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General regulations for draw hunts in area below Barnett Dam and within Parcel Sections M&N Pelahatchie Bay

APPLICATION / DRAW INFORMATION:

* PRVWSD Special Hunt Permits are to be awarded by random draw from properly submitted hunter applications. Applications for special hunt permits will be accepted from Aug. 1 and end at midnight Aug. 14. There is no fee to apply. Applications are available online at www.TheRez.MS and at the offices of the PRVWSD. Applications can also be mailed to:

PRVWSD Special Permit Draws
P. O. Box 2180
Ridgeland, MS 39158

Application forms can be downloaded online or picked up at the Reservoir's Main Office on Madison Landing Circle in Ridgeland. If mailed, applications must be postmarked by midnight Aug. 14, 2014.

* Hunters can apply for one special permit hunt in each area: below the dam (spillway) and Pelahatchie Bay. The hunting area below Barnett Dam will contain two (2) zones and hunting areas within Parcels M & N at Pelahatchie Bay will contain three (3) zones.

*Permit fees for the areas below Barnett Dam are \$300. Permit fees for areas within Sections M&N in Pelahatchie Bay are \$200. Permits are non-transferrable.

* Special Hunt Permits are limited to archery only, which includes long bows, recurves, compound bows, and crossbows.

* Only Mississippi residents, with a hunting license or exemption, aged 21 and over may apply for a special permit hunt. Each successful applicant can bring one designated guest, and both hunter can hunt and harvest deer. The guest must be at least age 12, and can be a non-resident of Mississippi. The guest must also be properly licensed in Mississippi or exempt. The permit holder must be present at each hunt.

* Special Hunt Permit Season is Oct. 2, 2014 through Jan. 31, 2015, with 18 weekend hunts starting on Thursday and ending on Sunday, with the exception for the last hunt beginning on Wednesday and ending on Saturday. No hunting is allowed from Monday through Wednesday. Legal hunting hours are consistent with state regulation with the exceptions noted above.

* Scouting within the Special Hunt Permit areas is allowed daily prior to Sept. 28. Between Sept. 29 and Jan. 31 scouting is allowed on Tuesdays. Only hunters drawn to participate in Special Permit Hunt and their guests will be allowed within the permit hunting areas between Sept. 29 and Jan. 31, with the exception of fishing in the immediate spillway or river area. The Mule-Jail Trail will also be closed during draw hunt period.

* The hunting area below Barnett Dam will be divided into two zones, with the Pearl River as centerline or dividing boundary. Each hunter will be assigned a zone for the special hunt permit. A total of 36 Special Hunt Permits will be issued for below dam zones 2014/2015 season.

* The hunting zones within parcels M & N in Pelahatchie Bay will be divided into three zones, and each hunter will be assigned a zone for the special hunt permit. A total of 54 Special Hunt Permits will be issued for M&N zones for 2014/2015 season.

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*All special permit hunt areas boundaries will be defined by posted signage and markings on property. Maps of permit hunt area boundaries are available online and at PRVWSD offices.

* Upon receipt by PRVWSD office, each application will be given a number in the order it is processed. The random drawing will be done electronically, matching numbers to a date and a zone for the hunts. Preference will be given to date selected over zone unless otherwise requested. Application will include a ranking notation on preferred dates for hunters permit and preferred zones. Calendar slots and hunting areas will be filled according to the ranking provided by hunter's application when possible.

*At completion of the application period and drawing, successful special permit hunters will be notified via e-mail as provided on application. E-mail notification of selection will include all payment information, special permit hunt dates, and areas of winning permit hunt selection. Selected hunters will have one week to acknowledge the notification of selection and confirm their intent to hunt. Selected special permit applicants who fail to meet the response deadline will be replaced with substitute drawn from the original application pool. All special hunt permits must be purchased by Aug. 21 2014. Any permits unclaimed by Aug. 21 will be filled through another substitute drawn from the original applicants.

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Hunting Guidelines:

* Special Hunt Permits are limited to archery only, which includes long bows, recurves, compound bows, and crossbows.

* Each special hunt permit is valid for one legal buck and two antlerless deer. Only bucks with EITHER a 15-inch minimum inside spread OR an 18-inch minimum main beam length may be taken.

* Special Permit Hunters must check in and check out prior to hunting each day by phoning the control tower at 601-992-9703. Hunters must also complete a daily hunting report each day and submit to drop box located at the Reservoir Maintenance Building off Spillway Road. A list of special permit hunters for each weekend hunt will be provided to the Control Tower.

* Parking is allowed in designated areas only. Hunters will receive the approved designated parking areas for Special Permit Hunts with the permit.

* No motorized vehicles are allowed on unpaved reservoir property before or during the hunt. However, a successful hunter with downed deer located can call Reservoir Patrol at (601-992-9894), report the kill and if needed, receive approval to use an ATV to retrieve the animal.

* Climbing stands, ladder stands and lock-on stands are permitted, but stands that require spikes or nails into trees are prohibited within the PRVWSD.

* All hunters climbing must use fall restraint harness systems approved by Treestand Manufacturers Association, and successfully complete the TMA-approved online safety course. Hunter must provide with application certification completion of TMA-approved course to receive permit.

* Scouting within the Special Hunt Permit areas is allowed daily prior to Sept. 28. Between Sept. 29 and Jan. 31 scouting is allowed on Tuesdays,

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unless hunter has the upcoming hunting permit and he/she may scout his/her zone on Wednesday. Only hunters drawn to participate in Special Permit Hunt and their guests will be allowed within the permit hunting areas between Sept. 29 2014 and Jan. 31 2015.

*All special permit hunt areas boundaries will be defined by posted signage and markings on property. Maps of permit hunt area boundaries will be made available online and at PRVWSD offices.

* The hunting area below Barnett Dam will be divided into two zones, with the Pearl River as centerline or dividing boundary. Each hunter will be assigned a zone for the special hunt permit.

* The hunting zones within parcels M & N in Pelahatchie Bay will be divided into three zones, and each hunter will be assigned a zone for the special hunt permit. The hunter must stay within his or her designated zone during legal hours. Only after legal hours can a deer be recovered from another hunter's zone; however, a deer down within a hunter's designated zone may be recovered at any time.

* All deer harvested must be weighed and have jaw bone extracted (bucks to be mounted can have the jaw bone extracted by the taxidermist BUT must be returned to reservoir within 10 days of kill) for age determination purposes. The hunter must also fill out the provided harvest form to be attached to the jawbone, providing the area in which animal was killed and other information required on the harvest form provided by Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for management and evaluation purposes. A drop box for the jawbones will be located at the weigh station at the Reservoir Maintenance building off Spillway Road.

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