

MISSISSIPPI MAIL SURVEY OF GAME HARVEST

1973 - 74

STUDY COMPLETION REPORT

FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO, W-48-21

STUDY VI

BY

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SEPTEMBER 19, 1974



GAME DIVISION

STUDY COMPLETION REPORT

State: Mississippi

Cooperators: Mississippi Game and Fish Commission

Project No.: W-48-21

Project Title: Statewide Wildlife Investigations

Study No.: VI

Job Title: Mississippi Mail Survey of Game Harvest (1973 - 74)

Period Covered: July 1, 1973, to June 30, 1974

A. Objectives: To determine the annual game harvest of mourning dove, bobwhite quail, rabbit, deer, turkey, squirrel, duck, woodcock and raccoon

To determine trends in harvest, hunter-success and hunter effort for each of the above-mentioned game species

To obtain a reasonably-reliable estimate of relative hunting pressure and game harvest in each of six (6) planning units

B. Abstract:

The fourth annual mail survey of game harvest for Mississippi was conducted during 1974. Names and addresses of 8,258 licensees were selected at random from the current file of 260,059 resident hunting and combination hunting and fishing license stubs. An initial mailing with two follow-up mailings were used and consisted of a questionnaire, letter of transmittal, and business reply envelope. Data were programmed, compiled, key punched, and verified by personnel of the Data Processing Department, Mississippi Game and Fish Commission. Detail cards were mailed to the Institute of Statistics, North Carolina State University, where a statistical analysis was conducted.

An expanded statewide estimate of total number hunters, total days afield, and total harvest, respectively, for selected game species **follows:**

Mourning dove - 97,193; 465,467; 2,365,020; bobwhite quail - 64,783; 488,095; 1,497,350; rabbit - **82,152**; 648,739; 1,109,140; squirrel - 146,837; 1,138,930; 2,486,920; raccoon - 19,303; 122,709; 127,512; woodcock - 5,665; 28,732; **39,736**; turkey - **23,467**; 108,975; 9,102; deer - 128,773; 931,898; 41,558; duck - **29,128**; 127,721; 296,803.

#### Procedure:

Mississippi Game and Fish Commission personnel conducted the fourth annual mail survey of game harvest in the state at the close of the 1973 - 74 hunting season. The Institute of Statistics., North Carolina State University, was contacted to complete a statistical analysis of the detail data. Licensee names and addresses were selected at **random** from the current files of Type I (combination hunting and fishing) and Type II (hunting only) license stubs. A predetermined set of **terminal** digits was utilized in the selection of survey participants. Of 260,059 Type I and Type II licenses purchased during the 1973 - 74 season, 8,258 (3.18 percent) **were** selected to participate. Data supplied by 5,215 respondents (2.02 percent) were included in the analysis.

The initial mailing of questionnaires was made May 10, 1974. Two regular follow-up mailings to nonrespondents were made on June 6, 1974 (**5,194**), and July 2, 1974 (**3,345**). The survey **was terminated** August 9, 1974.

Selected hunters received a letter of transmittal (Figures **1 - 3**), questionnaire (Figure 4), and a self-addressed, postage-paid business reply envelope in a printed bulk mail permit window envelope. **First-class** mail was used in all mailings. The **six** planning units as applied in the survey are pictured in Figure 5.

The continuous printed questionnaires were designed as three-part color-coded forms (first mailing, white; second mailing, green; third mailing, pink), and all were machine printed at one time. Responses were edited by the study leader to determine credibility and were coded to facilitate key punching and verification. After all valid information had been punched on data cards by Commission Data processing personnel, the data were mailed to North Carolina State University for analysis.

#### D. Results and Discussion:

This analysis is based on the total response from three mailings from which 7,771 questionnaires (94.1 percent) were presumed delivered by the post office (487, or 5.9 percent, were returned as undeliverable). A total of 2,727 (34.4 percent) of the selected licensees responded to the first mailing; 1,758 (34.5 percent), the second mailing; 797 (24.3 percent), the third mailing. A total of 2,489 (32.0 percent) had not been returned when the survey was terminated. Using delivered questionnaires as a base, the 5,282 returns represented a response of 68.0 percent and the usable returns (5,245), a response of 67.5 percent. The usable returns constituted a 2.0 percent sample of Type I and Type II licenses purchased during the 1973 - 74 season. Table 1 is a summary of the survey mailing and response data.

