

***Resident Hunter Effort & Game Harvest Estimates
for the 2002-2003 Mississippi Hunting Season***

Prepared for the

**DIVISION of WILDLIFE
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS
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INTRODUCTION

The primary purpose of the Mississippi resident hunter survey is to establish annual statewide and district estimates of hunter effort and harvest for each game species. These estimates provide trend data which allows Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) Wildlife Division staff to monitor changes in harvest and effort through time. The secondary purpose is to measure hunters' participation patterns, attitudes towards hunting and wildlife, and opinions towards agency programs and wildlife management tools. When interpreting this data, it is important to consider current wildlife management programs, habitat changes and availability, land use practices, species abundance, and the social and economic climate of the state.

Since 1974, a self-administered mail survey has been used to obtain total harvest, average daily kill, average seasonal harvest, and total man-days hunted for each game species among others. The estimates obtained for each of these categories are precise because of the large sample size used, however, because mail surveys contain sampling, response and nonresponse biases the accuracy of the estimates are always of concern to researchers (Filion 1980). Nevertheless, similar methodologies used to conduct the mail survey over time help to hold constant these biases and the estimates derived from the survey should provide adequate estimates for monitoring trends in hunter harvest and effort.

The primary objective of the mail survey for the 2002-03 hunting season was to obtain a reliable set of statewide effort and harvest estimates for each game species in Mississippi. The secondary objective was to provide district estimates. The third objective was to monitor hunter attitudes and perceptions on specific issues. No effort was made to interpret the data presented here. The purpose of this publication is to compile existing information for future reference and 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 2002-2003 license year. A random sample of 5,000 license holders was selected to participate in this study from the 200,318 licenses processed from July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2002.

The survey process followed the Total Design Method (TDM) prescribed by Dillman (1978). This methodology pays particular attention to detail, persistence, and takes a personal approach to obtaining a response. This is accomplished, in part, by using personalized letters and envelopes processed with laser printers to simulate a first class mailing to differentiate it from “junk mail”. The TDM uses a series of four mail-outs to help increase response rate: 1) A introductory letter, questionnaire (APPENDIX A), and postage-paid business reply envelope (i.e., a complete packet) were sent; 2) Ten days after the second mailing a post card that was sent to all hunters in the survey. The purpose of the post card was to remind hunters about the survey and to thank those whom had already returned a completed questionnaire. A phone number was provided on the post card in case the recipient had not received or misplaced their questionnaire so they could request another be sent; 3) Twenty-one days after the postcard mailing, a second complete packet was sent to all hunters who had not yet responded, and 4) Twenty-eight days after the second complete packet was sent, a third complete mailing was sent to all hunters who had not yet responded. Actual correspondence can be found in APPENDIX B. All surveys were numbered using a bar coding system printed on clear adhesive labels. When surveys were returned to Mississippi State University, the bar codes were scanned into a computer file and assigned with a “returned” status; this prevented respondents from receiving another mailing.

Procedures for editing and data entry of returned questionnaires were similar to Steffen (1981). Data entry involved entering data from the surveys into the computer using a Microsoft

Access data entry screen that had been previously developed. First, non-numeric responses in the survey were numerically coded for preparation for data entry. After all responses were converted into a numeric framework, responses from the surveys were data entered. The responses to the last question of the survey, which was open-ended, were typed into an MS Access file so comments could be queried by agency staff.

Effort and harvest estimates and their standard errors for each species were calculated for 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 field per hunter and the average daily kill. These estimates were calculated both on a statewide and district basis. Calculations were based on statistical programs originally developed by Steffen (1981) for mainframe computing, modified as necessary for desktop computing using SAS software.

RESULTS

A total of 5,000 questionnaires were mailed to resident hunters. There were a total of 1,676 useable questionnaires returned by hunters. Useable questionnaires included those who indicated they hunted at least one species one or more days during the 2002-03 season (n=1,543), and those who indicated they “DID NOT HUNT” on their returned survey (n=133). Thus, since harvest estimates are extrapolated to all hunter license holders, those who indicated they did not hunt were included in the database as hunting zero days and harvesting zero animals for each species. Questionnaires were checked for the completeness of responses where it was found that 16 individuals indicated their refusal to participate, and one individual was reported as being deceased. An additional 236 hunters returned surveys after analysis had been completed and were considered non-eligible. When non-deliverable (n=684) were excluded from consideration, an effective response rate of 41.2% was obtained.

Statewide expansions were calculated based on the 189,013 total hunting licenses sold and accounted for by June 30, 2003. There were 189,013 individuals licensed to hunt small game

(Type 103) and 183,792 (Types 100 & 101) of these license holders also were eligible to pursue big game (deer and turkey) during the 2002-2003 hunting season.

The expanded statewide summaries of the total harvest, average daily kill, average seasonal harvest, percent of successful hunters, total man-days, average days hunted in the season, total number of hunters and 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 error 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 9-13. Tables 14-17 summarize fox (red and gray), bobcat and coyote hunting. Statewide and district summaries of deer (buck and doe data from archery, primitive weapon and gun seasons) and turkey hunting are provided in Tables 18-26. Table 27 summarizes district and statewide estimates for feral hog. Tables 28-70 summarize hunter responses to demographic, participation, attitude, and opinion questions contained in the questionnaire.

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TABLE 1. EXPANDED STATEWIDE COVERAGE OF THE 2002-03 MISSISSIPPI RESIDENT MAIL SURVEY OF GAME HARVEST BASED ON 189,013 SMALL GAME LICENSE HOLDERS AND 183,792 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 LICENCES (A)
DOVE	1,552,022	5.93	22.69	92.8	246,994	3.69	68,349	36.2
QUAIL	64,142	2.48	11.06	76.4	25,376	4.46	5,800	3.1
WOODCOCK	6,824	1.11	5.45	72.7	6,141	4.91	1,251	0.6
RABBIT	313,884	1.17	7.80	85.9	243,066	6.46	40,259	21.3
SQUIRREL	810,754	2.25	12.36	91.2	340,293	5.43	65,620	34.7
RACCOON	80,518	0.60	7.99	87.8	112,589	13.38	8,416	4.5
TOTAL DUCK	483,109	2.05	23.02	83.9	214,943	11.25	19,106	10.1
MALLARD	231,547	0.98	10.98	70.8				
WOOD DUCK	98,146	0.39	4.40	59.5				
OTHER DUCKS	153,417	0.68	7.64	58.3				
GEESE	33,436	1.13	10.65	91.3	24,565	9.39	2,616	1.4
RED FOX	1,024	0.08	1.13	62.5	11,038	13.86	910	0.5
GRAY FOX	2,843	0.20	2.27	72.7	12,411	12.11	1,251	0.7
BOBCAT	8,643	0.40	1.60	91.5	16,496	4.11	5,345	2.8
COYOTE	21,835	0.28	2.05	89.0	54,793	6.70	10,349	5.5
TOTAL DEER	296,783	0.08	2.12	75.8	3,181,957	24.08	140,256	76.3
BUCK	146,764	0.04	1.05	59.9				
DOE	150,018	0.04	1.07	54.2				
ARCHERY DEER	44,658	0.06	0.91	52.7	584,475	13.30	49,146	26.7
BUCK	12,118	0.01	0.25	20.5				
DOE	32,539	0.04	0.66	42.9				
PRIMITIVE DEER	45,555	0.08	0.75	53.3	432,906	7.80	60,815	33.1
BUCK	18,065	0.03	0.30	26.6				
DOE	27,490	0.05	0.45	35.4				
GUN DEER	206,570	0.08	1.54	72.2	2,103,601	16.75	133,861	72.8
BUCK	116,581	0.04	0.87	56.8				
DOE	89,989	0.03	0.67	42.8				
TOTAL TURKEY	38,486	0.08	0.95	54.6	353,936	9.81	40,506	22.0
SPRING 2003	36,915	0.09	0.95	54.5	333,873	9.61	38,935	21.2
FALL 2002	1,571	0.07	0.48	34.5	18,885	6.46	3,254	1.8
HOG	27,181	0.39	3.23	79.7	61,630	8.68	8,416	4.5

(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 VARIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES) FOR ALL GAME SPECIES IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 HUNTING SEASON.

SPECIES	TOTAL HARVEST	STANDARD ERROR		95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
		SE	AS % OF TOTAL (A)	LOWER LIMIT	UPPER LIMIT
DOVE	1,552,022	86,017.27	5.542271	1,379,987.37	1,724,056.45
QUAIL	64,142	13,754.49	21.44381	36,632.63	91,650.57
WOODCOCK	6,824	3,520.76	51.59379	-217.95	13,865.09
RABBIT	313,884	34,026.10	10.84034	245,832.21	381,936.60
SQUIRREL	810,754	45,280.92	5.585038	720,192.47	901,316.16
RACCOON	80,518	17,124.78	21.26826	46,268.60	114,767.74
TOTAL DUCKS	483,109	57,639.22	11.93089	367,830.61	598,387.47
MALLARD	231,547	32,713.96	14.12843	166,118.68	296,974.54
WOOD DUCK	98,146	12,405.05	12.63938	73,335.65	122,955.83
OTHER DUCKS	153,417	21,943.70	14.30330	109,529.29	197,304.09
GEESE	33,436	11,690.23	34.96300	10,055.05	56,815.98
RED FOX	1,024	545.00	53.22266	-66.46	2,113.53
GRAY FOX	2,843	1,864.51	65.58248	-885.86	6,572.17
BOBCAT	8,643	1,502.86	17.38818	5,637.47	11,648.92
COYOTE	21,835	3,476.34	15.92095	14,882.75	28,788.13
TOTAL DEER	296,783	8,768.99	2.954680	279,244.57	314,320.55
BUCK	146,764	4,858.19	3.310205	37,047.94	156,480.68
DOE	150,018	5,546.13	3.696976	138,925.99	161,110.53
ARCHERY DEER	44,658	3,347.10	7.494962	37,963.45	51,351.83
BUCK	12,118	1,423.62	11.74798	9,270.91	14,965.40
DOE	32,539	2,619.43	8.050124	27,300.63	37,778.35
PRIMITIVE DEER	45,555	2,784.28	6.111909	39,986.73	51,123.84
BUCK	18,065	1,502.40	8.316634	15,060.23	21,069.82
DOE	27,490	2,046.19	7.443398	23,397.87	31,582.64
GUN DEER	206,570	6,600.06	3.195072	193,369.52	219,769.76
BUCK	116,581	4,087.04	3.505751	108,407.04	124,755.21
DOE	89,989	3,932.10	4.369534	82,124.31	97,852.72
TOTAL TURKEY	38,486	2,877.31	7.476251	32,731.75	44,240.97
SPRING 2003	36,915	2,819.24	7.637112	31,277.01	42,553.97
FALL 2002	1,571	592.64	37.72374	385.58	2,756.16
HOG	27,181	8,211.77	30.21143	10,757.04	43,604.10

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

TABLE 3. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF DOVE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	301,160 43,022.92 1,650	4.98 0.82 133	18.91 2.23 139	90.7 0.02 139	52,042 8,619.93 1,638	3.39 0.48 133	15,922.91 1,292.82 589	23.6 0.02 589
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	242,051 33,828.34 1,650	6.08 0.63 92	22.72 2.21 93	91.4 0.03 93	39,925 6,108.86 1,638	3.76 0.43 92	10,653 1,073.45 589	15.8 0.02 589
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	387,877 49,622.79 1,650	7.02 0.61 114	4.23 0.46 114	97.4 0.02 114	55,619 7,884.80 1,638	3.73 0.27 196	13,059 1,180.44 589	19.4 0.02 589
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	254,995 31,091.80 1,650	6.46 0.45 114	19.29 1.61 115	93.0 0.02 115	39,464 4,542.33 1,638	3 0.21 114	13,173 1,185.22 589	19.5 0.02 589
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	143,764 25,798.46 1,650	5.18 0.64 60	20.24 2.63 62	91.94 0.04 62	25,155.58 4,857.56 1,638	3.63 0.53 60	7,102 885.15 589	10.5 0.01 589
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	204,363 39,016.71 1,650	5.30 0.53 64	27.03 4.03 66	90.9 0.04 66	33,810 5,536.43 1,638	4.58 0.05 64	7,560 912.11 589	11.2 0.01 589
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1552,022 86,017.27 1,662	5.92 0.28 582	22.69 1.02 601	92.9 0.01 601	246,993 14,746.58 1,643	3.69 0.18 582	68,349 2,228.29 1,662	36.2 0.01 1,662

