FAQ’s for Alligator Season

ALL HUNTERS – Public Water and Private Lands

• Who needs an Alligator Hunting License ($25)? Everyone in the hunting party 16 YOA or older. Lifetime License holders are exempt from the Alligator Hunting License.

• Who needs an Alligator Possession Permit? Only the person who was drawn for a public water permit or the person who possesses a private lands harvest voucher.

• Where are Alligator Hunting Licenses sold? Beginning August 1, assistants who need an Alligator Hunting License may purchase them anywhere Mississippi hunting and fishing licenses are sold, including online, or by calling 1-800-5GO-HUNT.

• Can I use a pistol loaded with a shotgun shell to dispatch my alligator? No. Only long-barreled shotguns with #6 shot, 7, 7.5, 8, and 9, or bang-sticks chambered in .38 caliber or larger are allowed. (Some exceptions only on private lands permitted hunts, see regulations).

• What is the bag limit? For each possession permit there is a limit of 2 alligators at least 4 feet long, only one of which may exceed 7 feet.

• Is the permit holder the only person who can capture or kill the alligator? No. Anyone who has an Alligator Hunting License and is assisting a permit holder may partake in any part of the alligator hunting experience, including children under 16 YOA.

• What are the temporary possession tags? These tags must be attached to the leg of your alligator immediately after harvest and prior to moving or transporting. It is illegal to transport and possess an alligator that has not been tagged. Tags are not valid unless signed and dated.

• Can I sell the hide or other parts of my harvested alligator? Yes. Only to a person licensed to buy alligator parts, if properly tagged and documented with a federal export CITES tag. See page 19 of the Alligator Hunting Guide.

Public Water Hunters

• When is a WMA User Permit required? Only if launching or accessing a public waterway from a MDWFP WMA property. It is not necessary if only entering or traveling in public waterways through a WMA via boat.

• Can more than one boat be involved in the hunting party? Yes. However any vessel containing capture and harvest equipment or a harvested alligator must be within the immediate vicinity of the permit holder.

• What is the purpose of the harvest report card? It is provided so that you will have a standard location to document all of the necessary information needed for the mandatory on-line harvest report. Do not return it to MDWFP.

• How do I report my harvest? An on-line report is required and is only available at mdwfp.com/alligator. The report is required of ALL permitted hunters even if you did not harvest or participate in the hunt.

Private Lands Hunts

• What items must be in my possession while alligator hunting?
  • Alligator Harvest Voucher(s) signed by landowner and transferee. An Alligator Possession Permit must be purchased for EACH harvest voucher retained by a person. (i.e. 4 vouchers in possession = 4 Possession Permits = 8 alligator tags)
  • Temporary Possession Tags
  • Harvest Report Card for Private Lands
  • Alligator Possession Permit(s) one for each Voucher
  • Alligator Hunting License
  • Each person in the hunting party 16 YOA or older must possess an Alligator Hunting License ($25)

• What is the purpose of the harvest report card? Harvest report cards no longer have to be returned to MDWFP. The cards are for your convenience to record required data for the on-line harvest report.