HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,421 (787) 2,148	0.096 (0.015) 44	0.77 (0.14) 48	47.9 (7.3) 48	31,120 (6,384) 2,125	7.57 (1.08) 44	4,434 (633) 400	12.0 (1.6) 400
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,143 (725) 2,148	0.114 (0.020) 39	0.79 (0.14) 43	53.5 (7.7) 43	23,831 (5,158) 2,125	6.54 (0.97) 39	3,972 (600) 400	10.8 (1.6) 400
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	4,068 (801) 2,148	0.119 (0.015) 50	0.85 (0.12) 52	57.7 (6.9) 52	33,083 (6,305) 2,125	7.08 (0.93) 50	4,803 (658) 400	13.0 (1.7) 400
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	7,489 (1,140) 2,148	0.111 (0.013) 85	0.91 (0.10) 89	57.3 (5.3) 89	64,577 (8,752) 2,125	8.13 (0.69) 85	8,313 (858) 400	22.5 (2.1) 400
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,010 (1,017) 2,148	0.086 (0.009) 80	0.76 (0.10) 85	50.6 (5.5) 85	62,241 (9,338) 2,125	8.33 (0.86) 80	7,851 (835) 400	21.3 (2.0) 400
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,177 (936) 2,148	0.075 (0.011) 76	0.69 (0.10) 81	46.9 (5.6) 81	61,400 (9,169) 2,125	8.53 (0.85) 77	7,574 (821) 400	20.5 (2.0) 400
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	30,475 (2,233) 2,157	0.096 (0.005) 381	0.81 (0.05) 407	52.6 (2.5) 407	285,777 (18,646) 2,132	8.03 (0.37) 382	37,621 (1,675) 2,159	18.9 (0.8) 2,159
PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)									

(A) CALCULATED AS A PERCENT OF BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS ONLY.

TABLE 23. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF FALL TURKEY HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT (A)	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
2	ESTIMATE	174	0.067	0.33	33.3	1,308	3.75	522	21.4
	(SE) N	(123) 2,298	(0.066) 4	(0.21) 6	(21.1) 6	(680) 2,295	(0.63) 4	(213) 28	(7.9) 28
3	ESTIMATE	696	0.229	0.73	54.5	3,051	3.18	958	39.3
	(SE) N	(301) 2,298	(0.070) 11	(0.24) 11	(15.7) 11	(1,118) 2,295	(0.70) 11	(288) 28	(9.4) 28
5	ESTIMATE	435	0.076	0.45	36.4	5,754	6.60	958	39.3
	(SE) N	(230) 2,298	(0.032) 10	(0.21) 11	(15.2) 11	(2,469) 2,295	(2.02) 10	(288) 28	(9.4) 28
-----									PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (B)
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	1,652	0.133	0.61	48.4	10,457	4.62	2,695	1.3
	(SE) N	(451) 2,301	(0.035) 26	(0.13) 31	(9.1) 31	(2,810) 2,296	(0.87) 26	(481) 2,301	(0.2) 2,301

(A) FALL TURKEY HUNTING WAS LEGAL ONLY IN DISTRICTS 2, 3 and 5.
 (B) CALCULATED AS A PERCENT OF BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS ONLY.

TABLE 24 . EXPANDED STATEWIDE SUMMARIES OF ALL DEER, BUCK, AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 1997-98 HUNTING SEASON AND ALL TURKEY HUNTING (COMBINING SPRING AND FALL DATA) DURING THE 1997 CALENDAR YEAR IN MISSISSIPPI.

SPECIES	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MANDAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)
DEER	ESTIMATE	333,218	0.097	1.96	64.6	3,144,706	18.81	170,003	85.0
	(SE) N	(9,601) 2,317	(0.003) 1,775	(0.05) 1,967	(1.1) 1,967	(73,084) 2,132	(0.40) 1,782	(1,482) 2,329	(0.7) 2,329
BUCK	ESTIMATE	166,077	0.048	0.98	50.4				
	(SE) N	(5,245) 2,319	(0.002) 1,777	(0.03) 1,969	(1.1) 1,969				
DOE	ESTIMATE	166,495	0.048	0.98	45.4				
	(SE) N	(5,988) 2,324	(0.002) 1,779	(0.03) 1,974	(1.1) 1,974				
TURKEY	ESTIMATE	32,127	0.035	0.83	53.1	296,234	22.73	40,316	18.6
	(SE) N	(2,278) 409	(0.013) 409	(0.05) 435	(2.4) 435	(18,856)	(8.39) 410	(1,743) 2,345	(0.8) 2,345

(A). CALCULATED AS A PERCENT OF BIG GAME LICENSE HOLDERS ONLY.