TABLE 4. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF QUAIL HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	15,722 7,438.88 1,659	2.42 0.96 15	18.91 2.23 15	90.6 0.13 15	6,494 2,147.41 1,659	3.80 0.82 15	1,708 439.39 48	31.25 0.07 48
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	11,279 4,942.89 1,659	1.87 0.34 11	9.00 3.01 11	81.8 0.12 11	6,038.39 2,895.07 1,659	4.81 1.89 11	1,253 376.73 48	22.9 0.06 48
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,924 3,105.18 1,659	8.67 2.70 6	2.33 0.56 6	66.7 0.21 6	1,595 737.55 1,659	2.33 0.56 6	683 278.65 48	12.5 0.05 48
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	14,925 7,083.03 1,659	2.08 1.33 9	14.56 5.23 9	77.8 0.15 9	7,177 3,572.45 1,659	7 2.75 9	1,025 340.97 48	18.7 0.60 48
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,936 1,480.80 1,659	4.25 3.88 2	8.50 3.50 2	100.0 0.00 2	455 360.22 1,659	2.0 1.0 2	227 161.08 48	4.17 0.03 48
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	9,684 6,091.22 1,659	3.15 0.47 5	17.00 8.40 5	100.0 0.00 5	3,076.16 1,860.69 1,659	5.40 2.46 5	569 254.45 48	10.42 0.04 48
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	64,141 13,754.49 1,662	2.48 0.50 50	11.05 1.83 51	76.4 0.06 51	25,376 5,453.18 1,661	4.46 0.73 50	5,800 799.85 1,662	3.07 <0.01 1,662

TABLE 5. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF WOODCOCK HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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)	455 359.79	0.80 0.79	1.33 0.89	66.7 0.33	568 377.27	1.67 0.67	341 196.98	30.0 0.15
	N	1,661	3	3	3	1,661	3	10	10
2	ESTIMATE (SE)	0 0.00	- -	- -	- -	0 0.00	- -	0 0.00	0.0 0.00
	N	1,661	-	-	-	1,661	-	10	10
3	ESTIMATE (SE)	0 0.00	- -	- -	- -	0 0.00	- -	0 0.00	0.0 0.00
	N	1,661	-	-	-	1,661	-	10	10
4	ESTIMATE (SE)	0 0.00	0.0 -	0.00 -	0.0 -	455 455.18	4.0 -	114 113.79	10.0 0.10
	N	1,661	1	1	1	1,661	1	10	10.0
5	ESTIMATE (SE)	2,503 2,287.11	1.0 0.0	11.0 9.0	1.0 0.0	2,503 2,287.11	11 9.0	228 160.88	20.0 0.13
	N	1,661	2	2	2	1,661	2	10	10
6	ESTIMATE (SE)	1,365 895.66	0.6 0.27	3.0 1.47	75.80 0.25	2,389 1,675.78	5.25 2.98	455 227.38	40.0 0.16
	N	1,661	4	4	4	1,661	4	10	10
<hr/>									
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	6,823	1.11	5.45	72.7	6,141	4.90	1,251	0.6
	(SE)	3,520.76	0.45	2.39	0.14	2,900.88	1.87	376.05	<0.01
	N	1,662	12	11	11	1,662	11	1,662	1,662

TABLE 6. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF RABBIT HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	61,968 12,572.68 1,641	0.94 0.14 55	8.00 1.33 67	82.1 0.04 67	46,582 11,702 1,619	7.25 1.56 55	7,718 923.64 333	20.1 0.02 333
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	39,162 9,395.32 1,641	1.32 0.19 49	6.93 1.36 49	83.7 0.05 49	5,776 10,343.46 1,610	5.26 1.05 49	5,644 794.38 333	14.72 0.02 333
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	31,214 8,322.96 1,641	2.07 0.51 27	9.67 1.87 28	85.7 0.06 28	14,243 4,149.99 1,619	4.52 1.01 27	3,225 604.45 333	8.4 0.02 333
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	92,836 23,650.07 1,641	1.21 0.22 90	8.48 1.99 95	89.5 0.03 95	73,200 13,714.99 1,619	6.97 1.09 90	10,942 1,090 333	28.5 0.02 333
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	33,402 10,465.55 1,641	1.51 0.37 39	6.91 1.91 42	88.1 0.05 42	21,248 4,803 1,619	4.67 0.76 39	4838 737.07 333	12.6 0.02 333
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	50,219 15,711 1,641	0.92 0.21 51	8.38 2.38 52	80.7 0.05 52	51,719 13,904.41 1,619	8.68 2.02 51	5,989 817.6 333	15.6 0.02 333
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	313,884 34,026 1,662	1.17 0.10 325	7.77 0.76 354	85.8 0.02 354	243,066 24,242.7 1,633	6.46 0.56 325	40,259 1,898.81 1,662	21.3 0.01 1,662

TABLE 7. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF SQUIRREL HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	131,985 19,075.12 1,634	2.32 0.31 98	10.87 1.19 105	92.4 0.03 105	51,890 7,873 1,610	4.51 0.53 98	12,146 1,146.95 549	19.1 0.02 549
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	117,294 20,551.15 1,634	1.99 0.22 71	134 1.84 74	87.8 0.04 74	57,760 10,343.46 1,610	6.93 0.95 71	8560 972.51 549	13.5 0.01 549
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	89,070 15,388.68 1,634	3.09 0.33 59	12.62 1.51 61	88.5 0.04 61	28,528 4,876.52 1,610	4.12 0.47 59	7,056 886.73 549	11.1 0.01 549
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	178,140 22,334 1,634	2.39 0.23 123	12.13 1.11 127	94.5 0.02 127	73,962 9,809.57 1,610	5.12 0.52 123	14,691 1,252.29 549	23.1 0.02 549
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	99,481 14,018 1,634	2.04 0.28 82	10.24 0.95 84	89.3 0.03 84	48,016 8,380.92 1,610	4.98 0.69 82	9,717 1,032.89 549	15.3 0.02 549
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	164,374 23,745.53 1,634	2.29 0.27 92	14.5 1.55 98	90.8 0.03 98	66,918 9,534.89 1,610	6.19 0.62 92	7,455 566.15 1,057	17.8 0.02 549
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	810,754 45,280.92 1,662	2.25 0.11 538	12.35 0.55 577	91.1 0.01 577	340,293 20,693.29 1,623	5.42 0.26 538	65,620 2,207.9 1,662	34.7 0.01 1,662

TABLE 8. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF RACCOON HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	11,165 4,128.36 1,659	0.33 0.08 17	2.71 0.69 17	70.6 0.11 17	15,837 5,512 1,659	8.18 2.11 17	1,937 467.48 71	23.9 0.05 71
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	16,748 11,573 1,659	1.75 1.35 10	14.72 9.52 10	100 0.00 10	9,570 4,339.33 1,659	8.40 2.88 10	1,139 359.31 71	14.1 0.04 71
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,393 902.67 1,659	1.36 0.15 7	2.71 0.42 7	100 0.00 7	1,595 643.5 1,659	2.00 0.31 7	798 300.89 71	9.86 0.04 71
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	18,457 6,757.9 1,659	0.40 0.15 18	8.44 2.67 18	94.4 0.05 18	42,269 18,698.12 1,659	20.61 7.95 18	2,051 480.89 71	25.4 0.05 71
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	16,178 8,365.34 1,659	0.86 0.31 9	15.78 6.62 9	100 0.00 9	18,798 11,917.28 1,659	18.33 10.49 9	1,025 340.97 71	12.7 0.04 71
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	10,595.7 4,171.52 1,659	0.39 0.21 10	7.80 2.38 10	80.0 0.13 10	23,014 12,828.88 1,659	20.2 9.78 10	113,932 359.31 71	14.1 0.04 71
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	80,518 17,124.78 1,662	0.59 0.14 75	7.98 1.71 74	87.8 0.038 74	112,589 28,679.06 1,662	13.37 2.76 74	8,415 956.57 1,662	4.45 <0.01 1,662

TABLE 9. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF ALL DUCK HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	57,903 25,878.14 1,655	2.04 0.55 20	23.95 10.16 20	65.0 0.11 20	26,839 8,051.92 1,655	12.00 2.43 20	2,284 507.81 161	12.4 0.03 161
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	127,798 30,213.96 1,655	2.10 0.29 39	12.69 1.83 39	82.1 0.06 39	56,533 12,020.36 1,655	9.59 0.63 217	4,454 704.98 161	24.2 0.03 161
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	223,504 40,381.66 1,655	2.34 0.23 66	28.09 4.03 66	93.9 0.03 241	90,224 14,425.66 1,655	11.97 1.26 66	7,538 909.41 161	40.9 0.04 161
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	19,758 6,891.46 1,655	1.13 0.11 17	10.06 2.66 17	70.6 0.11 17	17,245 5,586.44 1,655	8.88 1.98 17	1,941 468.61 161	10.6 0.02 161
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	21,014 8,565.50 1,655	1.33 0.27 12	12.67 4.51 12	83.3 0.11 12	13,019 4,626.65 1,655	9.50 2.07 12	1,370 394.31 161	7.5 0.02 161
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,883 1,744.95 1,655	0.69 0.13 7	3.29 0.94 7	85.7 0.14 7	3,769 1,672.55 1,655	4.71 1.19 7	799 301.62 161	4.3 0.02 161
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	483,109 57,639.22 1,662	2.04 0.14 168	23.01 2.43 168	83.9 0.03 168	214,942 21,486.80 1,662	11.25 0.76 168	19,106 1,398 1,662	10.1 < 0.01 1,662

TABLE 10. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF MALLARD HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	MALLARDS			PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS
		TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	
1	ESTIMATE	30,607	1.05	12.40	55.0
	(SE)	18,111.77	0.50	7.55	0.11
2	N	1,655	20	20	20
	ESTIMATE	69,438	1.13	14.32	79.5
3	(SE)	16,818.25	0.18	2.99	0.07
	N	1,655	39	39	39
4	ESTIMATE	106,555	1.09	13.15	84.8
	(SE)	20,834.96	0.13	2.15	0.04
5	N	1,655	66	66	66
	ESTIMATE	2,855	0.15	1.35	53.1
6	(SE)	1,000.01	0.04	0.39	0.09
	N	1,655	17	17	32
7	ESTIMATE	21,014	0.44	4.25	41.7
	(SE)	8,565	0.21	2.64	0.15
8	N	1,655	12	12	12
	ESTIMATE	1,142	0.06	0.29	14.3
9	(SE)	941.64	0.05	0.29	0.14
	N	1,655	7	7	7
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	231,546	0.98	10.97	70.8
	(SE)	32,713.96	0.10	1.47	0.03
	N	1,662	168	168	168

TABLE 11. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF WOOD DUCK HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 HUNTING SEASON.

WOOD DUCKS

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS
1	ESTIMATE (SE) N	17,245 6,285.61 1,655	0.61 0.14 20	7.15 2.27 20	55.0 0.11 20
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	12,677 3,399.64 1,655	0.19 0.05 39	2.46 0.61 39	48.8 0.08 39
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	36,660 7,710.04 1,655	0.36 0.07 66	4.38 0.81 66	59.0 0.06 66
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	12,905 4,899.47 1,655	0.75 0.10 17	6.65 2.00 17	70.6 0.11 17
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,624 2,574.80 1,655	0.48 0.10 12	4.58 1.37 12	75.0 0.13 12
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,512 1,057.63 1,655	0.63 0.12 7	3.00 0.72 7	85.7 0.14 7
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	98,146 12,405.05 1,662	0.39 0.04 168	4.39 0.50 168	59.5 0.03 168

TABLE 12. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF OTHER DUCK HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 HUNTING SEASON.