Of the 5,245 licensees whose questionnaires were used in the survey, 4,435 (84.56 percent) sought game during the season; 810 (15.41 percent) did not hunt after purchasing a license. Statewide, an estimated 214,738 (82.57 percent) of 260,059 resident licensed hunters in Mississippi participated in some form of game hunting recreation; 45,321 (17.43 percent), did not.

A summary of the 1973 - 74 Mississippi mail survey of game harvest based on 5,245 usable replies is presented in Table 2. Data reveal squirrel to be the most popular species hunted (57 percent), followed by deer-gun season (50 percent), dove (40 percent), rabbit (32 percent), quail (26 percent), duck (15 percent), turkey (10 percent), raccoon (7 percent), deer-archery season (6 percent), woodcock (3 percent), and deer-primitive weapons (2 percent).

An expanded estimate based on 260,059 combination hunting and fishing and hunting only licenses sold including number of hunters, percentage of licensees, total days afield, total harvest, average daily bag, average season bag and average days afield is presented in Table 3. Statewide, Mississippi hunters spent an estimated 4,035,323 days afield with an estimated harvest of 7,962,921 individual items of game. Standard error as applied to estimated number of hunters is tabulated in Table 4; days afield, Table 5; harvest, Table 6.

Tables 7 - 20 summarize information pertaining to each species by planning unit and consists of number hunters, total days afield, total harvest, average daily bag, average season bag, and average days afield. A summary of mourning dove data is found in Table 7; bobwhite quail, Table 8; rabbit, Table 9; squirrel, Table 10; raccoon, Table 11; woodcock, Table 12; turkey, Table 13; deer (gun season), Table 14; deer (archery season), Table 15; deer (primitive weapon season), Table 16; duck (all species inclusive), Table 17; mallard, Table 18; wood duck, Table 19; other duck, Table 20. Hunting pressure by planning unit, all species inclusive, indicates that planning units four (4) and six (6) received the heaviest hunting pressure (Table 21).

#### Recommendations:

Data supplied by the annual mail survey of game harvest are of significance from both biological and administrative standpoints. The survey, at present, is the

only means the Commission has of obtaining reasonably reliable harvest data for several **game** species. Data gathered for the past four (4) years indicates little significant change in hunter participation and **game** harvest. It is recommended that the the project be continued, but only every 2 - 3 years rather than annually as the primary aim of the survey is to determine trends in **numbers** of animals harvested and numbers of hunters. It is difficult to justify the rapidly increasing cost and man days required to conduct the survey annually.

Prepared by:

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Study Leader

Table 1. 1973 - 74 Mail Survey of Game Harvest

**First mailing - May<sup>d</sup>10<sup>b</sup>**

Number mailed	8258	100.0
Undelivered	337	4.1
Delivered	7921	95.9
Returned	2727	34.4
Usable	2716	99.6
Not usable	11	.4
Not returned	5194	65.6

**Second mailing - June 6**

Number mailed	5194	100.0
Undelivered	91	1.8
Delivered	5103	98.2
Returned	1758	34.5
Usable	1740	99.0
Not usable	18	1.0
Not returned	3345	65.5

**Third mailing - July 2**

Number mailed	3345	100.0
Undelivered	59	1.8
Delivered	3286	98.2
Returned	797	24.3
Usable	789	99.0
Not usable	8	1.0
Not returned	2489	75.7

**Table 1. (Continued)**

**Survey Total**

<b>Number mailed</b>	8258	100.0
<b>Undelivered</b>	487	5.9
<b>Delivered</b>	7771	94.1
<b>Returned</b>	5282	68.0
<b>Usable</b>	5245	99.3
<b>Not usable</b>	37	.7
<b>Not returned</b>	2489	32.0