TABLE 25. SURVEY OF RESPONSES TO OPINION QUESTIONS

1.	<p>Would you support a 1/8 of one percent sales tax increase to acquire and maintain lands for wildlife management areas, state parks, and natural areas, support conservation education programs and provide matching funds for local conservation and recreational projects?</p>
	<p>38.6% 922 Strongly support 22.3% 532 Mildly support 13.5% 323 Neither support nor oppose 4.6% 111 Mildly oppose 11.0% 264 Strongly oppose 8.1% 194 Don't know</p>
2.	<p>Have you turkey hunted within the past three years?</p>
	<p>33.3% 796 Yes 65.5% 1,566 No</p>
3a.	<p>If yes, do you understand the reasons and approve of the rule prohibiting the harvest of jakes during the spring turkey season?</p>
	<p>64.8% 526 Strongly approve 13.1% 106 Mildly approve 7.9% 64 Neither approve nor disapprove 3.7% 30 Mildly disapprove 4.7% 38 Strongly disapprove 3.3% 27 Don't know 2.6% 21 Don't understand</p>
3b.	<p>In previous years, did you voluntarily pass up jakes as a general rule?</p>
	<p>45.2% 360 All of the time 30.9% 246 Most of the time 16.4% 131 Some of the time 7.5% 60 None of the time</p>
3c.	<p>Would you support a mandatory \$10 permit to hunt turkeys, in addition to the regular hunting license, if the money was used to send each turkey hunter an annual turkey program report and for cost-sharing private land conservation practices which enhanced habitats for turkeys?</p>
	<p>23.7% 202 Strongly support 13.1% 112 Mildly support 13.5% 115 Neither support nor oppose 11.4% 97 Mildly oppose 33.2% 283 Strongly oppose 5.0% 43 Don't know</p>

4. Do you support a mandatory tagging system?
- | | | |
|-------|-----|----------------------------|
| 23.2% | 555 | Strongly support |
| 12.7% | 304 | Mildly support |
| 25.1% | 601 | Neither support nor oppose |
| 9.1% | 217 | Mildly oppose |
| 21.4% | 511 | Strongly oppose |
| 7.0% | 168 | Don't know |
5. Do you believe there is a health risk for native animals from animals such as fox, coyote and deer brought in from other states?
- | | | |
|-------|-----|----------------------------|
| 21.8% | 521 | Strongly agree |
| 18.7% | 446 | Mildly agree |
| 17.8% | 425 | Neither agree nor disagree |
| 7.2% | 172 | Mildly disagree |
| 6.2% | 149 | Strongly disagree |
| 27.2% | 651 | Don't know |
6. Did you buy a license to hunt deer or turkey last year (1996-97)?
- | | | |
|-------|-------|------------|
| 90.3% | 2,159 | Yes |
| 8.5% | 204 | No |
| 0.4% | 10 | Don't know |
7. Do you deer hunt on MDWFP Wildlife Management areas?
- | | | |
|-------|-------|--------------------|
| 2.5% | 59 | All of the season |
| 5.1% | 123 | Most of the season |
| 27.5% | 657 | Some of the season |
| 63.8% | 1,525 | None of the season |
8. Do you support managing the number of hunters during deer season on Wildlife Management Areas to increase the quality of the hunt?
- | | | |
|-------|-----|----------------------------|
| 35.2% | 842 | Strongly support |
| 19.2% | 459 | Mildly support |
| 17.3% | 413 | Neither support nor oppose |
| 4.9% | 118 | Mildly oppose |
| 11.0% | 262 | Strongly oppose |
| 10.7% | 257 | Don't know |

