

July 6, 2001

Mr. Preston Smith  
828 Bilbo Road  
Lumberton, Mississippi 39455

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your letter of July 1. We are always pleased to hear from Mississippians and hope that you will continue to contact us as you feel it is appropriate.

The Commission for Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks oversees our state's hunting seasons. With recommendations from department staff, the commission sets number of days for hunting season. These recommendations are based on population surveys and historical data.

With regards to your request for the elimination of dog hunting season would require an act of the Mississippi Legislature. Representative Clem Nettles and Senator Lynn Posey serve as the chairman of the House Game and Fish and Senate Wildlife and Fisheries Committees, respectively.

Dog hunting on private property is unlawful punishable by fines and license revocation. For the 12-month period ending May 2001, the Department of Wildlife Fisheries, and Parks issued 1,246 citations for "hunting from a public road." According to department staff, nearly all of these citations were directly related to dog hunting. As you come across hunting dogs on your property, you should report them to the local wildlife conservation agent.

I have enclosed contact information for the commissioners, chairmen, and you local conservation agent. Should you need additional assistance, please contact me at 601-359-2971.

Very truly yours,

Michael Boyd  
Policy & Planning Director

Attachments