OTHER DUCKS					
DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS
1	ESTIMATE	10,050	0.37	4.41	45.0
	(SE)	4,653.61	0.09	1.83	0.11
	N	1,655	20	20	20
	ESTIMATE	45,682.9	0.77	9.89	66.7
2	(SE)	13,003.16	0.15	2.48	0.07
	N	1,655	39	39	39
3	ESTIMATE	80,287	0.88	10.56	71.2
	(SE)	16,603.38	0.11	1.81	0.05
	N	1,655	66	66	66
	ESTIMATE	3,997	0.23	2.06	35.3
4	(SE)	1,898.42	0.08	0.87	0.12
	N	1,655	17	17	17
5	ESTIMATE	8,565	0.40	3.83	50.0
	(SE)	4,426.93	0.17	1.92	0.15
	N	1,655	12	12	12
	ESTIMATE	228	0.00	0.00	0.0
6	(SE)	228.41	0.00	0.00	0.00
	N	1,655	7	7	7
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	153,416	0.67	7.64	58.3
	(SE)	21,943.70	0.06	0.98	0.03
	N	1,662	168	168	168

TABLE 13. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF GOOSE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	9,672	1.60	40.0	100.0	5,689	25.0	227	9.09
	(SE)	6,657.44	0.56	10.0	0.00	4,691.21	15.0	160.88	0.06
	N	1661	2	2	2	1,661	2	22	22
2	ESTIMATE	10,013.93	0.98	8.5	90.0	9,786	8.6	1138	45.45
	(SE)	7,461.95	0.44	6.30	0.10	5,745.32	4.48	358.87	0.10
	N	1,661	10	10	10	1,661	10	22	22
3	ESTIMATE	12,972	1.27	7.90	90.0	7,055	6.20	1,138	45.45
	(SE)	6,066.32	1.04	3.33	0.10	4,642.89	3.77	358.87	0.11
	N	1,661	10	10	10	1,661	10	22	22
4	ESTIMATE	0	-	-	-	0	-	0	0.0
	(SE)	0.00	-	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
	N	1,661	-	-	-	1,661	-	22	22
5	ESTIMATE	0	-	-	-	0	-	0	0.0
	(SE)	0.00	-	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
	N	1,661	-	-	-	1,661	-	22	22
6	ESTIMATE	0	-	-	-	0	-	0.0	0.0
	(SE)	0.00	-	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
	N	1,661	-	-	-	1,661	-	22	22
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	33,435	1.13	10.65	91.3	24,565	9.39	2,839	1.4
	(SE)	11,690.23	0.34	3.64	0.06	8,967.56	2.88	587.81	<0.01
	N	1,662	23	23	23	1,662	23	1,531	1,662

“-” refers to missing data

“0.0” refers to null data

TABLE 14. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF RED FOX HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	341 254.24 1,662	0.60 0.36 3	1.00 0.57 3	66.7 0.33 3	569 341.20 1,661	1.67 0.33 3	341 196.86 8	37.5 0.18 8
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	0 0.00 1,662	0.00 0.00 2	0.00 0.00 2	0.0 0.00 2	8,876 8,541.22 1,661	39.00 36.00 2	227 160.78 9	25.0 0.16 8
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	0 0.00 1,662	- - -	- - -	- - -	0 0.00 1,661	- - -	0 0.00 8	0.0 0.00 8
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	682 482.36 1,662	0.35 0.06 2	2.00 1.00 3	100.0 0.00 3	1,593 1,225.35 1,661	7.00 3.00 2	341 196.86 8	37.5 0.18 8
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	0 0.00 1,662	- - -	- - -	- - -	0 0.00 1,661	- - -	0 0.00 8	0.0 0.00 8
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	0 0.00 1,662	- - -	- - -	- - -	0 0.00 1,661	- - -	0 0.00 8	0.0 0.00 8
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,023 545 1,662	0.08 0.08 8	1.12 0.47 8	62.5 0.18 8	11,038 8,634.01 1,661	13.85 10.25 7	909 320.99 1,662	4.0 < 0.01 1,662

“-” refers to missing data
“0.0” refers to null data

TABLE 15. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF GRAY FOX HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	227	0.13	0.67	66.7	1708	5.00	341	27.27
	(SE)	160.78	0.08	0.33	0.33	1,389.66	3.51	196.86	0.14
	N	1,662	3	3	3	1,660	3	11	11
2	ESTIMATE	341	0.01	0.75	50.0	8,995	26	455	36.36
	(SE)	254.24	0.02	0.47	0.28	8,547.05	24.34	227.25	0.15
	N	1,662	3	4	4	4,548	3	11	11
3	ESTIMATE	0	-	-	-	0	-	0	0.0
	(SE)	0.00	-	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
	N	1,662	-	-	-	1660	-	11	11
4	ESTIMATE	2,161	1.28	6.33	100.0	1594	7.0	341	27.27
	(SE)	1,837.09	0.44	4.84	0.00	1,226.09	3.0	196.86	0.14
	N	1,662	2	3	3	1,660	2	11	11
5	ESTIMATE	0	-	-	-	0	-	0	0.0
	(SE)	0.00	-	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
	N	1,662	-	-	-	1,660	-	11	11
6	ESTIMATE	114	1.00	1.00	100.0	114	1.0	114	9.09
	(SE)	113.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	113.86	0.00	113.73	9.09
	N	1,662	1	1	1	1660	1	11	11
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	2,843	0.20	2.27	72.7	12,411	12.11	1251	0.66
	(SE)	1,864.51	0.20	1.38	0.14	8,744.07	7.97	376.05	< 0.01
	N	1,662	9	11	11	1,660	9	1,662	1,662

“- “refers to missing data

“0.0“ refers to null data

TABLE 16. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF BOBCAT IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	2,508 851.13 1,658	0.53 0.18 11	1.83 0.34 12	91.7 0.08 12	4,582 2,065.86 1,650	3.63 1.28 11	1,368 393.60 43	27.91 0.06 43
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,026 469.50 1,658	0.67 0.31 7	1.13 0.35 8	75 0.16 8	1,375 560.34 4,530	1.71 0.28 7	912 321.76 43	18.61 0.06 43
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	456 279.10 1,658	0.15 0.09 3	1.33 0.33 3	100.0 0.00 3	3093 2,868.27 1,650	9.0 8.0 3	342 197.34 43	6.97 0.04 43
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,482 633.88 1,658	0.75 0.21 4	1.86 0.40 7	100.0 0.00 7	916 511.96 1,650	2.0 0.57 4	798 301.07 43	16.28 0.06 43
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	456 227.79 1,658	1.00 0.00 2	100.0 0.00 3	100.0 0.00 3	229 161.95 1,650	100.0 0.0 2	342 197.34 43	6.97 0.04 43
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,280 881.53 1,658	0.31 0.17 8	2.0 0.47 10	90.0 0.10 10	6300 3,034.24 1,650	6.88 2.41 8	220 98.51 57	23.26 0.06 43
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	8,643 1,502.86 1,662	0.40 0.10 35	1.59 0.16 47	91.4 0.04 47	16,495 4,709.88 1,650	4.11 0.96 35	5,345 768.80 1,662	2.82 < 0.01 1,662

TABLE 17. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF COYOTE HUNTING DURING THE 2002-03 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	5,828 1,487.92 1,654	0.33 0.09 16	2.27 0.35 22	95.5 0.05 22	14,052 5,117.66 1,641	7.63 2.09 16	2,514.08 532.59 83	26.51 0.05 83
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	4,228 1,913.38 1,654	0.15 0.08 15	2.17 0.86 17	76.5 0.11 17	15,434 9,281.25 1,641	1.71 0.29 7	1,942 468.89 83	20.5 0.04 83
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,057 773.64 1,654	0.64 0.15 10	1.8 0.38 10	90.0 0.10 10	3,225 1,290.85 1,641	9.0 8.0 3	1,142 360.39 83	12.05 0.04 83
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,628 710.94 1,654	0.46 0.17 14	1.38 0.18 16	93.8 0.06 16	4,722 2,257.71 1,641	2.93 1.21 14	1,828 455.03 83	19.27 0.04 83
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,600 603.59 1,654	0.26 0.22 8	1.22 0.27 9	88.9 0.11 9	3,916 2,908.61 1,641	4.25 2.97 8	1,028 342 83	10.84 0.03 83
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,314 2,040.03 1,654	0.19 0.15 7	3.22 1.77 9	77.8 0.14 9	13,361 7,013.85 1,641	16 6.53 7	1,028 342 83	10.84 0.03 83
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	21,835 3,476.34 1,662	0.27 0.06 71	2.05 0.26 91	89.0 0.03 91	54,793 13,233.34 1,642	6.70 1.43 71	10,349 1,055.08 1,662	5.5 < 0.01 1,662

TABLE 18. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF ARCHERY DEER HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	7,648 1,607.68 1,610	0.05 0.01 62	0.89 0.16 75	46.7 0.06 75	95,356 19,160.97 1,567	13.11 2.08 62	8,561 965.62 410	18.3 0.02 410
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,735 1,439.17 1,610	0.05 0.01 62	0.91 0.16 65	47.7 0.06 65	110,720 18,426.36 1,567	15.22 1.69 62	7,420 901.87 410	15.8 0.02 410
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,278 1,356.54 1,610	0.07 0.01 39	1.25 0.19 44	65.9 0.07 44	75,534 16,566.46 1,567	16.51 2.54 39	5,023 747.04 410	10.7 0.02 410
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	10,159 1,532.39 1,610	0.06 0.01 93	0.85 0.10 104	54.8 0.05 104	135,469 19,052.35 1,567	12.42 1.22 93	11,872 1,126.29 410	25.36 0.02 410
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,849 1,320.70 1,610	0.06 0.01 69	0.81 0.13 74	50.0 0.05 74	98,640 14,635 1,567	12.18 1.10 69	8,448 959.48 410	18.0 0.02 410
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,881 1,042 1,610	0.04 0.01 42	0.70 0.16 48	43.75 0.07 48	53,718 10,511.13 1,567	10.90 1.73 42	5479 779.26 410	0.11 0.01 410
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	44,657 3,347.10 1,638	0.06 < 0.01 377	0.91 0.05 438	52.7 0.02 438	584,474 39,089.49 1,577	13.30 0.65 377	49,146 2,010.56 1,638	26.7 0.01 1,638

TABLE 19. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF ARCHERY BUCK AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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 (SE) N	2,168 633.49 1,610	0.08 < 0.01 62	0.25 0.06 75	20.0 0.05 75	5,479 1,145.16 1,610	0.03 0.01 62	0.64 0.11 75	40.0 0.05 75		
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,027 3,77.86 1,610	0.08 < 0.01 62	0.13 0.05 65	12.3 0.04 65	5,707 1,294.19 1,610	0.05 0.01 62	0.77 0.14 65	41.5 0.06 65		
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,369 425.90 1,610	0.02 < 0.01 39	0.27 0.07 44	25.0 0.06 44	4,908 1,163.70 1,610	0.05 0.01 39	0.97 0.18 44	54.5 0.07 44		
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,968 621.06 1,610	0.02 < 0.01 93	0.25 0.04 104	23.1 0.04 104	7,191 1,144.97 1,610	0.04 0.01 93	0.60 0.07 104	45.2 0.05 104		
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,484 440.71 1,610	0.01 < 0.01 69	0.17 0.05 74	16.26 0.04 74	5,365 1,068.95 1,610	0.05 < 0.01 69	0.63 0.10 74	43.2 0.05 74		
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	1,598 773.46 1,610	0.01 < 0.01 42	0.29 0.13 48	16.67 0.05 48	2,283 622.86 1,610	0.03 < 0.01 42	0.42 0.09 48	33.3 0.06 48		
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	12,118 1,423.62 1,638	0.01 < 0.01 377	0.24 0.03 438	20.5 0.01 438	32,539 2,619.43 1,638	0.04 < 0.01 377	0.66 0.04 438	42.9 0.02 438		

TABLE 20. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF PRIMATIVE WEAPON DEER HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	8,422 1,421.27 1,593	0.07 0.01 75	0.86 0.11 84	58.3 0.05 84	93,618 18,429.85 1,547	10.51 1.71 75	9,691 1,029.49 497	16.90 0.02 497
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,691 1,106.31 1,593	0.08 0.01 77	0.68 0.08 85	52.9 0.05 85	64,392 10,345.63 1,547	7.03 0.82 77	9,806 1,035.26 497	17.10 0.02 497
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,768 1,060.47 1,593	0.12 0.02 59	0.76 0.10 66	51.5 0.06 66	38,374 5,853.06 1,547	5.47 0.46 59	7,614 917.97 497	13.28 0.01 497
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	8,768 1,255.67 1,593	0.07 0.01 108	0.65 0.07 116	49.1 0.05 116	108,469 17,651.48 1,547	8.45 1.13 108	13,383 1,196.90 497	23.34 0.02 497
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	7,268 1,213.24 1,593	0.09 0.01 77	0.74 0.09 85	50.6 0.05 85	60,828 7,851.39 1,547	6.65 0.43 77	9,806 1,035.26 497	17.10 0.01 497
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,191 990.98 1,593	0.08 0.01 55	0.73 0.10 61	54.1 0.04 61	56,432 9,314.78 1,547	8.63 0.85 55	7,037 883.96 497	12.27 0.01 497
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	45,555 2,784.28 1,638	0.08 < 0.01 474	0.74 0.03 542	53.2 0.02 542	432,906 28,978.89 1,570	7.80 0.42 474	60,815 2,137.44 1,638	33.08 0.01 1,638