Table 2. Summary 1973 - 74 Mississippi Mail Survey of Game Harvest

Total Number of Usable Replies: 5245

Species	Total Hunters	Percent Successful Hunters	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield	Percentage of Licensees Who Hunted
Dove	2,125	95	10,050	54,468	5.42	25.63	4.73	40
Quail	1,347	91	10,338	31,961	3.09	23.73	7.67	26
Rabbit	1,664	91	12,370	21,392	1.73	12.86	7.43	32
Squirrel	3,014	93	22,401	49,500	2.21	16.42	7.43	57
Raccoon	376	90	2,992	2,565	0.86	6.82	7.96	07
Woodcock	134	92	690	892	1.29	6.66	5.15	03
Turkey	521	26	2,456	198	0.08	0.38	4.71	10
Deer - Gun	2,647	24	19,020	905	0.05	0.34	7.19	50
Deer - Archery	329	14	1,798	57	0.03	0.17	5.47	06
Deer - Primitive Weapon	102	14	296	14	0.05	0.14	2.90	02
Duck	650	94	3,208	7,156	2.23	11.01	4.94	15

Table 3. Expanded Summary 1973 - 74 Mississippi Mail Survey of Game Harvest Based on 260,059 Combination Hunting and Fishing and Hunting Only Licenses Sold

Species	Total Hunters	Percent of Total Permittees	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
Dove	97,193	37.37	465,567	2,365,020	5.08	24.33	4.79
Quail	64,783	24.91	488,095	1,497,350	3.07	23.11	7.53
Rabbit	82,152	31.59	648,739	1,109,140	1.71	13.50	7.90
Squirrel	146,837	56.46	1,138,930	2,486,920	2.18	16.94	7.76
Raccoon	19,303	7.42	122,709	127,512	1.04	6.61	6.36
Woodcock	5,665	2.18	28,732	39,736	1.38	7.01	5.07
Turkey	23,467	9.02	108,975	9,102	0.08	0.39	4.64
Deer	128,773	49.52	931,898	41,558	0.04	0.32	7.24
Duck	29,128	11.20	127,721	296,803	2.32	10.19	4.38

Table 4. 1973 - 74 Mississippi Mail Survey of Game Harvest

## Expanded Estimate of Total Hunters

Species	Total Number of Hunters	Standard Error	
Dove	97,193	4507	4.6 %
Quail	64,783	2838	4.3 %
Rabbit	82,152	1253	1.5 %
Squirrel	146,837	3064	2.0 %
Raccoon	19,303	1662	8.6 %
Woodcock	5,665	608	10.7 %
Turkey	23,467	1241	5.2 %
Deer - Gun	124,651	2844	2.2 %
Deer - Archery	14,672	1523	10.3 %
Deer - Primitive Weapon	4,542	658	14.4 %
Duck	29,128	1458	5.0 %

**Table 5. 1973 - 74 Mississippi Mail Survey of Game Harvest**  
**Expanded Estimate of Total Days Afield**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Total Days Afield</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	
Dove	465,467	27,819	6.0 %
Quail	488,095	36,346	7.4 %
Rabbit	648,739	31,616	4.9 %
Squirrel	1,138,930	36,900	3.2 %
Raccoon	122,709	14,042	11.4 %
Woodcock	28,732	4,125	14.4 %
Turkey	108,975	10,408	9.6 %
Deer - Gun	861,543	26,302	3.1 %
Deer - Archery	75,973	10,668	14.0 %
Deer - Primitive Weapon	14,382	3,740	26.0 %
Duck	127,721	9,963	7.8 %

Table 6. 1973 - 74 Mississippi Mail Survey of Game Harvest

Expanded Estimate of Total Harvest

Species	Total Harvest	Standard Error	
Dove	2,365,020,	105,297	4.5 %
Quail	1,497,350	109,910	7.3 %
Rabbit	1,109,140	53,334	4.8 %
Squirrel	2,486,920	88,917	3.6 %
Raccoon.	127,512,	8,850	6.9 %
Woodcock	39,736	8,657	21.8 %
Turkey	9,102	913	10.0 %
Deer - Gun	38,507	3,194	8.3 %
Deer - Archery	2,338	373	16.0 %
Deer - Primitive Weapon	713	251	35.2 %
Mallard Duck	149,606	18,042	12.1 %
Wood Duck	84,566	7,291	8.6 %
Other Duck	62,631	6,237	10.0 %

