



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS  
Jackson Office  
1505 Eastover Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211 – 6322



**WILDLIFE BUREAU**

**SUBJECT: Proposal to open Pelahatchie Bay Alligator Hunting Season - May 2023**

**On March 16, 2022, the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks approved a proposal to open an alligator hunting season in May 2023 on Pelahatchie Bay on Ross Barnett Reservoir.** This will be a special permit only season that will require an electronic application. The application process will likely occur in February-March of 2023. The process of application and drawing will be totally separate from the normal public waters alligator hunting season process.

**PURPOSE: Population reduction of breeding adult alligators in Pelahatchie Bay.**

**WHEN: May 2023**

**Pelahatchie Bay Hunting Season Plan/Outline:**

Two 3-day hunt periods in spring during breeding season (Prior to vegetation emergence)

- May 5-7 (Friday-Monday)(Opens at noon Friday/closes at noon Monday)
- May 12-14 (Friday – Monday)(Opens at noon/closes at noon Monday)
- Separate application period (Online process)
- Separate drawing (Winners notified by email with 48 hours to purchase the permit)
- Applicants will apply with a named partner. If drawn both permittees must hunt from same vessel.
- Draw for 6 hunting parties per period (12 permit holders)
- 12 permit holders per period, 24 total = up to 48 adult alligators harvested
- Alligator Hunting Licenses (AHL) \$25 effective dates will cover all seasons.
- Permit cost \$100 + \$25 AHL (all assistants 16 yoa or older required to have an AHL)
- Bag Limit: 2 alligators over 6 feet (both may exceed 6 feet long) per Permit Holder.
- An online harvest report is required nightly.
- All boats and hunters must launch from Pelahatchie Shore Park boat ramp.

**\*\*\* This proposal was approved by the PRVWSD Board on February 24, 2022**