TABLE 21. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT OF PRIMITIVE WEAPON BUCK AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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 (SE) N	3,461 687.01 1,593	0.03 < 0.01 75	0.36 0.06 84	32.1 0.05 84	4,961 1,018.23 1,593	0.04 < 0.01 75	0.51 0.09 84	35.71 0.05 84
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,076 4,86.87 1,593	0.03 < 0.01 77	0.21 0.04 85	21.1 0.04 85	4,614 840.17 1,593	0.06 0.01 77	0.47 0.07 85	40.0 0.05 85
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,230 668.07 1,593	0.07 0.01 59	0.42 0.07 66	37.8 0.06 66	2,538 649.76 1,593	0.05 0.01 59	0.33 0.07 66	25.7 0.05 66
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,653 573.21 1,593	0.02 < 0.01 108	0.19 0.04 116	18.9 0.04 116	6,114 974.09 1,593	0.05 < 0.01 108	0.46 0.06 116	37.1 0.04 116
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,192 574.43 1,593	0.03 < 0.01 77	0.22 0.05 85	18.8 0.04 85	5,076 957.18 1,593	0.06 0.01 77	0.52 0.08 85	38.8 0.05 85
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,422 596.61 1,593	0.04 < 0.01 55	0.34 0.07 61	29.5 0.05 61	2,768 628.31 1,593	0.04 0.01 55	0.39 0.07 61	34.4 0.06 61
STATEWIDE		ESTIMATE (SE) N	18,065 1502.40 1,638	0.08 < 0.01 474	0.75 0.03 542	53.3 0.02 542	0.05 < 0.01 474	0.45 0.03 542	35.42 0.02 542

TABLE 22. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF REGULAR GUN DEER HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	36,978 3,383.27 1,506	0.08 < 0.01 163	1.53 0.09 198	72.7 0.03 198	351,884 35,811.14 1,358	15.95 1.13 163	24,163 1,600.92 1,061	18.6 0.01 1,061
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	34,171 3,714.82 1,506	0.08 < 0.01 149	1.62 0.13 172	68.0 0.03 172	371,102 37,180.17 1,358	18.4 1.17 149	20,990 1,506.87 1,061	16.2 0.01 1,061
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	22,577 2,773.87 1,506	0.09 0.01 110	1.44 0.13 128	72.6 0.04 128	227,912 24,984.42 1,358	15.3 0.93 110	15,621 1,321.18 1,061	12.1 0.01 1,061
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	47,595 3,839.24 1,506	0.07 < 0.01 228	1.49 0.08 261	72.7 0.03 261	542,037 42,335.22 1,358	17.56 0.87 228	31,852 1,793.24 1,061	24.6 0.01 1,061
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	31,852 3,284 1,506	0.08 < 0.01 160	1.48 0.11 176	69.3 0.03 176	363,117 32,348.93 1,358	16.76 0.83 160	21,479 1,522 1,061	16.6 0.01 1,061
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	19,038 2,302.89 1,506	0.06 < 0.01 103	16.76 1.26 103	65.8 0.04 126	233,732 28,267.92 1,358	14.78 0.88 144	15,377 1,311.77 1,061	11.87 < 0.01 1,061
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	206,569 6,606.06 1,638	0.07 < 0.01 960	1.54 0.04 1,193	72.1 0.01 1,193	2,103,600 64,060.86 1,405	16.75 0.41 960	133,860 2,020.64 1,638	72.83 0.01 1,638

TABLE 23. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF REGULAR GUN BUCK AND DOE HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	20,624	0.05	0.85	57.1	16,353	0.04	0.67	42.4
	(SE)	2,071.90	< 0.01	0.06	0.03	1,991.36	< 0.01	0.07	0.04
2	N	1,506	163	198	198	1,506	163	198	198
	ESTIMATE	20,014	0.05	0.95	56.9	14,156	0.03	0.67	430
	(SE)	2,211.44	< 0.01	0.08	0.04	1,895.45	< 0.01	0.07	0.04
	N	1,506	149	172	172	1,506	149	172	172
3	ESTIMATE	12,936	0.05	0.82	59.3	9,641	0.04	0.62	41.4
	(SE)	1,658.40	< 0.01	0.08	0.04	1,479.42	< 0.01	0.08	0.04
4	N	1,506	110	128	128	1,506	110	128	128
	ESTIMATE	25,628	0.04	0.80	55.5	21,967	0.03	0.69	46.3
	(SE)	2,240.16	< 0.01	0.05	0.03	2,137.23	< 0.01	0.05	0.03
	N	1,506	228	261	261	1,506	228	261	261
5	ESTIMATE	17,207	0.04	0.80	51.1	14,644	0.04	0.68	41.4
	(SE)	1,975.28	< 0.01	0.07	0.03	1,885	< 0.01	0.07	0.03
	N	1,506	160	176	176	1,506	160	176	176
	ESTIMATE	12,203	0.04	0.79	53.1	6,834	0.02	0.44	34.1
6	(SE)	1,598.09	0.04	0.08	0.04	1,131.58	< 0.01	0.06	0.04
	N	1,506	103	126	126	1,506	103	126	126
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STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	116,581	0.04	0.87	56.8	89,988	0.03	0.67	42.8
	(SE)	4,087.04	< 0.01	0.02	0.01	3,932	< 0.01	0.02	0.01
	N	1,638	960	1,193	1,193	1,638	960	1,193	1,193

TABLE 24. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AD DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF SPRING TURKEY HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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	4,452 1,083.65 1,610	0.06 0.01 49	0.69 0.14 56	35.7 0.06 56	53,028 11,559.72 1,577	9.28 1.56 49	6,392 839.54 319	17.55 0.02 319
2	ESTIMATE (SE) N	5,821 1,237.20 1,610	0.09 0.01 44	1.08 0.17 47	57.4 0.07 47	62,701 12,281 1,577	12.22 1.57 44	5,365 771.35 319	14.73 0.02 319
3	ESTIMATE (SE) N	2,511 662.90 1,610	0.09 0.02 26	0.73 0.14 30	53.3 0.09 30	20,628 5,170 1,577	6.8 1.09 26	3,424 619.60 319	9.40 0.02 319
4	ESTIMATE (SE) N	11,301 1,634.63 1,610	0.10 0.01 93	0.97 0.11 102	54.9 0.05 102	92,770 12,057.23 1,577	8.55 0.70 93	11,643 1,116.15 319	31.98 0.03 319
5	ESTIMATE (SE) N	6,278 1,203.74 1,610	0.08 0.01 52	1.00 0.14 55	60.0 0.06 55	63,750 10,857 1,577	10.52 1.08 52	6,278 832.28 319	17.24 0.02 319
6	ESTIMATE (SE) N	3,082 795.64 1,610	0.08 0.02 22	0.93 0.17 29	62.1 0.09 29	22,309 6,418.0 1,577	9.09 1.64 22	3,310 609.38 319	9.09 0.02 319
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE (SE) N	36,915 2,819.24 1,638	0.08 0.01 301	0.94 0.05 347	54.5 0.03 347	333,873 24,431.37 1,592	9.60 0.49 301	38,935 1,856.16 1,638	21.18 0.01 1,638

TABLE 25. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF FALL TURKEY HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 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
3	ESTIMATE	225	0.09	0.40	40.0	2,476	4.4	562	20.8
	(SE)	159.12	0.04	0.24	0.24	1,168.39	0.75	251.36	0.08
	N	1,633	5	5	5	1,633	5	24	24
5	ESTIMATE	562	0.06	0.45	36.4	9,228	7.45	1,238	45.8
	(SE)	297.54	0.02	0.20	0.15	3,945.04	2.37	372.14	0.10
	N	1,633	11	11	11	1,633	11	24	24
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	1,570	0.06	0.48	34.4	18,885	6.46	3,253	1.7
	(SE)	592.64	0.03	0.16	0.09	5,072.19	1.21	599.05	< 0.01
	N	1,638	26	29	29	1,635	26	1,638	1,638

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

TABLE 26. EXPANDED STATEWIDE SUMMARIES OF ALL DEER, BUCK, DOE, AND TURKEY (FALL '01 AND SPRING '02) HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 HUNTING SEASON

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	296,782	0.07	2.11	75.8	3,181,957	24.07	140,256	76.3
	(SE)	8,768.99	< 0.01	0.05	0.01	102,737.73	0.66	1,931.34	0.01
BUCK	N	1,638	993	1,250	1,250	1381	993	1,638	1,638
	ESTIMATE	146,764	0.04	1.04	59.9	3,181,957	24.07	140,256	76.3
DOE	(SE)	4858.19	< 0.01	0.03	0.01	102,737.73	0.66	1,931.34	0.01
	N	1,638	993	1,250	1250	1,381	993	1,638	1,638
TURKEY	ESTIMATE	163,059	0.04	1.06	54.2	3,181,957	24.07	140,256	76.3
	(SE)	5,910.14	0.01	0.04	0.01	102,737.73	0.66	1,931.34	0.01
	N	1,507	993	1,250	1,250	1,381	993	1,638	1,638
	ESTIMATE	38,486	0.08	0.95	54.4	353,935	9.81	405,06	22.0
	(SE)	2,877.31	0.01	0.05	0.02	25,723.58	0.51	1,882.94	0.01
	N	1,638	312	347	361	1,589	312	1,638	1,638

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

TABLE 27. EXPANDED STATEWIDE AND DISTRICT SUMMARIES OF HOG HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI DURING THE 2002-03 HUNTING SEASON.

DISTRICT	STATISTIC	TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	AVERAGE SEASONAL HUNTING		PERCENT HUNTERS PER DISTRICT
						TOTAL MANDAYS	DAYS	
1	ESTIMATE	571	0.23	0.71	57.1	2,408	3.0	799
	(SE)	301.93	0.16	0.28	0.20	1,271	1.19	301.62
	N	1,655	7	7	7	1,648	7	67
2	ESTIMATE	2,284	0.14	3.33	83.3	15,712	22.83	685
	(SE)	12,81.13	0.11	1.41	0.16	11,978.75	16.1	279.33
	N	1,655	6	6	6	1,648	6	67
3	ESTIMATE	1,484	0.46	1.3	80.0	2,752	3.0	1,142.07
	(SE)	570.04	0.18	0.3	0.13	1,275.75	0.96	360.17
	N	1,655	8	10	10	1,648	8	67
4	ESTIMATE	10,392	0.59	5.69	75.0	16,515	10	1827
	(SE)	7,014.48	0.31	3.68	0.11	7,038.13	3.55	454.75
	N	1,655	14	16	16	1,648	14	67
5	ESTIMATE	2,512	0.31	2.0	90.9	5,964	5	1,256
	(SE)	980.80	0.08	0.52	0.09	2,875.88	1.99	377.64
	N	1,655	10	11	11	1,648	10	67
6	ESTIMATE	7,994	0.68	4.11	76.4	11,469	6.67	1,941
	(SE)	3,909.40	0.26	1.8	0.11	4,205.86	1.8	468.61
	N	1,655	15	17	17	1,648	15	67
STATEWIDE	ESTIMATE	27,180	0.39	3.23	79.7	61,629	8.67	8,415
	(SE)	8,211.77	0.13	0.90	0.04	15,602.75	1.92	956.57
	N	1,662	62	74	74	1,650	62	1,662

Summary of Responses to Opinion Questions for 2002-2003

Hunting Experience and Organization Membership

Table 28. Percent of respondents who hunted in Mississippi during the 2002-2003 hunting season.

Statement	Frequency	Percentage
Both hunted and fished	956	82.49
Hunted only	195	16.82
Fished only	5	0.43
Neither hunted nor fished	3	0.26
TOTAL	1159	100.00

n missing=62

Table 29. Percent of respondents by how many years they have been hunting.