Table 7. Expanded Summary Dove Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	17,366	17.87	88,850	409,669	4.61	23.59	5.12
2	14,141	14.55	76,584	484,563	5.67	30.73	5.42
3	11,192	11.52	48,323	298,258	6.17	26.65	4.32
4	21,123	21.73	93,255	449,573	4.82	21.28	4.41
5	16,773	17.26	80,505	432,643	5.37	25.79	4.80
6	16,596	17.08	75,817	335,160	4.42	20.20	4.57
Statewide Total	97,193	37.37	465,467	2,365,020	5.08	24.33	4.79

Table 8. Expanded Summary Quail Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total. ?; Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	14,854	22.93	112,800	319,134	2.83	21.48	7.59
2	2,661	4.11	11,962	28,057	2.35	10.54	4.50
3	9,245	14.27	69,704	244,902	3.51	26.49	7.54
4	14,277	22.04	99,302	291,790	2.94	20.44	6.96
5	10,112	15.61	74,456	280,964	3.77	27.79	7.36
6	13,757	21.24	115,861	334,931	2.89	24.35	8.42
Statewide Total	64,783	24.91	488,095	1,497,350	3.07	23.11	7.53

Table 9. Expanded Summary Rabbit Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	13,863	16.87	109,553	197,297	1.80	14.23	7.90
2	11,881	14.46	85,556	170,652	1.99	14.36	7.20
3	8,750	10.65	62,520	98,550	1.58	11.26	7.15
4	20,425	24.86	164,452	287,845	1.75	14.09	8.05
5	10,345	12.59	70,955	130,430	1.84	12.61	6.86
6	16,886	20.55	139,869	220,378	1.58	13.05	8.28
Statewide Total	82,152	31.59	648,739	1,109,140	1.71	13.50	7.90

Table 10. Expanded Summary Squirrel Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	20,304	13.83	142,659	286,255	2.01	14.10	7.01
2	14,466	9.85	88,889	169,045	1.90	11.69	6.14
3	15,404	10.49	105,297	214,521	2.04	13.93	6.84
4	38,619	26.30	331,441	764,473	2.31	19.80	8.58
5	24,464	16.66	164,990	431,665	2.62	17.64	6.74
6	33,577	22.87	273,940	600,205	2.19	17.88	8.16
<b>Total</b>	<b>146,837</b>	<b>56.46</b>	<b>1,138,930</b>	<b>2,486,920</b>	<b>2.18</b>	<b>16.94</b>	<b>7.76</b>

Table 11. Expanded Summary Raccoon Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	2,284	11.83	15,456	10,848	.70	4.75	6.77
2	2,198	11.39	12,015	14,153	1.18	6.44	5.47
3	2,007	10.40	17,553	11,694	.67	5.83	8.75
4	5,766	29.87	40,473	53,252	1.32	9.24	7.02
5	2,946	15.26	19,364	20,907	1.08	7.10	6.57
6	4,228	21.90	24,337	21,030	.86	4.97	5.76
Statewide Total	19,303	7.42	122,709	127,512	1.04	6.61	6.36

Table 12. Expanded Summary Woodcock Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	476	8.40	3,437	1,657	0.48	3.48	7.22
2	474	8.37	2,255	2,001	0.89	4.22	4.76
3	337	5.95	791	2,850	3.60	8.46	2.35
4	1,125	19.86	6,060	8,371	1.38	7.44	5.39
5	919	16.22	3,320	4,558	1.37	4.96	3.61
6	2,749	48.53	15,416	22,561	1.46	8.21	5.61
Statewide Total	5,665	2.18	28,732	39,736	1.38	7.01	5.07

Table 13. Expanded Summary Turkey Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	724	3.09	1,521	206	0.14	0.28	2.10
2	1,880	8.01	8,016	1,088	0.14	0.58	4.26
3	1,054	4.49	7,127	365	0.05	0.35	6.76
4	6,116	26.06	26,190	2,442	0.09	0.40	4.28
5	4,063	17.31	18,447	1,210	0.07	0.30	4.54
6	9,852	41.98	50,175	4,247	0.08	0.43	5.09
Statewide Total	23,467	9.02	108,975	9,102	0.08	0.39	4.64

