

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
P.O. BOX 451
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE 2877

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife Conservation, at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on October 28, 1988, under the authority of Section 25-43-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt and thirty (30) days thereafter did adopt the following regulations under authority of Section 49-1-29 and 49-1-41 relative to rules and regulations pertaining to possession of game and fur-bearing animals in captivity.

Be it order that for the purposes of this rule, game and fur-bearing animals are defined as the following: white-tailed deer, black bear, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, raccoon, opossum, bobcat, river otter, muskrat, mink, nutria, skunk, and weasel.

Be it further ordered that possession of live game and fur-bearing animals is prohibited except as provided by this rule.

Be it further ordered that permits for the possession of game and fur-bearing animals will be issued to private individuals only if they meet the following conditions:

1. Individuals must make application for a permit on or before April 1, 1989, and shall have 6 months from date of issue to comply with all permit requirements.
2. Captive game or fur-bearing animals for which application has been made must have been in private possession on or before the effective date of this rule.
3. Permittees must sign a statement agreeing to abide by all conditions of the permit. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to the following:
 - A. All permitted animals and facilities in which they are held shall be maintained within minimum standards prescribed by the MDWC.

- B. No permitted animals shall be allowed to breed and produce offspring. Any offspring of permitted animals shall be reported within 5 days to the MDWC and surrendered to the MDWC upon weaning.
- C. Permittees will inform the MDWC within 5 days of escape or death of any permitted animal.
- D. Permitted animals shall not be sold, offered for sale, bartered or transferred to other individuals without prior written approval of the MDWC. Permitted animals may not be moved from the site designated on the permit without prior written approval of the MDWC except that permitted animals may be transported for veterinary care.
- E. The permittee shall execute a statement in writing to hold harmless and indemnify the MDWC for any claim or expense including attorney's fees and litigation costs due to harm, damage or injury caused by permitted animals.
- F. Permitted animals and facilities in which they are held shall be subject to periodic inspection by any MDWC officer to determine if the animals are being held and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this rule and requirements of the permit.

Be it further ordered that the following persons and/or agencies are exempt from permit requirements:

1. Public zoological gardens or educational institutions.
2. Licensed veterinarians who possess and hold diseased or injured animals while providing needed medical care, except that a record must be kept of animals received, name and address of the person from whom it was received, and the disposition of such animals.
3. Any person possessing or having custody of a sick or injured animal solely for the purpose of transporting the animal to a licensed veterinarian, rehabilitator, animal shelter or MDWC officer.

Be it further ordered that no provisions of this rule shall authorize any person to keep in captivity any live animal in violation of any city or county ordinance.

This adopted public notice shall become effective December 28, 1988.

Witness my hand and seal this the 28th day of November, 1988.

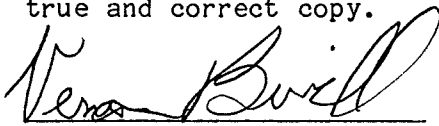
MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION


BY: 
S. T. Rayburn, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

BY: 
Vernon Beville, Executive Director

I certify this to be a true and correct copy.


Executive Director


Notary Public

My Commission Expires May 24, 1990.