Years Hunted Category	Frequency	Percent
0-5	46	3.86
6 – 10	76	6.37
11 – 15	85	7.12
16 – 20	134	11.23
21 – 25	150	12.58
26 – 30	201	16.85
31 – 35	171	14.33
36 – 40	177	14.84
41 – 45	80	6.70
46 – 50	55	4.61
51 – 55	10	0.84
56 – 60	7	0.59
65 – 70	1	0.08
TOTAL	1193	100.00

n missing=28

Average years of experience= 28.38 years

Table 30. Percent of respondents by the age they had their first hunting experience.

Age Category	Frequency	Percent
1 – 5	126	10.59
6 – 10	573	48.15
11 – 15	343	28.82
16 – 20	91	7.65
21 – 25	19	1.60
26 – 30	16	1.34
31 – 35	9	0.76
36 – 40	7	0.59
41 – 45	5	0.42
46 – 50	1	0.08
TOTAL	1190	100.0

n missing=31

Average age of first hunting experience = 10.99

Table 31. Percent of respondents who are a member of a national hunting or conservation organization.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	327	27.53
NO	861	72.47
TOTAL	1188	100.00

n missing=33

If yes, [See Table 31] number of organizations they belong to.

Number of Organizations	Frequency	Percent
1	179	60.07
2	76	25.50
3	23	7.72
4	9	3.02
5	7	2.33
6	1	0.34
7	1	0.34
10	1	0.34
25	1	0.34
TOTAL	298	100.00

n missing=29

Average number of hunting or conservation organizations belong to = 1.74

Table 32. Percent of respondents who subscribe to any hunting magazines.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	589	49.70
NO	596	50.30
TOTAL	1185	100.00

n missing=36

If yes, [See Table 32] number of magazines they subscribe to.

Number of Magazines ^a	Frequency	Percent
1	219	40.18
2	193	35.41
3	85	15.60
4	27	4.95
5	13	2.40
6	2	0.37
7	4	0.73
10	1	0.18
15	1	0.18
TOTAL	545	100.00

n missing=44

Average number of hunting magazines subscribed to = 2.0

Table 33. Percent of respondents by whether they or someone in their household own an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) that is used for hunting.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	893	74.85
NO	300	25.15
TOTAL	1193	100.00

n missing=28

Table 34. Percent of respondents by whether or not they or any member of their immediate family was involved in a vehicle collision with a deer in Mississippi in 2002.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	238	19.97
NO	954	80.03
TOTAL	1192	100.00

n missing=29

If yes, [See Table 34] how many instances a family member collided with a deer.

Number of collisions	Frequency	Percentage
1	151	68.63
2	51	23.18
3	10	4.55
4	4	1.82
5	4	1.82
TOTAL	220	100.00

n missing=18

Average number of vehicle collision=1.5

Table 35. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about alternative funding sources for the MDWFP instead of the general revenue fund; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Use 1/8 of 1 cent of the current sales tax be used to fund the MDWFP	1162	9.81	11.96	24.01	36.15	18.07	3.40
Use 1/4 of 1 cent of the current sales tax to be used to fund the MDWFP	1161	9.99	14.21	28.42	29.98	17.40	3.30
25% fee on all property transfers in MS with all the funds going to the MDWFP (there is no fee currently)	1164	16.24	15.21	25.60	27.92	15.03	3.10
50% fee on all property transfers in MS with all the funds going to the MDWFP (there is no fee currently)	1163	17.80	18.83	27.17	20.55	15.65	2.97
Increasing the sales tax by 1/8 of 1 cent, i.e., additional tax to be paid	1171	26.81	20.67	23.40	21.26	7.86	2.62
Increasing the sales tax by 1/4 of 1 cent, i.e., additional tax to be paid	1162	28.49	26.16	24.87	14.63	5.85	2.43

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Tel-Check

Table 36. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about a mandatory harvest reporting system and a mandatory tagging system for deer and turkey; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Some type of mandatory harvest reporting system for deer and turkey in MS.	1171	15.37	15.63	23.23	31.51	14.26	3.13
Some type of mandatory tagging system for deer and turkey in MS.	1173	17.56	16.71	21.40	29.33	15.00	3.07
A mandatory tagging system that requires hunters to detach and date a tag from their licence immediately after harvest and attaching it to the animal prior to transport.	1170	22.39	18.38	20.68	25.64	12.91	2.88
Making the Tel-Check reporting system mandatory.	1180	19.49	21.95	25.51	23.05	10.00	2.81
A mandatory system that requires deer and turkey hunters to transport their harvest to the check stations in their county.	1170	36.67	31.03	16.58	10.00	5.72	2.16

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 37. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about requiring people, other than those aged 16-64, to purchase a hunting license at a reduced or full price; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Requiring youth less than 16 yrs old to purchase a reduced priced license.	1166	27.55	21.80	17.17	27.98	5.50	2.61
Requiring citizens greater than 64 yrs old to purchase a reduced priced license	1167	37.04	22.90	13.04	21.36	5.66	2.35
Requiring youth less than 16 yrs old to purchase a full priced license.	1165	41.31	37.10	10.49	7.83	3.27	1.94
Requiring citizens greater than 64 yrs old to purchase a full priced license.	1150	48.45	35.32	8.19	6.37	1.67	1.77

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 38. Percent of respondents by whether they had ever been checked by a Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks (MDWFP) Conservation Officer during hunting season.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	825	71.18
NO	334	28.82
TOTAL	1159	100.00

n missing=62

If yes, [See Table 38] percent of respondents according to how many times they had ever been checked.

Number of times checked	Frequency	Percent
1	163	21.34
2	185	24.21
3	119	15.58
4	89	11.65
5	63	8.25
6	30	3.93
7	6	0.79
8	13	1.70
9	50	6.54
10	1	0.13
11	10	1.31
12	2	0.26
14	6	0.79
15	1	0.13
16	9	1.18
20	1	0.13
22	1	0.13
23	4	0.52
24	6	0.79
25	1	0.13
27	1	0.13
30	1	0.13
40	2	0.26
50	1	0.13
TOTAL	764	100.0

n missing=61

Average number of times been checked ever=4.3

Table 39. Percent of respondents according to whether they were checked by a MDWFP Conservation Officer during the 2002-2003 hunting season?

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	362	42.69
NO	486	57.31
TOTAL	848	100.00

n missing=373

If yes, [See Table 39] percent of respondents according to how many times they were checked during the 2002-2003 hunting season.

Number of times checked	Frequency	Percent
1	199	57.02
2	94	26.93
3	28	8.00
4	13	3.72
5	7	2.01
7	1	0.29
9	1	0.29
10	4	1.15
25	1	0.29
27	1	0.29
TOTAL	349	100.00

n missing=13

Average number of times checked in 2002-03=1.9

Table 40. Percent of respondents by the extent they agree or disagree with statements about Conservation Officers in Mississippi; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Mean ^a
The conservation officer was knowledgeable about wildlife laws.	863	1.62	1.62	17.50	56.55	22.71	3.97
The conservation officer treated me fairly.	866	3.70	3.35	12.12	57.39	23.44	3.93
I believe the conservation officer was professional.	867	3.11	5.54	13.38	57.79	20.18	3.86
The conservation officer was knowledgeable about wildlife in general.	862	1.62	2.55	21.46	57.43	16.94	3.85
The conservation officer listened to me.	862	4.06	5.34	17.40	52.55	20.65	3.80
The conservation officer was effective in explaining wildlife laws	861	2.44	4.30	23.46	51.80	18.00	3.78
The conservation officer answered my questions satisfactorily.	863	3.48	4.87	20.51	53.41	17.73	3.77
The conservation officer made me feel at ease.	863	4.75	9.73	19.12	51.45	14.95	3.62
I was nervous talking with the conservation officer.	860	19.88	38.02	24.53	12.34	5.23	2.44

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree.

Deer Hunting and Management

Table 41. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about the 4-point law for buck deer; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Implementation of a program in MDWFP biologists could issue permits to some landowners and clubs to allow harvest of sub-4 point buck deer.	1151	12.95	9.56	21.72	38.05	17.72	3.32
The 4 point law on harvesting buck deer.	1157	6.91	10.03	19.01	35.18	28.87	2.69

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 42. Percent of respondents by the extent they agree or disagree with statements about baiting and feeding deer in Mississippi; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Mean ^a
I believe baiting increases a hunters chance of seeing a deer	1156	0.61	2.08	6.75	56.49	34.08	4.21
I believe individuals who feed deer during non-hunting season increase their chance of harvesting deer on that property	1161	1.12	4.82	7.75	52.20	34.11	4.13
I believe individuals who feed deer during hunting season increase their chance of harvesting deer on that property	1159	1.98	3.62	8.63	52.89	32.87	4.11
I believe baiting increases a hunters chance of harvesting a deer	1155	2.86	3.72	9.87	54.20	29.35	4.03
I believe selling “deer corn” at businesses during hunting season encourages hunters to bait deer	1155	7.10	12.12	15.06	41.90	23.81	3.62
Most of my friends believe hunting deer over bait should be legalized	1155	9.78	18.35	19.48	34.46	17.92	3.32
I believe baiting deer negatively influences others perception of hunting	1150	11.22	19.48	25.74	30.17	13.39	3.14
I believe some bait has harmful effects on deer	1161	8.61	20.59	32.39	27.48	10.94	3.11
I believe hunting deer over bait should be legalized	1152	17.36	17.88	22.74	25.00	17.01	3.06
I believe hunting deer over bait should not be considered as sporting	1161	15.25	22.65	22.31	24.63	15.16	3.01
I believe baiting laws should be enforced more stringently	1149	13.58	19.84	32.90	19.76	13.93	3.00
I believe so many people bait deer, I am afraid to hunt some areas for the fear of getting a citation.	1160	9.57	28.10	27.33	24.14	10.86	2.98
Most of my family believes hunting deer over bait should be legalized	1157	15.30	24.03	23.42	22.82	14.43	2.97
I believe MDWFP should provide certified bait free public hunting areas	1149	11.31	18.19	43.34	19.32	7.83	2.93
I believe baiting does not give deer a fair chance	1154	12.91	28.77	25.22	20.97	12.13	2.90
I believe baiting deer increases disease spread among the deer population	1154	14.73	26.00	32.06	18.54	8.67	2.80
I believe the presence of bait reduces deer activity	1153	20.47	45.19	20.73	10.32	3.30	2.30

I believe an unharvested crop should be considered a baited area	1160	33.79	36.72	12.59	10.09	6.81	2.19
I believe supplemental feeding of deer during non-hunting season should be prohibited	1152	30.82	41.23	15.19	8.16	4.60	2.14
I believe that if bait is present, deer won't eat anything else	1156	27.77	46.89	17.30	6.23	1.82	2.07
I believe people should not feed deer at all	1162	37.26	42.17	13.60	3.87	3.10	1.92

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree.

Table 43. Percent of respondents by their likelihood of performing various behaviors related to baiting deer; ranked by mean score

Statement	n	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Very Likely	Mean ^a
How likely is it that you would use bait to hunt deer if it were legal.	1157	11.67	18.58	16.51	32.24	21.00	3.32
How likely is it that someone who baits deer will be caught.	1158	12.09	40.07	18.48	25.30	4.06	2.69

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= very unlikely, 2= unlikely, 3=neutral, 4=likely, 5=very likely.

Table 44. Percent of respondents by whether they hunted within an area enclosed by a high fence in Mississippi.

Hunted in an area enclosed by a high fence	Frequency	Percent
YES	47	4.03
NO	1119	95.97
TOTAL	1166	100.00

n missing=55

Table 45. Percent of respondents by whether they hunted an area next to private property with a high fence in Mississippi.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	168	14.43
NO	996	85.57
TOTAL	1164	100.00

n missing=57

Table 46. Percent of respondents by whether or not they own private property that has a high fence tall enough to prevent deer from entering or leaving.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	3	0.26
NO	1157	99.74
TOTAL	1160	100.00

n missing=61

Table 47. Percent of respondents by whether or not they own private property next to another landowner who has constructed a high fence tall enough to prevent deer from entering or leaving.

Response	Frequency ^a	Percent
YES	21	1.83
NO	1128	98.17
TOTAL	1149	100.0

n missing=72

If yes, [See Table 47] percent of respondents by what they think has happened to the deer population on their property since then.