Table 14. Expanded Summary Deer (Gun) Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	18,397	14.76	112,299	2,660	0.02	0.14	6.10
2	18,254	14.64	111,514	6,953	0.06	0.38	6.11
3	18,142	14.55	121,710	5,382	0.04	0.30	6.71
4	23,474	18.83	162,052	10,629	0.07	0.45	6.90
5	19,015	15.25	116,523	5,518	0.05	0.29	6.13
6	27,366	21.95	226,449	7,889	0.03	0.29	8.27
Statewide Total	124,651	47.93	861,543	38,507	0.04	0.31	6.91

Table 15. Expanded Summary Deer (Archery) Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	2,275	15.51	12,479	121	0.01	0.05	5.49
2	2,742	18.69	17,863	990	0.06	0.36	6.51
3	1,929	13.15	11,192	216	0.02	0.11	5.80
4	2,748	18.73	12,823	567	0.04	0.21	4.67
5	1,931	13.16	9,675	437	0.05	0.23	5.01
6	3,570	24.33	16,130	292	0.02	0.08	4.52
Statewide Total	14,672	5.64	75,973	2,338	0.03	0.16	5.18

Table 16. Expanded Summary Deer (Primitive Weapon) Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	850	18.71	2,769	No estimate	-	-	3.26
2	770	16.95	3,227	202	0.06	0.26	4.19
3	341	7.51	732	105	0.14	0.31	2.15
4	710	15.63	2,220	164	0.07	0.23	3.13
5	946	20.83	2,746	144	0.05	0.15	2.90
6	1,144	31.79	3,462	125	0.04	0.09	2.40
Statewide Total	4,542	1.75	14,382	713	0.05	0.16	3.17

Table 17. Expanded Summary Duck Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Percent Hunters Per Unit	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Average Days Afield
1	2,608	8.95	13,026	21,677	1.66	8.31	4.99
2	10,357	35.56	61,086	159,479	2.61	15.40	5.90
3	2,588	8.88	11,734	25,556	2.18	9.87	4.53
4	5,197	17.84	18,454	41,103	2.23	7.91	3.55
5	2,548	8.75	6,716	16,255	2.42	6.38	2.64
6	4,847	16.64	18,949	42,057	2.22	8.68	3.91
Statewide Total	29,128	11.20	127,721	296,803	2.32	10.19	4.38

Table 18. Expanded Summary Mallard Duck Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag
1	2,608	13,026	10,768	0.83	4.13
2	10,357	61,086	105,752	1.73	10.21
3	2,588	11,734	12,871	1.10	4.97
4	5,197	18,454	15,924	0.86	3.06
5	2,548	6,716	3,770	0.56	1.48
6	4,847	18,948	4,204	0.22	0.87
Statewide Total	29,128	127,721	149,606	1.17	5.14

Table 19. Expanded Summary Wood Duck Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag
1	2,608	13,026	4,884	0.37	1.87
2	10,357	61,086	31,701	0.52	3.06
3	2,588	11,734	8,402	0.72	3.25
4	5,197	18,454	16,494	0.89	3.17
5	2,548	6,716	8,158	1.21	3.20
6	4,847	18,949	17,685	0.93	3.65
Statewide Total	29,128	127,721	87,324	0.68	3.00

Table 20. Expanded Summary Other Duck Harvest By Planning Unit (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag
1	2,608	13,026	6,025	0.46	2.31
2	10,357	61,086	22,026	0.36	2.13
3	2,588	11,734	4,283	1.65	1.65
4	5,197	18,454	8,685	0.47	1.67
5	2,548	6,716	4,327	0.64	1.70
6	4,847	18,949	20,168	1.06	4.16
Statewide Total	29,128	127,721	65,514	1.03	2.25

Table 21. Hunting Pressure By Planning Unit  
All Species Inclusive (1973 - 74)

Unit	Total Hunters	Total Days Afield	Total Harvest
1	94,001 (15.33%)	614,849 (15.24%)	1,249,524 (15.69%)
2	79,824 (13.02%)	478,967 (11.87%)	987,183 (12.40%)
3	70,989 (11.58%)	456,683 (11.32%)	902,399 (11.33%)
4	139,580 (22.77%)	956,722 (23.71%)	1,910,209 (23.99%)
5	94,062 (15.34%)	567,697 (14.07%)	1,324,731 (16.64%)
6	134,572 (21.95%)	960,405 (23.80%)	1,588,875 (19.95%)

# Game and Fish Commission

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Dear Sportsman:

The Mississippi Game and Fish Commission needs your help. You have been selected as a representative hunter to furnish us information concerning the 1973 - 74 hunting season.