9. Which hunter management technique would you prefer on Wildlife Management Areas?

19.3%	462	Computer draw system
16.1%	384	Badge system for designated area
27.4%	655	Don't know
4.2%	101	Other

10. Race

4.8%	114	African American
92.3%	2,206	White
0.3%	6	Hispanic
0.5%	11	Native American
0.3%	6	Asian
0.2%	4	Other

11. Sex

91.7%	2,192	Male
4.9%	116	Female

12. Age

Average age 37



1997-98 Mississippi Hunter Questionnaire

200000

A. Please fill in the blocks below for each game species you hunted during the 1997-98 hunting season (even if you were unsuccessful). If you hunted more than one kind of game on a particular day, count a day for each type of game you hunted. Report only game taken by you. Your answers will be kept confidential. Please answer the questions in part B, whether you hunted or not.

SPECIES	Total Kill	Total Days Hunted	District Hunted Most
1. Dove	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2. Quail	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3. Woodcock	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4. Rabbit	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5. Squirrel	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
6. Raccoon	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Bucks Does		
7. Deer (archery)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
8. Deer (prim. weap)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
9. Deer (gun)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
10. Turkey (spring '97)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
11. Turkey (fall '97)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Mallard Wood Other		
12. Ducks	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
13. Geese	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
14. Red Fox	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15. Gray Fox	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
16. Bobcat	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
17. Coyote	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Determine district HUNTED MOST from map.

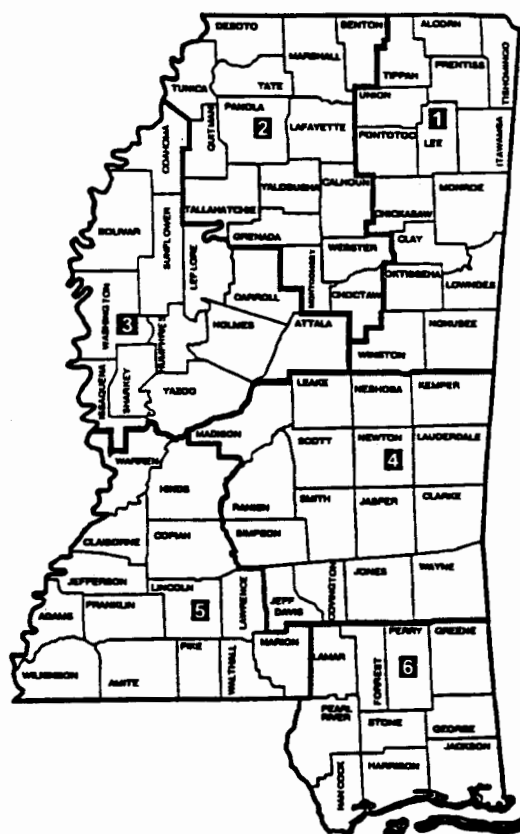


FIGURE 1. Questionnaire used for the 1997-98 mail survey of game harvest and hunter effort in Mississippi.

B. Please answer the following questions

1. Would you support a 1/8 of one percent sales tax increase to acquire and maintain lands for wildlife management areas, state parks, and natural areas, support conservation education programs and provide matching funds for local conservation and recreational projects?

- Strongly support
- Mildly support
- Neither support nor oppose
- Mildly oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Don't know

2. Have you turkey hunted within the past three years?

- Yes (Go to question 3a)
- No (Skip to question 4)

3a. If yes, do you understand the reasons and approve of the rule prohibiting the harvest of jakes during the spring turkey season?

- Strongly approve
- Mildly approve
- Neither approve nor disapprove
- Mildly disapprove
- Strongly disapprove
- Don't know
- Don't understand

3b. In previous years, did you voluntarily pass up jakes as a general practice?

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time

3c. Would you support a mandatory \$10 permit to hunt turkeys, in addition to the regular hunting license, if the money was used to send each turkey hunter an annual turkey program report and for cost-sharing private land conservation practices which enhanced habitats for turkeys?