Response	Frequency ^a	Percent
Increased	2	9.52
Decreased	11	50.00
Stayed the same	10	40.48
TOTAL	21	100.0

Table 48: Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about baiting deer with regard to the construction of high fences; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Being allowed to bait deer on private land without high fences.	1160	16.98	16.55	24.40	27.24	14.83	3.06
Being allowed to bait deer on public lands in Mississippi.	1159	23.55	26.40	25.97	15.96	8.12	2.58
Being allowed to hunt deer on property enclosed by high fences.	1159	34.60	27.09	23.55	11.48	3.28	2.21
Being allowed to construct a high fence to prevent deer from entering or leaving property.	1157	38.20	25.50	23.51	9.16	3.63	2.14
Being allowed to bait deer on property enclosed by high fences.	1156	39.01	26.73	23.44	7.96	2.86	2.09

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 49. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about regulations related to Spring turkey hunting in Mississippi; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
The special 2 day youth hunting weekend that occurs each year before the regular spring turkey season opens.	721	2.50	4.57	12.76	33.15	47.02	4.17
Extending the special 2 day youth turkey hunting weekend to include an additional weekend prior to the regular season.	720	8.61	15.56	27.64	24.03	24.16	3.39
Extending the special 2 day youth turkey hunting weekend to 9 days.	718	12.67	23.26	26.60	16.30	21.17	3.11

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 50. Percent of respondents' selections of one item from a list of statements measuring their preferences on the length of the Spring turkey season in Mississippi.

Statement	Frequency	Percent
I would prefer season open one week earlier and close on May 1 st .	75	11.19
I would prefer season open two weeks earlier and close on May 1 st .	101	15.07
I would prefer the season open on the same day and close on May 8 th .	38	5.67
I would prefer the season open on the same day and close on May 15 th .	100	14.92
I would prefer the season open one week earlier and close on May 8 th .	80	11.97
I would prefer the season remain as it is now.	231	34.47
I think the season is too long as it is now.	45	6.71
TOTAL	670	100.00

n missing=551

Table 51. Percent of respondents' selections of one item from a list of statements measuring their preferences on the opening and closing dates of the Spring turkey season in Mississippi.

Statement	Frequency	Percent
I would prefer statewide open spring season on the same day each year and close on the same day each year.	153	23.18
I would prefer the statewide spring season open on a Saturday and close after a set number of days.	205	31.06
I would prefer a spring turkey season framework stay the same as it is now.	302	45.76
TOTAL	660	100.00

n missing=561

Table 52. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about Fall turkey hunting in Mississippi; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Knowing the restrictions, the extent to which you would support or oppose the either sex fall hunting season in Mississippi.	693	19.91	18.76	27.56	21.79	11.98	2.87
Knowing the restrictions, the extent to which you would support or oppose the fall gobbler only turkey hunting season in Mississippi.	684	18.13	18.86	33.77	19.01	10.23	2.84

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 53. Percent of respondents by whether they would participate if there was a statewide Fall turkey hunting season in Mississippi.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	432	62.34
NO	261	37.66
TOTAL	693	100.00

n missing=528

Table 54. Percent of respondents by number of days hunting for squirrel on public land in Mississippi.

Days Category	Frequency	Percent
0-5	188	79.33
6 – 10	28	11.81
11 – 15	11	4.64
16 – 20	4	1.69
21 – 25	2	0.84
26 – 30	1	0.42
30+	3	1.27
TOTAL	237	100.00

n missing=984

Average number of days hunted public land=6.0

Table 55. Percent of respondents by number of days hunting for squirrel on private land in Mississippi.

Years Category	Frequency	Percent
0-5	334	73.40
6 – 10	68	14.95
11 – 15	27	5.94
16 – 20	15	3.29
21 – 25	2	0.44
26 – 30	6	1.32
30+	3	0.66
TOTAL	455	100.00

n missing=766

Average number of days hunted private land=6.0

Table 56. Percent of respondents by number of days rabbit hunting on public land in Mississippi.

Days Category	Frequency	Percent
0-5	142	81.14
6 – 10	15	8.57
11 – 15	8	4.58
16 – 20	4	2.29
21 – 25	0	0
26 – 30	3	1.71
30+	3	1.71
TOTAL	175	100.00

n missing=1,046

Average number of days hunted public land=6.4

Table 57. Percent of respondents by number of days rabbit hunting on private land in Mississippi.

Days Category	Frequency	Percent
0-5	249	75.68
6 – 10	44	13.37
11 – 15	13	3.95
16 – 20	11	3.34
21 – 25	3	0.91
26 – 30	4	1.22
30+	5	1.53
TOTAL	329	100.00

n missing=892

Average number of days hunted private land=6.2

Table 58. Percent of respondents by the age they first started dove hunting.

Response	Frequency	Percent
3	2	0.29
4	4	0.57
5	17	2.43
6	33	4.72
7	34	4.86
8	41	5.87
9	23	3.29
10	113	16.17
11	14	2.00
12	103	14.74
13	26	3.72
14	41	5.87
15	73	10.44
16	30	4.29
17	18	2.58
18	24	3.43
19	5	0.72
20	21	3.00
21	6	0.86
22	10	1.43
24	3	0.43
25	18	0.14
26	2	1.72
27	2	0.29
28	3	0.43

29	1	0.14
30	12	1.72
31	2	0.29
32	1	0.14
34	1	0.14
35	4	0.57
36	1	0.14
37	2	0.29
38	1	0.14
39	1	0.14
40	4	0.57
47	1	0.14
TOTAL	699	100.00

n missing=522

Average age of first dove hunting experience=13.5

Table 59. Percent of respondents by whether they regularly check the doves they shoot for metal leg bands.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	532	75.68
NO	171	24.32
TOTAL	703	100.00

n missing=518

Table 60. Percent of respondents by whether they have ever shot a dove that had a metal band around one of its legs.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	45	6.33
NO	666	93.67
TOTAL	711	100.0

n missing=510

If yes, [See Table 60] percent of respondents' selections of one item from a list of statements measuring how often they have reported the information provided on the band to the respective agency.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Always reported banded doves	20	44.44
Sometimes reported banded doves	8	17.78
Never reported banded doves	17	37.78
TOTAL	45	100.0

If yes to reporting a dove band, [See Table above] percent of respondents by whether they ever received a certificate from the agency to which they reported the banded dove.

Response	Frequency ^a	Percent
YES	2	7.14
NO	26	92.86
TOTAL	28	100.0

Table 61. Percent of respondents by the extent they support or oppose statements about dividing Mississippi into a north and south zone for dove hunting; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support	Mean ^a
Dividing Mississippi into north and south zones, with each having its own distinct dove hunting season.	716	5.59	9.08	55.87	21.93	7.53	3.16
Dividing Mississippi into north and south zones, with each having its own distinct dove hunting season and highway 84 as the dividing line between zones.	715	6.43	9.79	60.84	18.04	4.90	3.05

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= strongly oppose, 2= oppose, 3=neutral, 4=support, 5=strongly support

Table 62. Percent of respondents by whether they believe that the MDWFP should provide certified “bait free areas” for dove hunting on state WMAs.

Response	Frequency	Percent
YES	403	60.06
NO	268	39.94
TOTAL	671	100.00

n missing=550

Table 63. Percent of respondents by their likelihood of performing various behaviors regarding “bait free areas”; ranked by mean score.

Statement	n	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Very Likely	Mean ^a
Would you enter a no cost lottery for a chance to dove hunt private property certified by MDWFP as “ bait free area”	723	14.25	14.80	26.00	27.94	17.01	3.18
Would you enter a no cost lottery for a chance to dove hunt an MDWFP WMA cerified by MDWFP as “ bait free area”.	717	15.62	16.88	23.43	27.89	16.18	3.12

n missing=1221-n

^a Mean based on scale where 1= very unlikely, 2= unlikely, 3=neutral, 4=likely, 5=very likely.

Table 64. Percent of respondents by how they rated hunting compared to their other outdoor recreation activities (such as fishing, camping, golfing, etc.).

Response	Frequency	Percent
Most important outdoor activity	751	64.85
Second most important outdoor activity	266	22.97
Third most important outdoor activity	98	8.47
None of the above	43	3.71
TOTAL	1158	100.00

n missing=63

Table 65. Percent of respondents by their age category.

Age Category	Frequency	Percent
18-20	42	3.60
21-25	69	5.91
26-30	99	8.48
31-35	154	13.20
36-40	169	14.48
41-45	208	17.82
46-50	234	20.05
51-55	91	7.80
56-60	56	4.80
61-65	40	3.43
66-70	4	0.34
70+	1	0.09
TOTAL	1167	100.00

n missing=54

Average age of hunter=40.8 years

Table 66. Percent of respondents by their gender category.

Gender Category	Frequency	Percent
MALE	1098	94.33
FEMALE	66	5.67
TOTAL	1164	100.00

n missing=57

Table 67. Percent of respondents by their approximate annual household income category before taxes.

Income Category	Frequency	Percent
Under 10,000	46	4.24
10,000-19,000	56	5.16
20,000-29,000	110	10.14
30,000-39,000	130	11.98
40,000-49,000	138	12.72
50,000-59,000	150	13.82
60,000-69,000	111	10.23
70,000-79,000	95	8.76
80,000-89,000	64	5.90
90,000-99,000	45	4.15
100,000 and above	140	12.90
TOTAL	1085	100.00

n missing=136

Table 68. Percent of respondents by their highest completed level of education.

Education Category	Frequency	Percent
Elementary	19	1.65
High School	470	40.73
College	583	50.52
Graduate School	82	7.10
TOTAL	1154	100.00

n missing=67

Table 69. Percent of respondents by their Spanish/Hispanic origin.

Response	Frequency ^a	Percent
No, not Spanish/Hispanic	1021	98.65
Yes, Mexican, American, Chicano	6	0.58
Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic group	8	0.77
TOTAL	1035	100.00

n missing=186

Respondents' specifications [See Table 69] of their Other Spanish/Hispanic origin.

Response	Frequency ^a	Percent
AFRICAN AMERICAN	3	37.50
AMERICAN	2	25.00
SPANISH	3	37.50
TOTAL	8	100.00

Table 70. Percent of respondents by their race.

Race Category	Frequency ^a	Percent
WHITE OR ANGLO	1107	94.86
BLACKOR AFRICAN AMERICAN	43	3.67
NATIVE AMERICAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE	8	0.69
ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER	1	0.09
OTHER	8	0.69
TOTAL	1167	100.00

n missing=54

If other race [See Table 70], respondents' specification of their race.

Response	Frequency ^a	Percent
ASIAN AMERICAN	1	16.67
EURO-AMERICAN	1	16.67
MIXED AMERICAN	1	16.67
WHITE	1	16.67
WHITE-NATIVE AMERICAN	1	16.67
SPANISH	1	16.67
TOTAL	6	100.00

n missing=2

Appendix A

Questionnaire: 2003 Survey of Mississippi Resident Hunters

2003 Survey of Mississippi Resident Hunters



Conducted for the
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
by the
Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory
Forest & Wildlife Research Center
Mississippi State University

In the following questions, please tell us about your hunting activity and experience. The information you provide will remain strictly confidential and you will not be identified with your answers.

1. Please indicate which of the following best describes your hunting and fishing activity in Mississippi from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003. *(Please circle only one answer)*

- 1 BOTH HUNTED and FISHED
- 2 HUNTED ONLY
- 3 FISHED ONLY
- 4 NEITHER HUNTED or FISHED

If you "FISHED ONLY" or "NEITHER HUNTED or FISHED" please write "DID NOT HUNT" on the front cover and mail back to Mississippi State University in the postage paid business reply envelope. This will prevent you from being contacted further about this survey.