The purpose of this survey is to obtain a reasonable estimate of hunter effort and game harvest for the season just concluded. Information supplied by you and other selected hunters will assist us in managing our game resources for the greatest public benefit.

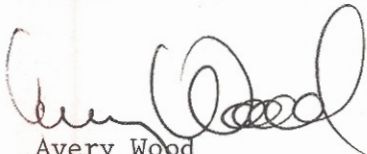
For accurate results, the information is needed from everyone receiving a questionnaire as only a limited number of hunters can be contacted. You can be of assistance to us even if you did not hunt, or were unsuccessful in your efforts.

Please fill in the enclosed questionnaire as accurately as possible and return it in the self-addressed envelope. No postage is required.

Our records are often difficult to read and we apologize if your name or address has been misspelled.

A prompt reply will be sincerely appreciated.

Yours for better conservation,

  
Avery Wood  
Director of Conservation

Enc.

# Game and Fish Commission

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

P. O. BOX 451 • PHONE 354-7333 • JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

### COMMISSIONERS

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CHAIRMAN  
JACKSON

JOHN H. VAUGHT  
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GULFPORT

JOE L. TENNYSON  
CHARLESTON

J. E. WOLFE  
CLEVELAND

Fellow Sportsman:

Recently we mailed you a Hunter Questionnaire and requested that you fill out and return the completed form. In case you have misplaced the original form, or haven't had an opportunity to complete it as yet, we are enclosing a duplicate and request that you take a few minutes to complete and return it in the enclosed addressed, postage-paid envelope. If you have already returned the original questionnaire, please disregard this letter.

The information supplied by you is for the purpose of managing our game resources for the greatest public benefit. Please fill in the appropriate blanks and return your response to assure a high percentage of returns which are necessary because the number of hunters we are contacting is relatively small.

Your prompt reply will be sincerely appreciated.

Yours for better conservation,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Avery Wood", written over a horizontal line.

Avery Wood  
Director of Conservation

Enclosures

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Dear Sportsman:

The State Game and Fish Commission is striving to provide quality hunting for Mississippi sportsmen. While not wanting to impose, we are depending on you to help us evaluate hunting activity and success for the 1973 - 74 hunting season.

Another copy of the questionnaire is enclosed which we hope you will complete and return as soon as possible in the enclosed addressed, postage-paid envelope. If you have already returned a questionnaire, please disregard this notice.

Remember, you can be of assistance even if you did not hunt or were not successful in your efforts. We need and will appreciate your cooperation.

Yours for better conservation

  
Avery Wood  
Director of Conservation

Enclosures

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI 1973-74 HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRE

## IDENTIFICATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill out this form completely. Report only game taken by you. DO NOT report the kill of anyone who might have been with you. If you hunted more than one kind of game on a particular day count it as a day for each type of game you hunted. Even if you did not hunt this season please answer question one and return the form.

1. Did you hunt during the 1973 - 74 hunting season in Mississippi? Yes ( ) No ( )

If you did hunt, please fill in the blanks below for each animal you hunted in Mississippi during the season.

2. Did you hunt deer? Yes ( ) No ( )

3. Did you hunt ducks? Yes ( ) No ( )

## SMALL GAME

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	SPECIES	TOTAL DAYS HUNTED	COUNTY WHICH YOU HUNTED MOST	TOTAL KILL
	DOVE			
	QUAIL			
	RABBIT			
	SQUIRREL			
	RACCOON			
	WOOD COCK			
	TURKEY			

## DEER

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	SEASON	TOTAL DAYS HUNTED	COUNTY WHICH YOU HUNTED MOST	TOTAL KILL
	GUN			
	ARCHERY			
	PRIMITIVE WEAPON			

## WATERFOWL

ON HOW MANY DAYS DID YOU HUNT DUCKS? \_\_\_\_\_

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	SPECIES	COUNTY WHICH YOU HUNTED MOST	TOTAL KILL
	MALLARD		
	WOOD DUCK		
	OTHER DUCKS		