- Strongly support
- Mildly support
- Neither support nor oppose
- Mildly oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Don't know

4. Do you support a mandatory tagging system for deer?

- Strongly support
- Mildly support
- Neither support nor oppose
- Mildly oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Don't know

5. Do you believe there is a health risk for native animals from animals such as fox, coyote and deer brought in from other states?

- Strongly agree
- Mildly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Mildly disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

6. Did you buy a license to hunt deer or turkey last year (1996-97)?

- Yes No Don't know

- OVER -

7. Do you deer hunt on MDWFP Wildlife Management Areas?

- All of the season
- Most of the season
- Some of the season
- None of the season

8. Do you support managing the number of hunters during deer season on Wildlife Management Areas to increase the quality of the hunt?

- Strongly support (Go to question 9)
- Mildly support (Go to questions 9)
- Neither support nor oppose (Go to question 10)
- Mildly oppose (Go to question 10)
- Strongly oppose (Go to question 10)
- Don't know (go to question 10)

9. Which hunter management technique would you prefer on Wildlife Management Areas?

- Computer draw system
- Badge system for designated areas
- Don't know
- Other _____

To help us meet federal aid reporting requirements and to better serve our user groups, please mark the appropriate response. This information is voluntary and is used for statistical purposes only.

10. Race: African American White Hispanic

Native American Asian Other

11. Sex: Male Female

12. Age: _____ Years



**MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS**

**SAM POLLES, Ph.D
Executive Director**

101527

MARCH 12, 1998

Dear Sportsman:

The Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks is conducting a study to obtain reasonable estimates of game harvest, hunter effort and hunter opinions. Information supplied by you and other selected hunters will assist us in managing our game resources for the greatest public benefit.

For meaningful results, information is needed from everyone receiving a questionnaire since only a limited number of sportsmen can be contacted. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire as accurately as possible (even if you did not hunt) and return it in the addressed, stamped envelope.

Your answers will be kept confidential. The questionnaire has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This allows us to check your name off the mailing list when your questionnaire is returned. Your name will never be placed on the questionnaire or used in association with any of the information you provide. A prompt reply will be sincerely appreciated.

Yours for better conservation,

Sam Polles, Ph.D.
Executive Director

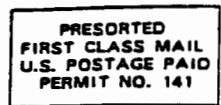
SP:ccs

Enclosure

P.O. Box 451 • Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0451 • (601) 362-9212

FIGURE 2 Cover letter mailed with the initial mailing of the 1997-98 survey of game harvest and hunter effort in Mississippi

Survey Section
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS
P.O. Box 451
Jackson, Mississippi 39205



Dear Sportsman:

Recently we mailed you a questionnaire on your hunting experiences. If you have not yet answered the questionnaire, will you please do so today? If you have already returned the questionnaire, disregard this notice and we thank you very much for your cooperation.

Your response is important. It is the only way we have of estimating the harvest, efforts and opinions of hunters for management purposes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Polles".

Sam Polles, Ph.D.
Executive Director

FIGURE 3 Post card used as the first reminder mailing to nonrespondents during the 1997-98 survey of game harvest and hunter effort in Mississippi



**MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS**

**SAM POLLES, Ph.D
Executive Director**

202227

MAY 05, 1998

WILLIAM A QUVALL
305 WESTOVER DR APT 10-D
HATTIESBURG MS 39408

Dear Sportsman:

About six weeks ago I wrote to you seeking information about your hunting activities during the past season. As of today we have not received your completed questionnaire.

Our research unit has undertaken this project because of the belief that citizen participation should be taken into account in the formation of efforts which will provide the best hunting opportunities for Mississippi Sportsmen.

I am writing to you again because of the significance each questionnaire has to the usefulness of this project. Your name was drawn through a scientific sampling process. In order for the results of the survey to be as complete as possible it is essential that each person in the sample return his questionnaire. Even if you had little success or if you did not hunt at all, your answers are important to us. Please return the survey in the enclosed addressed, stamped envelope so that your response can be included in the results.

Sincerely for better conservation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Polles".

Sam Polles, Ph.D.
Executive Director

SP:ccs

Enclosure

P.O. Box 451 • Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0451 • (601) 362-9212

FIGURE 4 Cover letter mailed with the second (and final) reminder mailing to non-respondents during the 1997-98 survey of game harvest and hunter effort in Mississippi

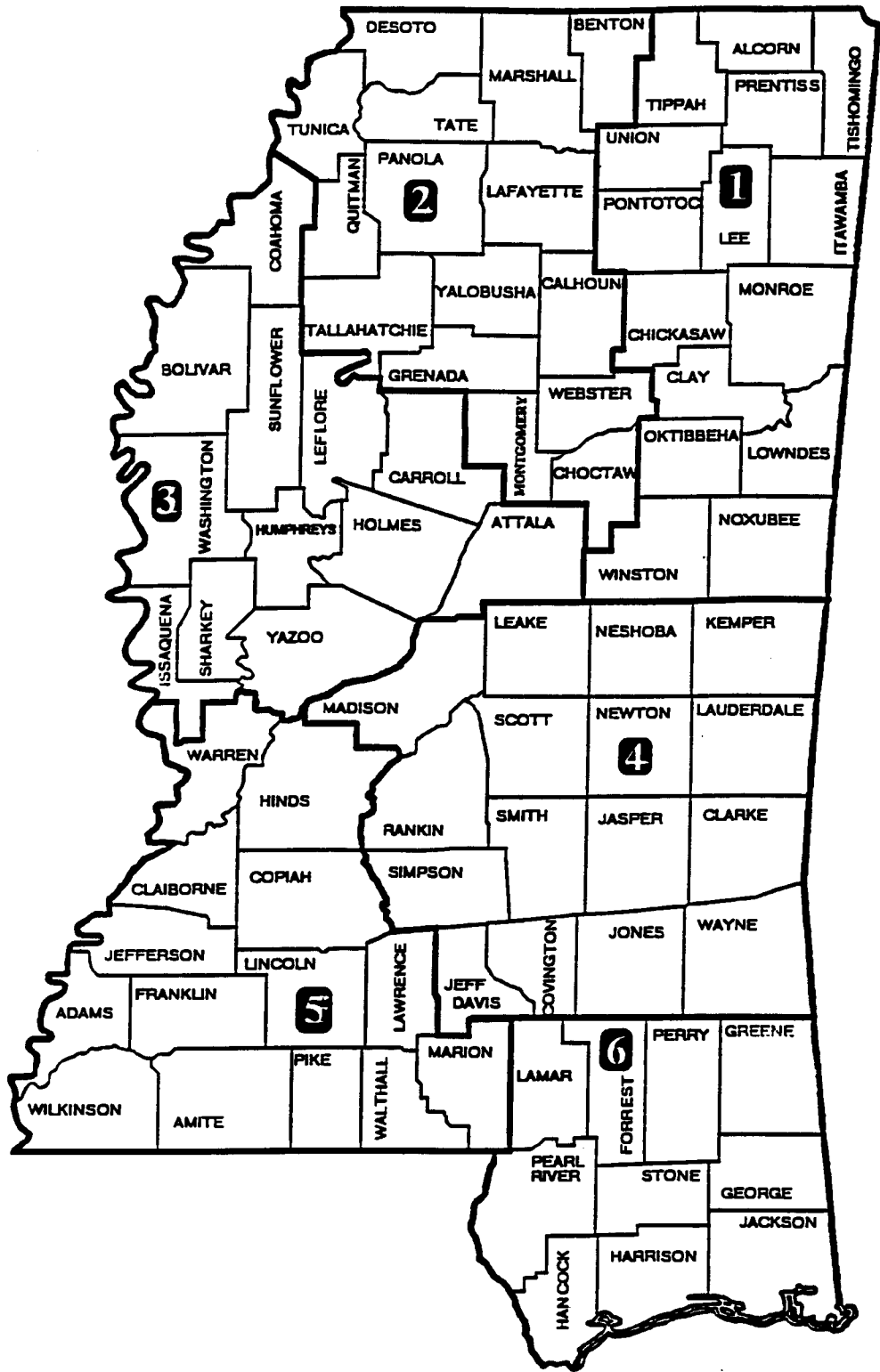


FIGURE 5 District partitions for district hunted most