2. How many years have you been hunting?

_____ YEARS

3. At what age did you have your first hunting experience?

_____ AGE OF FIRST HUNTING EXPERIENCE

4. Are you a member of a national hunting or conservation organization?

- 1 YES --- *(If YES, how many organizations? _____)*
- 2 NO

5. Do you **subscribe** to any hunting magazines?

- 1 YES --- *(If YES, how many? _____)*
- 2 NO

6. Do you or someone in your household own an all terrain vehicle (ATV) that is used for hunting?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

7. Were you or any member of your immediate family involved in a vehicle collision with a deer in Mississippi in 2002?

- 1 YES --- *(If YES, how many instances? _____)*
- 2 NO

8. Currently, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP) is funded in part by hunting and fishing licenses and permits. However, some of the agency's budget is determined each year by the Mississippi Legislature when it decides how to appropriate monies from the general revenue fund. The amount of money the Legislature appropriates to MDWFP fluctuates from year to year. There are alternatives to the current system that would allow a more constant source of funding. Please indicate the extent to which you would support or oppose the following alternative funding sources for the MDWFP instead of the general revenue fund:

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) Increasing the state sales tax by 1/8 of 1 cent to fund the MDWFP. This would be an additional tax to what you already pay1	2	3	4	5	
b) Increasing the state sales tax by 1/4 of 1 cent to fund the MDWFP. This would be an additional tax to what you already pay1	2	3	4	5	
c) Having 1/8 of 1 cent of the current state sales tax be used to fund the MDWFP. This would not be an additional tax, but would replace some existing program that currently receives those monies1	2	3	4	5	
d) Having 1/4 of 1 cent of the current state sales tax be used to fund the MDWFP. This would not be an additional tax, but would replace some existing program that currently receives those monies1	2	3	4	5	
e) Implementing a 25 cent fee for all property transfers in Mississippi with all 25 cents going to fund the MDWFP. Currently, there is no fee for property transfer in Mississippi1	2	3	4	5	
f) Implementing a 50 cent fee for all property transfers in Mississippi with all 50 cents going to fund the MDWFP. Currently, there is no fee for property transfer in Mississippi1	2	3	4	5	

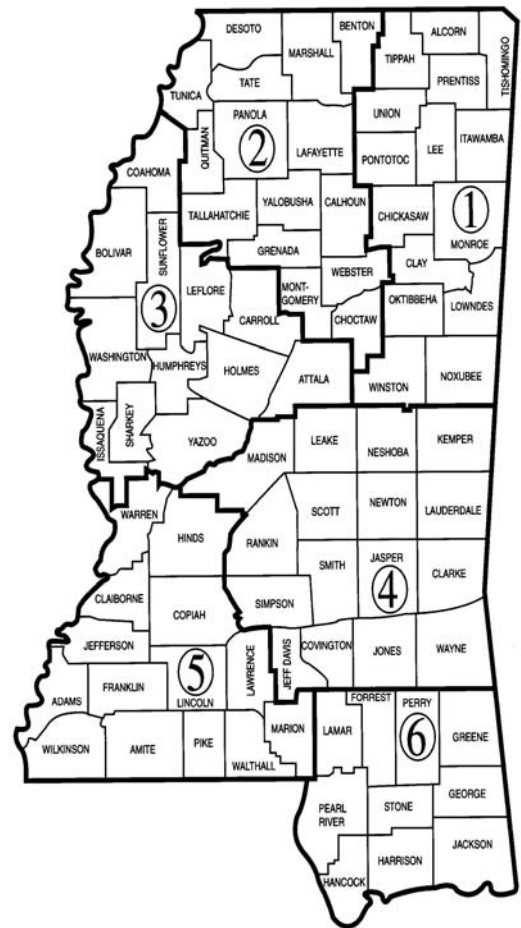
9. TEL-CHEK is a voluntary tagging and harvest reporting system for deer and turkey in Mississippi. This telephone based harvest reporting and compliance system is designed to improve deer and turkey management. This system allows hunters to call a toll free number (1-866-TEL-CHEK) to report their deer and turkey harvest, and validate their Harvest Report Card that comes attached to hunting licenses. With TEL-CHEK being voluntary, there is no mandatory harvest reporting system or mandatory tagging system in place for deer or turkey hunting in Mississippi. Some hunters have told us that there should be one or both of these systems in place to accurately determine the number of deer and turkeys harvested each year, and to make poaching these species more difficult. Please indicate whether you would support or oppose:

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) Making the TEL-CHEK reporting system mandatory1	2	3	4	5	
b) A mandatory harvest reporting system that would require deer and turkey hunters to transport their harvest to designated check stations located throughout each county.....1	2	3	4	5	
c) A mandatory tagging system that would require hunters to detach and date a tag from their license immediately upon harvesting a deer or turkey and physically attaching it to the animal prior to transport1	2	3	4	5	
d) Some type of mandatory tagging system for deer and turkey in MS1	2	3	4	5	
e) Some type of mandatory harvest reporting system for deer and turkey in MS1	2	3	4	5	

10. Please fill in the blocks below for each game, furbearer, or predatory species you hunted during the 2002-2003 hunting season (even if you were unsuccessful). If you hunted more than one species on a particular day, count a day for each species you hunted. Report only game, furbearer, or predatory species taken by you in Mississippi.

Species Sought	Total harvested in Mississippi in 2002-03 season	Days hunted species in Mississippi in 2002-03 season	District Hunted Most
Dove			
Quail			
Woodcock			
Rabbit			
Squirrel			
Raccoon			

DETERMINE DISTRICT (1-6) HUNTED MOST FROM THE MAP BELOW



	Bucks	Does		
Deer (Archery)				
Deer (Primitive Weapon)				
Deer (Gun)				
Turkey (Fall 2002)				
Turkey (Spring 2003)				

	Mallard	Wood	Other		
Ducks					
Geese					
Red fox					
Gray fox					
Bobcat					
Coyote					
Feral Hog					

- 11. The MDWFP Wildlife Division is eligible to receive federal funds from taxes paid by hunters on hunting equipment and ammunition. This fund, called the Wildlife Restoration Fund (WRF), is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The amount each state is eligible for is based on the number of hunting licenses sold and its land area compared to the rest of the country. Mississippi is a small state in terms of population, and thus numbers of license purchasers, so Mississippi's share is less than most states. To be eligible for more money from the WRF, and therefore further improve hunting in Mississippi, the MDWFP needs to sell more licenses. With hunting participation declining and an aging population this is a difficult task. One way to increase the amount Mississippi is eligible for is to require people, other than those aged 16-64, to purchase a hunting license at a reduced or full price, or change the structure of licenses to make it easier for groups with low participation rates to get involved in hunting. Please indicate the extent you support or oppose:**

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) Requiring youth less than 16 years old to purchase a full-priced license.....1	2	3	4	5	
b) Requiring youth less than 16 years old to purchase a reduced priced license1	2	3	4	5	
c) Requiring citizens greater than 64 years old to purchase a full-priced license1	2	3	4	5	
d) Requiring citizens greater than 64 years old to purchase a reduced priced license.....1	2	3	4	5	

- 12. Have you ever been checked by a Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks (MDWFP) Conservation Officer during hunting season?**

- 1 YES --- (If Yes, how many times have you ever been checked _____)
 2 NO --- (If NO, please skip ahead to Question #14)

If YES, were you checked by a MDWFP Conservation Officer during the 2002-2003 hunting season?

- 1 YES --- (If Yes, how many times were you checked _____)
 2 NO

- 13. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about your last encounter with a MDWFP Conservation Officer.**

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a) The Conservation Officer made me feel at ease1	2	3	4	5	
b) I believe the Conservation Officer was professional.....1	2	3	4	5	
c) The Conservation Officer was knowledgeable about wildlife in general1	2	3	4	5	
d) I believe the Conservation Officer treated me fairly1	2	3	4	5	
e) The Conservation Officer was knowledgeable about wildlife laws1	2	3	4	5	
f) The Conservation Officer listened to me1	2	3	4	5	
g) The Conservation Officer was effective in explaining wildlife laws1	2	3	4	5	
h) The Conservation Officer answered my questions satisfactorily1	2	3	4	5	
i) I was nervous talking with the Conservation Officer1	2	3	4	5	

If you hunted white-tailed deer last season or have an interest in deer management in Mississippi, please answer Questions #14 through #21. If not, please go to Question #22.

14. Recent research has indicated the current 4-point law for buck deer in Mississippi may not be the best management tool for the deer resource. Further research is needed to see if that is the case in different regions of Mississippi. However, testing alternative management strategies would require that this law be “relaxed” in certain areas selected by MDWFP. Please indicate whether you would support or oppose:

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) The 4-point law on harvesting buck deer	1	2	3	4	5
b) Implementation of a program in which MDWFP biologists could issue permits to some landowners and hunting clubs to allow the harvest of sub-4 point buck deer	1	2	3	4	5

15. Hunting deer over bait, such as corn or grain, is an issue that continually surfaces in the Mississippi Legislature, MDWFP Commission meetings, and in various popular magazine and newspaper articles. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about baiting and feeding deer in Mississippi.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a) I believe individuals who feed deer on their property during non-hunting season increase their chance of harvesting a deer on that property	1	2	3	4	5
b) I believe some bait has harmful health effects on deer	1	2	3	4	5
c) Most of my friends believe hunting deer over bait should be legalized	1	2	3	4	5
d) I believe an unharvested crop should be considered a baited area	1	2	3	4	5
e) I believe baiting deer negatively influences others perception of hunting	1	2	3	4	5
f) I believe people should not feed deer at all	1	2	3	4	5
g) I believe hunting deer over bait should not be considered sporting	1	2	3	4	5
h) I believe that baiting increases the possibility of disease spread in the deer population	1	2	3	4	5
i) Most of my family believes hunting deer over bait should be legalized	1	2	3	4	5
j) I believe selling “deer corn” at businesses during hunting season encourages hunters to bait deer.....	1	2	3	4	5
k) I believe individuals who feed deer on their property during hunting season increase their chance of harvesting a deer on that property	1	2	3	4	5
l) I believe so many people bait deer, I’m afraid to hunt some areas for fear of getting a citation	1	2	3	4	5
m) I believe MDWFP should provide certified bait-free public hunting areas.....	1	2	3	4	5
n) I believe supplemental feeding of deer during the non-hunting season should be prohibited	1	2	3	4	5
o) I believe hunting deer over bait should be legalized	1	2	3	4	5
p) I believe baiting increases a hunter’s chance of harvesting a deer	1	2	3	4	5
q) I believe baiting increases a hunters chance of seeing a deer.....	1	2	3	4	5
r) I believe baiting does not give deer a fair chance	1	2	3	4	5
s) I believe the presence of bait reduces deer activity.....	1	2	3	4	5
t) I believe that if bait is present, deer won’t eat anything else	1	2	3	4	5
u) I believe baiting laws should be enforced more stringently	1	2	3	4	5

16. Please indicate your perceptions on the likelihood of the following as they relate to baiting deer.

	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Very Likely
a) How likely is it that someone who baits deer will get caught?	1	2	3	4	5
b) How likely is it that you would use bait to deer hunt if it were legal?	1	2	3	4	5

Constructing high fences on private property that are tall enough to prevent deer from entering or leaving is a current issue in Mississippi which is being discussed by the Mississippi Legislature. In Questions # 17 through #21, please tell us about your experiences with and attitudes towards high fences.

17. Have you ever hunted within an area enclosed by a high fence in Mississippi?

- 1 YES
2 NO

18. Have you ever hunted an area next to private property with a high fence in Mississippi?

- 1 YES
2 NO

19. Do you own private property that has a high fence tall enough to prevent deer from entering or leaving?

- 1 YES --- (If YES, please go to Question #21)
2 NO

20. Do you own private property next to another landowner who has constructed a high fence tall enough to prevent deer from entering or leaving?

- 1 YES
2 NO --- (If NO, please go to Question #21)

If YES, please indicate what you believe has happened to the deer population on your property since then.

- 1 INCREASED
2 DECREASED
3 STAYED THE SAME

21. Please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose the following:

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) Being allowed to construct a high fence to prevent deer from entering or leaving a property	1	2	3	4	5
b) Being allowed to hunt deer on property enclosed by high fences	1	2	3	4	5
c) Being allowed to bait deer on property enclosed by high fences	1	2	3	4	5
d) Being allowed to bait deer on private land without high fences	1	2	3	4	5
e) Being allowed to bait deer on public lands in Mississippi	1	2	3	4	5

If you hunted wild turkeys last season or have an interest in turkey management in Mississippi, please answer Questions #22 through #26. If not, please go to Question #27.

22. Please indicate whether you support or oppose the following regulations related to spring turkey hunting in Mississippi.

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) The special 2-day youth (less than 16 years old) turkey hunting weekend that occurs each year before the regular spring turkey season opens	1	2	3	4	5
b) Extending the special 2-day youth (less than 16 years old) turkey hunting weekend to include an additional weekend prior to the regular season	1	2	3	4	5
c) Extending the special 2-day youth (less than 16 years old) turkey hunting weekend to 9 days (Saturday through the following Sunday)	1	2	3	4	5

23. By law, the Spring turkey season in Mississippi opens on the Saturday closest to March 20th and ends on May 1st. However, a recent survey of Mississippi wild turkey hunters indicated that most of those asked believe the Spring turkey season in Mississippi is too short. Which of the following options, if any, would you prefer if the Mississippi Legislature decided to increase the length of the Spring turkey season?

- 1 I would prefer that the season open one week earlier (Saturday closest to March 13th) and close on May 1st.
- 2 I would prefer that the season open two weeks earlier (Saturday closest to March 6th) and close on May 1st.
- 3 I would prefer that the season open on the same day (Saturday closest to March 20th) and close on May 8th.
- 4 I would prefer that the season open on the same day (Saturday closest to March 20th) and close on May 15th.
- 5 I would prefer that the season open one week earlier (Saturday closest to March 13th) and close on May 8th.
- 6 None of the above, I would prefer that the season remain the same as it is now.
- 7 None of the above, I think the season is too long as it is now.

24. As a separate issue, many hunters have told us that they would like to hunt turkeys the same number of days each Spring. Currently, in years where the opening date is March 17th for example, there are more days to hunt than when the season opens on March 23rd. Please indicate which of the following alternatives, if any, you would prefer for the Spring turkey season in Mississippi?

- 1 I would prefer the statewide Spring season open on the same date each year and close on the same date each year. This would standardize the season length, opening day, and closing day, but would result in opening day occurring on a weekday in most years.
- 2 I would prefer the statewide Spring season open on a Saturday and close after a set number of days. This would standardize season length and maintain that opening day occurs on a Saturday, but the closing day would change each year.
- 3 I would prefer the current Spring turkey season framework stay the way it is now; opening on a Saturday and ending on the same date each year.

25. Some hunters tell us they would like a Fall turkey hunting season in Mississippi. Currently, Fall turkey hunting occurs in portions of 7 counties along the Mississippi River. If a Fall season was opened it would be limited to regions with enough turkeys to support the additional harvest and would be limited to properties at least 250 acres in size where the landowner/leaseholder completes a Fall turkey hunting application. Fall turkey tags would be issued to approved properties. Season dates would be November 1 – November 15 and December 1 – December 15. Any person who would Fall turkey hunt and was not exempt from purchasing a hunting license would have to purchase a Fall turkey hunting license in addition to the All-game or Sportsmen license currently required to turkey hunt. Weapons would be limited to archery or shotguns and the bag limit would be two turkeys per 15-day season (for a possible total of 4 turkeys.)

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) Knowing the above restrictions, please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose implementing a Fall either-sex turkey hunting season in Mississippi	1	2	3	4	5
b) Knowing the above restrictions, please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose implementing a Fall gobbler only turkey hunting season in Mississippi	1	2	3	4	5

26. If there was a statewide Fall turkey hunting season in Mississippi, would you participate?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

If you squirrel or rabbit hunted last season or have an interest in their management in Mississippi, please fill out Questions #27 and #28. If not, please go to Question#29.

27. How many days did you hunt for squirrel and rabbit on the following land types in Mississippi during the 2002-2003 hunting season? (If none, please enter zero)

_____ DAYS SQUIRREL HUNTED ON PUBLIC LAND in MISSISSIPPI

_____ DAYS SQUIRREL HUNTED ON PRIVATE LAND in MISSISSIPPI

_____ DAYS RABBIT HUNTED ON PUBLIC LAND in MISSISSIPPI

_____ DAYS RABBIT HUNTED ON PRIVATE LAND in MISSISSIPPI

28. What can the MDWFP do to encourage more small game hunting on public lands such as Wildlife Management Areas? (Please use the space below to tell MDWFP what they can do.)

If you dove hunted last season or have an interest in dove management in Mississippi, please answer Questions #29 through #35. If not, please go to Question #36.

29. If you have previously dove hunted, at what age did you start hunting doves?

_____ AGE STARTED DOVE HUNTING

30. Do you regularly check the doves you shoot for metal leg bands placed there by state or federal wildlife agencies?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

31. Have you ever shot a dove that had a metal band around one of its legs?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO --- (If NO, please go to Question #32)

If Yes, how often have you reported the information provided on the band to the respective agency?

- 1 I ALWAYS REPORTED BANDED DOVES
- 2 I SOMETIMES REPORTED BANDED DOVES
- 3 I NEVER REPORTED BANDED DOVES --- (Please go to Question #32)

If you answered 1 or 2 above, have you ever received a certificate from the agency to which you reported the banded dove?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

32. Previously, Mississippi had a north and a south zone for dove hunting with each zone having its own season framework. Highway 84 in the southern part of the state was the dividing line between zones. Some people have suggested that Mississippi return to a two-zone system with each having its own distinct dove hunting season. Please indicate whether you support or oppose:

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
a) The idea of dividing Mississippi into North and South zones, with each having its own distinct dove hunting season	1	2	3	4	5
b) The idea of dividing Mississippi into North and South zones, with each having its own distinct dove hunting season, <u>and</u> HIGHWAY 84 as the dividing line between zones	1	2	3	4	5

33. Do you believe that the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks should provide certified "BAIT FREE AREAS" for dove hunting on state Wildlife Management Areas?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Very Likely
34. How likely would you be to enter a no-cost lottery for a chance to dove hunt an MDWFP WMA certified by MDWFP as a "BAIT FREE AREA"?	1	2	3	4	5
35. How likely would you be to enter a no-cost lottery for a chance to dove hunt PRIVATE PROPERTY certified by MDWFP as a "BAIT FREE AREA"	1	2	3	4	5

The following questions will help us to know more about hunters. The information you provide will remain strictly confidential and you will not be identified with your answers.

36. Compared to your other outdoor recreation activities (such as fishing, camping, golfing, etc..) would you rate hunting as:
(Please circle only one answer)

- 1 YOUR MOST IMPORTANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
- 2 YOUR SECOND MOST IMPORTANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
- 3 YOUR THIRD MOST IMPORTANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
- 4 NONE OF THE ABOVE

37. What is your age?

_____ YEARS

38. Are you?

- 1 MALE
- 2 FEMALE

39. What is your approximate annual household income before taxes?

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Under \$10,000 | 7 \$60,000 - \$69,999 |
| 2 \$10,000 - \$19,999 | 8 \$70,000 - \$79,999 |
| 3 \$20,000 - \$29,999 | 9 \$80,000 - \$89,999 |
| 4 \$30,000 - \$39,999 | 10 \$90,000 - \$99,999 |
| 5 \$40,000 - \$49,999 | 11 \$100,000 and ABOVE |
| 6 \$50,000 - \$59,999 | |

40. What is your highest completed level of education? (Please circle only one answer)

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22+</u>
elementary								high school				college				graduate school					

41. Are you of Spanish/Hispanic origin?

- 1 NO, NOT SPANISH/HISPANIC
- 2 YES, MEXICAN, MEXICAN AMERICAN, CHICANO
- 3 YES, OTHER SPANISH/HISPANIC GROUP (Please specify: _____)

42. What is your race?

- 1 WHITE OR ANGLO
- 2 BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
- 3 NATIVE AMERICAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE
- 4 ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER
- 5 OTHER (Please specify: _____)

43. Was this survey completed by the person to whom it was addressed?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

Is there anything else you would like to share with us about hunting or wildlife management in Mississippi?

Your contribution of time to this study is greatly appreciated. Please return your completed questionnaire in the postage paid business reply envelope as soon as possible. Thank You.

Mississippi State University
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690
2/04

Appendix B

Survey correspondence with hunters for the
2003 Survey of Mississippi Resident Hunters

10000



Mississippi State
UNIVERSITY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Box 9690
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690

March 15, 2004

John Doe
123 Buck Drive
Fawn, MS 30759

Dear John:

In conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP) we are conducting a study of resident hunters in Mississippi. We conduct this study each year to determine the attitudes and opinions of Mississippi hunters and the amount of game harvested in Mississippi during the previous hunting season.

The enclosed survey is designed to tell us about your general hunting activity, attitudes towards various wildlife management issues, and game harvest in last year's hunting season (2002-2003). Although the survey is completely voluntary, we hope that you will take the 15-30 minutes necessary to provide your input and be a part of the wildlife management process. The information you provide will be useful in evaluating wildlife management in Mississippi and determining the value hunters place on the opportunity to hunt in Mississippi. Also, this information will allow MDWFP to provide more satisfying hunting experiences and better represent the views of hunters to the MDWFP Commission and Mississippi Legislature.

You are one of a small number of hunters selected to participate in this study. It is important that YOU and no one else complete the questionnaire. Your responses are important to us whether you hunt often or just occasionally. All responses will be strictly confidential, and you will not be identified with your answers. Your answers will be grouped with other respondents in a non-identifiable manner. The survey has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This is so we can remove your name from the mailing list once we receive it.

After you complete the questionnaire, please return it to Mississippi State University in the postage-paid, business reply envelope as soon as possible. If you should have any questions about this research project, please feel free to contact me at Mississippi State University at (662) 325-4153. For additional information regarding human participation in research, please feel free to contact the MSU Regulatory Compliance Office at (662) 325-0994. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and good luck during the current hunting season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kevin M. Hunt".

Dr. Kevin M. Hunt
Assistant Professor & Director
Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory

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Mississippi State
UNIVERSITY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Box 9690
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690

April 1, 2004

Johnny M. Hunter
1234 Duck Drive
Starkville, MS 39759

Dear Johnny:

About three weeks ago, we sent you a survey of Mississippi resident hunters. As of today, we have not yet received your completed questionnaire. If you have recently returned your survey, please accept our thanks.

The success and accuracy of our study depends on you and the others who have not yet responded. Those who have not responded may represent a completely different portion of the hunting public than those who have already sent us their questionnaires. We need your help in making sure this study is representative. If you did not hunt during the 2002-2003 hunting season please write **DID NOT HUNT** on the front of the questionnaire and mail it back to us so we can take your name off the mailing list.

The enclosed survey is designed to tell us about your general hunting activity, attitudes towards various wildlife management issues, and game harvest during the 2002-2003 hunting season. Although the survey is completely voluntary, we hope that you will take the 15-30 minutes necessary to provide your input and be a part of the wildlife management process. The information you provide will be useful in evaluating wildlife management in Mississippi and determining the value hunters place on the opportunity to hunt in Mississippi. Also, this information will allow MDWFP to provide more satisfying hunting experiences and better represent the views of hunters to the MDWFP Commission and Mississippi Legislature.

You are one of a small number of hunters selected to participate in this study. It is important that YOU and no one else complete the questionnaire. Your responses are important to us whether you hunt often, just occasionally, or if last year was your first time hunting in Mississippi. All responses will be strictly confidential, and you will not be identified with your answers. Your answers will be grouped with other respondents in a non-identifiable manner. The survey has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This is so researchers at Mississippi State University can remove your name from the mailing list once they receive it.

After you complete the questionnaire, please return it to Mississippi State University in the postage-paid, business reply envelope as soon as possible. If you should have any questions about this research project, please feel free to contact me at Mississippi State University at (662) 325-4153. For additional information regarding human participation in research, please feel free to contact the MSU Regulatory Compliance Office at (662) 325-0994. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Kevin M. Hunt
Assistant Professor & Director
Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory

10000



Mississippi State
UNIVERSITY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Box 9690
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690

April 29, 2004

Johnny M. Hunter
1234 Duck Drive
Starkville, MS 39759

Dear Johnny:

About a month ago, we sent you a survey of Mississippi resident hunters. As of today, we have not yet received your completed questionnaire. If you have recently returned your survey, please accept our thanks.

You are one of a small number of hunters selected to participate in this study. Your responses are important to us whether you hunt often, just occasionally, or if last year was your first time hunting in Mississippi. All responses will be strictly confidential, and you will not be identified with your answers. Your answers will be grouped with other respondents in a non-identifiable manner. The success and accuracy of our study depends on you and the others who have not yet responded. Those who have not responded may represent a completely different portion of the hunting public than those who have already sent us their questionnaires. We need your help in making sure this study is representative.

If you did not hunt during the 2002-2003 hunting season please write **DID NOT HUNT** on the front of the questionnaire. If you do not want to participate for any reason please write **REFUSAL** on the front cover. After you write on the cover or complete the questionnaire, please return it to Mississippi State University in the postage-paid, business reply envelope as soon as possible. This will help us complete the study and prevent you from being further contacted about this study.

If you should have any questions about this research project, please feel free to contact me at Mississippi State University at (662) 325-4153. For additional information regarding human participation in research, please feel free to contact the MSU Regulatory Compliance Office at (662) 325-0994. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Kevin M. Hunt
Assistant Professor & Director
Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory