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2021 ALLIGATOR HUNTING SEASON REPORT



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS

Table of Contents

	Page Number
Public Waters Hunting Season	
Permitting Process	3
Permit/Drawing Plan	4
Drawing Results	5
2021 Harvest Statistics	5-7
2021 Alligator Hunter Experience Survey Reponse	7
Harvest History 2005–2021	8-10
Alligator Hunting Season Violation Citations	11
Private Lands Hunting Season	
Permitting Process	12
Permitting Results	12
Open Counties Map	13
Private Land Application	14-16
Permitted Property Map Index	17
Permitted Property Location Maps	18-28
Hunter Recruitment from Alligator Season	29
License/Permit Revenue	29
MS Alligator Hunting Records	30

ALLIGATOR HUNTING IN MISSISSIPPI

There are two alligator hunting seasons offered in Mississippi:

1. Public Waters Alligator Season
2. Private Lands Alligator Hunting Season

Permits are offered as a “special permit” only and require an application process for both.

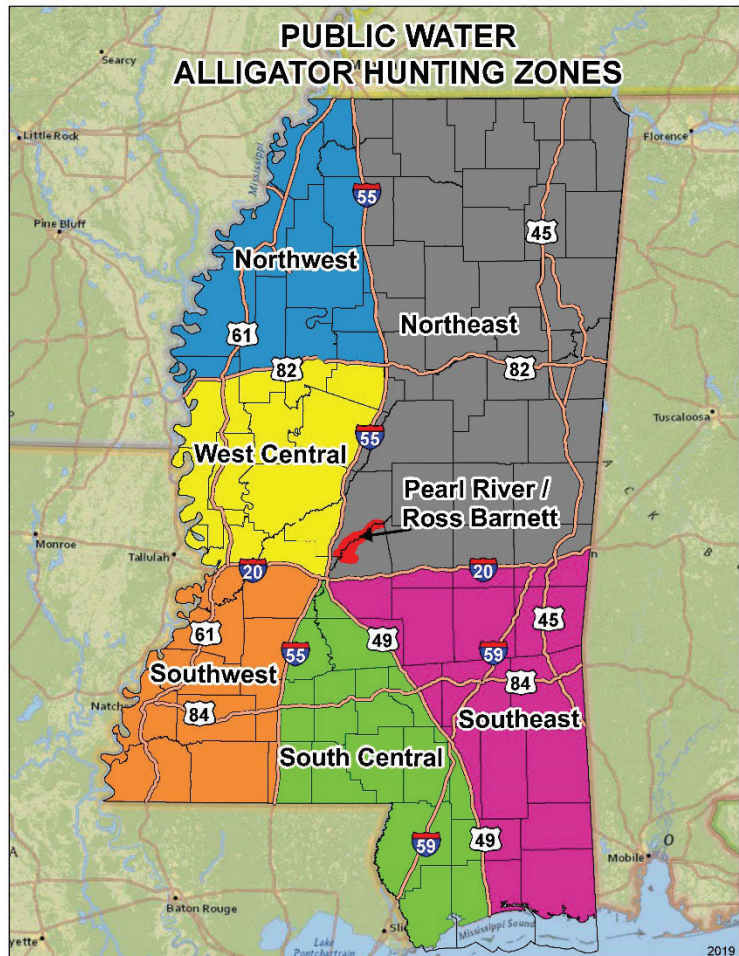
PUBLIC WATERS ALLIGATOR SEASON

Permitting Process

Applications were accepted by an on-line electronic process from June 1-8, 2020. An electronic processing fee of \$2.39 was charged for each application. Applicants can only apply once in one alligator hunting zone of their choice. There are seven Alligator Hunting Zones. Applicants must be residents at least 16 years of age and must possess a prerequisite Mississippi hunting license. Nonresidents who possess a valid Lifetime Hunting License are eligible to apply.

Drawing/Permitting Process

A third party entity, MSI, conducts a computer based random drawing of applicant MDWFP Customer Identification Numbers of the applicants for each hunting zone, based upon the allotted numbers of permits in each hunting zone. An email is sent to each winning applicant to notify them that they have been drawn and are provided instructions with a secure internet link to begin the permit purchasing process. Winners have 48 hours to complete the purchase process. After 48 hours, any unsold permits are submitted for a second drawing from the remaining pool of undrawn applicants in each hunting zone. Email notifications are sent to winners of the second drawing and they have a 48-hour period to purchase their permit. An Alligator Possession Permit, Alligator Hunting License, and two Temporary Possession Tags are mailed to each permit holder. An alligator hunting information packet is mailed to each permit holder that includes an instructions letter, Alligator Hunting Guide, Harvest Reporting Instructions, Harvest Report Information Cards, and FAQs.



2021 Alligator Permit Drawing Plan

2021
CALENDAR YEAR

JUNE
CALENDAR MONTH

ALLIGATOR DRAWING PROCESS CALENDAR
MONDAY
FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31	01 Applications accepted beginning at 10am	02	03	04	05	06
07	08 Applications end at 10am	09 Data transfer	10 Data transfer	11 Data transfer	12	13
14 Emails to winners at 12 noon. Begin Permit Purchase Process	15 Reminder email at Noon	16 Purchase process ends at 12 noon	17 Data transfer	18 Data transfer	19	20
21 Data transfer	22 Emails to 2nd Draw Winners at 12 noon. Begin purchase process	23 Reminder email at noon.	24 Purchase process ends at 12 noon.	25	26	27
28	29	30	01	02	03	04

* 1st Drawing Winners are notified by email at 12:00 Noon 6/14/21 with a direct link to purchase their permit and license.

- A reminder email is sent if a permit has not been purchased after 24 hours.
- Winners have 48 hours to complete the purchase.
- Any unpurchased permits in each zone are returned for a 2nd Drawing process.

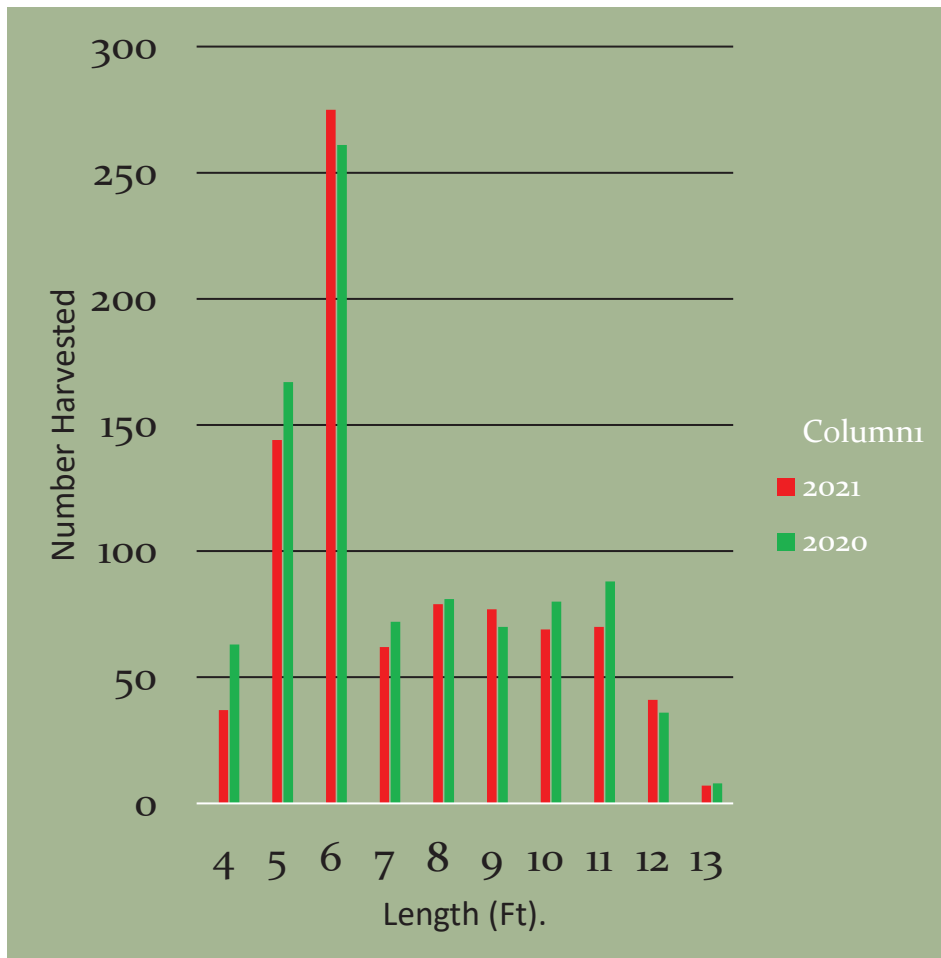
** 2nd Drawing consists of only unclaimed permits from 1st Drawing.

- 2nd Drawing Winners are notified by email at 12:00 Noon 6/22/21 with a direct link to purchase their permit and license.
- A reminder email is sent if a permit has not been purchased after 24 hours.
- Winners have 48 hours to complete the purchase.

2021 Alligator Permit Drawing Results

Number of Applicants	6,103
Number Drawn 1 st Drawing	960
Number Sold 1 st Drawing	876 (91.3%)
Number Drawn 2 nd Drawing	134
Number Sold 2 nd Drawing	109 (81.3%)
Number of "Opt Outs" for 2 nd Drawing	78
Grand Total Sold	985 (102.6%)

Alligator Harvest Statistics 2021

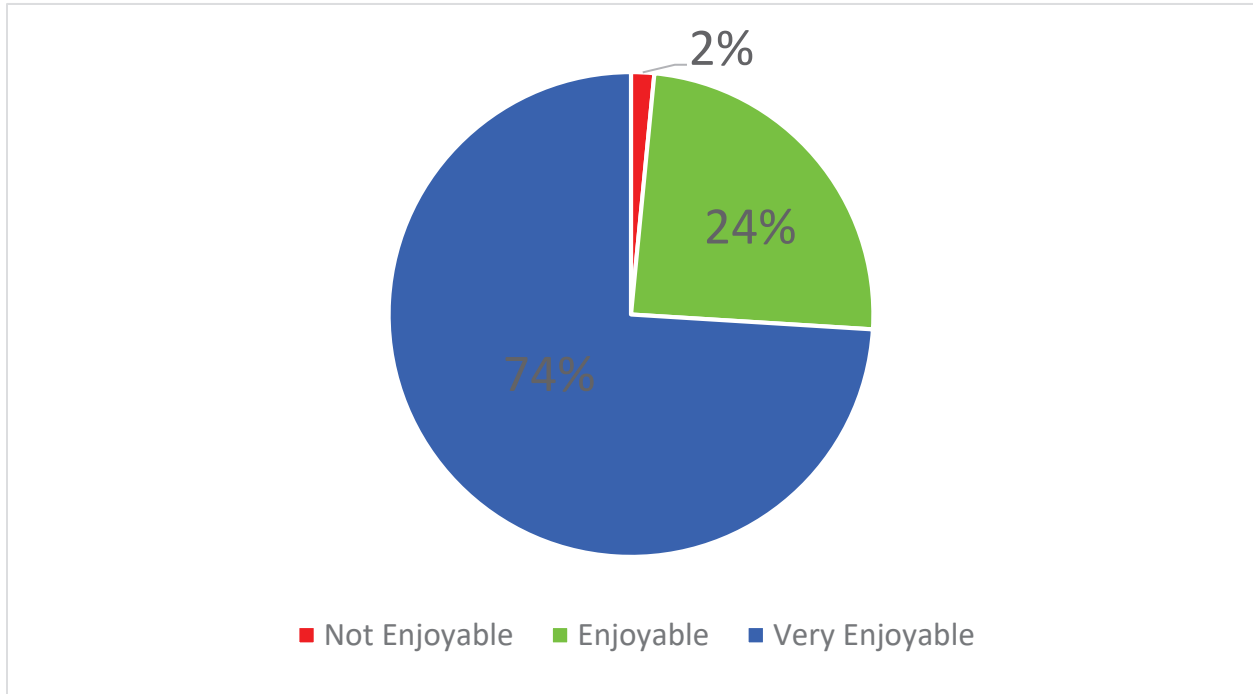


Alligator Harvest Statistics 2021

Total Harvest	776
Average Length	7.78 ft.
Average Length Under 7 ft.	6.04 ft.
Average Length Over 7 ft.	9.84 ft.
Males	73%
Females	27%

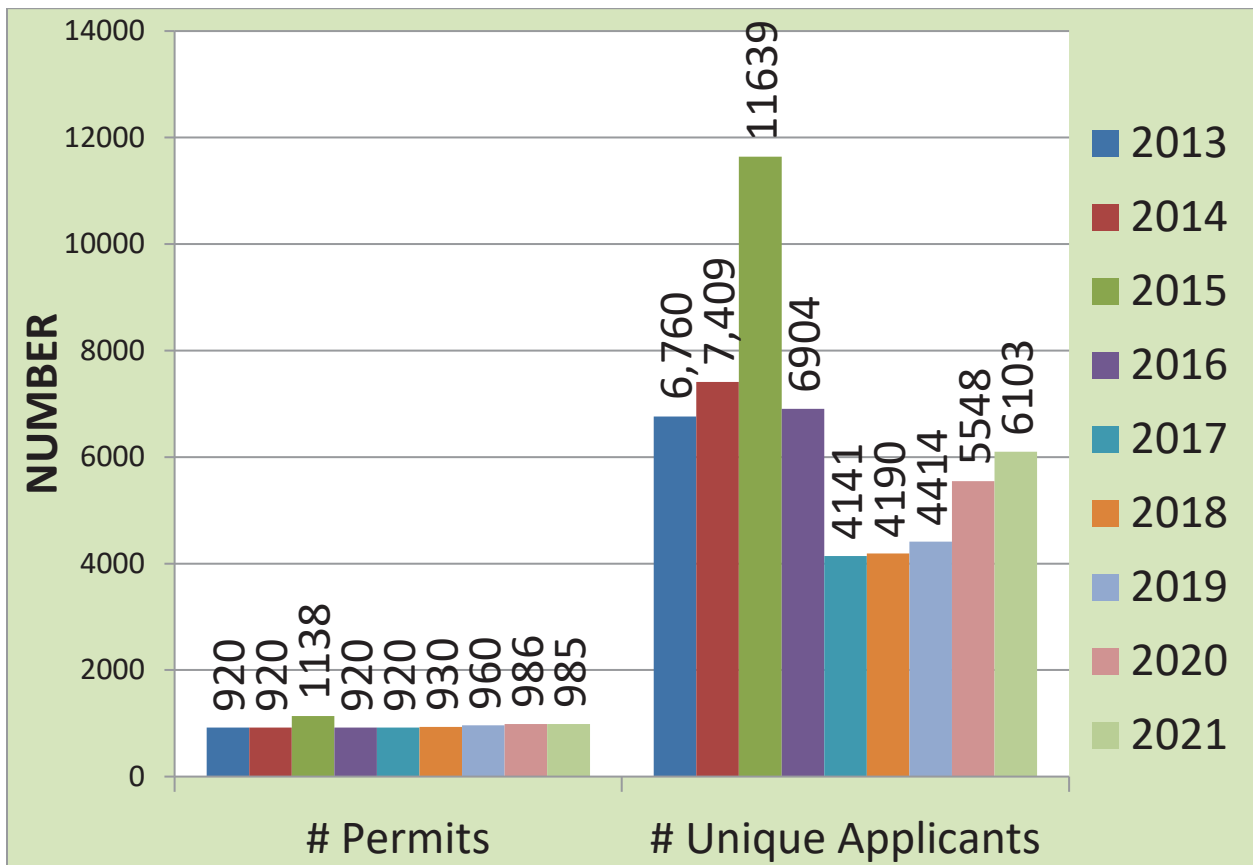
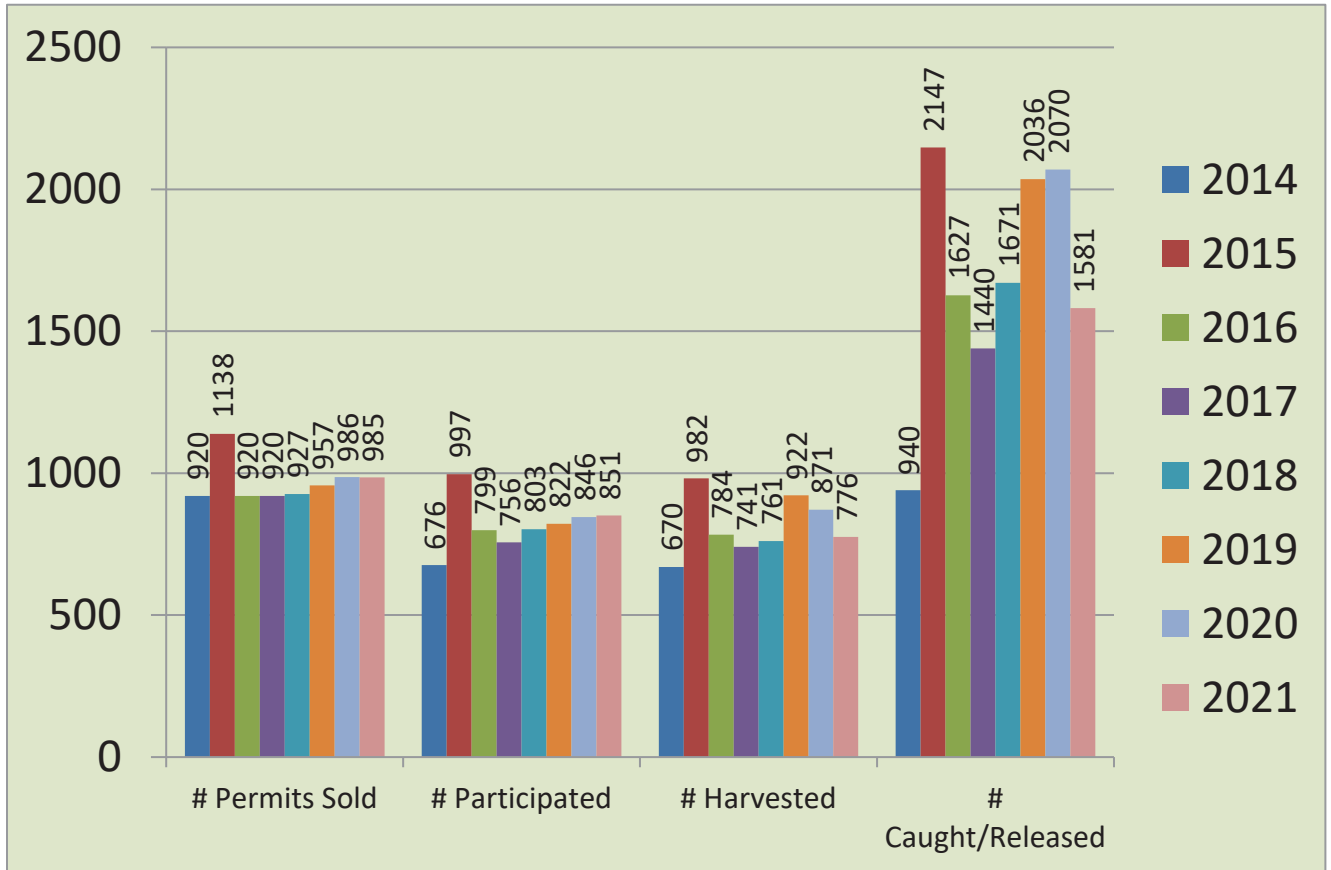
Zone	Total Gators	Average Length Male	Shortest Length Male	Longest Length Male	Average Length Female	Shortest Length Female	Longest Length Female
West Central	213	8.32	4.66	13.41	6.40	4.41	9.16
Southwest	213	8.25	4.41	13.08	6.35	4.50	9.25
Southeast	104	7.67	4.08	12.08	6.36	4.08	9.5
South Central	86	7.55	4.16	13.08	6.73	4.50	9.08
Pearl River	92	9.15	5.00	12.66	6.97	4.41	9
Northwest	10	8.21	5.33	11.33	6.46	6.08	6.83
Northeast	60	7.47	4.25	12.25	6.47	4.16	9.16

2021 Alligator Hunter Experience Survey Results



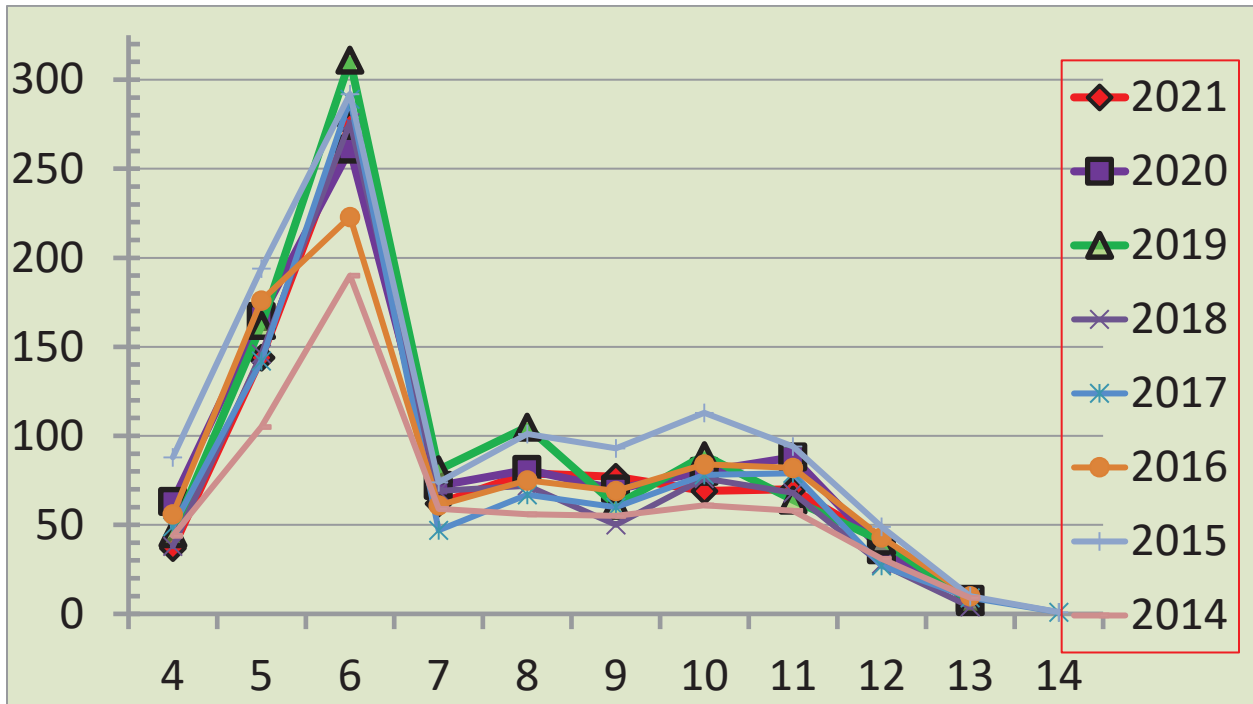
Total # of Applicants Who Hunted:	851
Total # Hunters Who Participated:	3724
Size of Average Hunting Party:	4.4
Total alligators harvested:	776 (416 < 7' and 360 > 7')
Total Alligators Captured and Released:	1581
Capture Methods:	Rod/Reel (739) / Bowfishing Equipment (16) / Snare Pole (15) / Harpoon (4)
Total Hunters Who Harvested an Alligator:	669
Total Hours Spent Hunting:	13,774
Total Hours Per Alligator:	8.7

Alligator Hunting Season 2012-2021

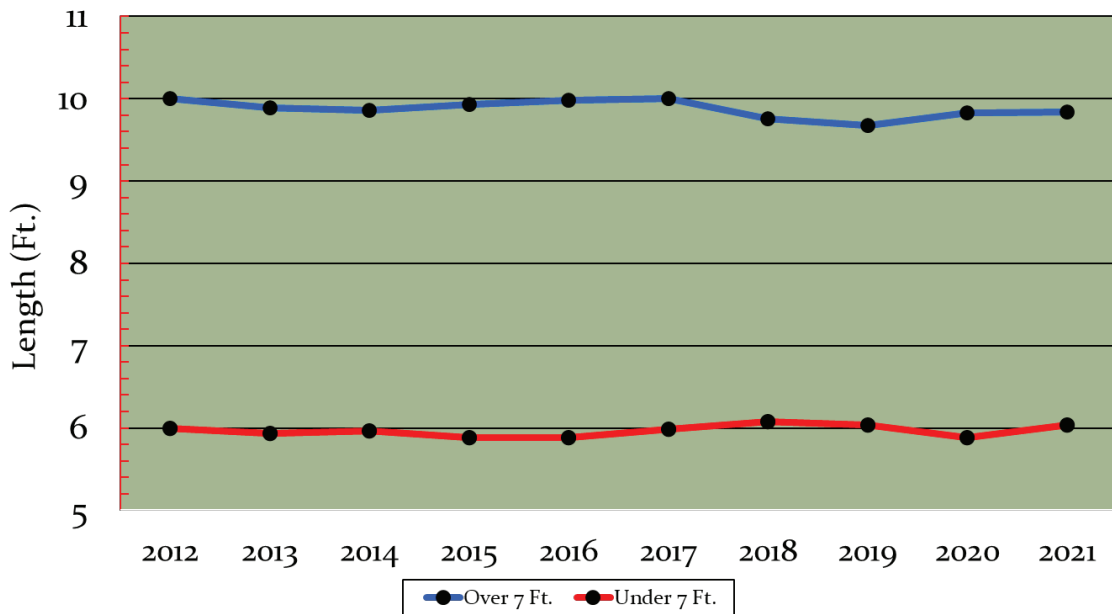


Alligator Harvest By Size Class

Public Waters



Historical Average Harvest Lengths



MS Alligator Season Harvest History - Since 2005

YEAR	# Permits	# Applications	PEARL ZONE	PASCAGOULA ZONE	# Gators Harvested per Permit on Public Waters	PVT LANDS	# Open Counties
			# Harvested	# Harvested		# Harvested	
2005	50	719	30	NA	0.60		
2006	100	1205	47	NA	0.47	0	3
2007	200	1233	66	68	0.67	0	3
2008	240	1636	58	72	0.54	22	7
2009	240	1626	96	58	0.64	59	13
2010	260	2086	132	92	0.86	86	17
2011	480	2858	91	91	0.38	99	25
2012	810	7,212	513 (Statewide 6 Zones)		0.63	104	28
2013	920	25,529	677 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.73	103	28
2014	920	30,121	682 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.74	96	28
2015	1,138	11,639	982 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.86	127	28
2016	920	6,094	784 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.89	95	31
2017	920	4,141	741 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.81	119	33
2018	930	4,190	761 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.81	106	34
2019	957	4,414	922 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.96	95	36
2020	986	5,548	876 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.89	117	36
2021	985	6,103	776 (Statewide 7 Zones)		0.79	117	36
TOTAL			8,613		0.72	1,345	

Alligator Hunting Season Violation Citations

Year	Number Hunters Checked	Number Vessels Checked	Number of Citations
2019	1,408	447	110
2020	1680	616	59
2021	1174	412	88
TOTAL	4,262	1,475	257

VIOLATION DESCRIPTIONS	
No Alligator Hunting License	23
PFD/Safety Violations	17
Drug Violations	13
No Boat Navigation Lights	9
No Hunting License	6
Alcohol in Possession	5
Uncased/Illegal Firearm	5
Untagged Alligator	1
Other	9

PRIVATE LANDS ALLIGATOR HUNTING

In 2021, there were 36 counties open to private lands alligator hunting. Applications for private land alligator hunting vouchers are accepted during May and June, the deadline is July 1. Applications are accepted from anyone, resident, or nonresident, with signed landowner permission for properties located within any open county. Applicants must provide a completed application, signed by the applicant and the landowner, a copy of the property deed, a copy of current year tax receipts for the property, a map that shows the general location of the property within the county, and a map of the property boundaries. The MDWFP digitizes the property boundaries and privately owned, permanent surface water located on the property to determine total acres of privately owned surface water (privately owned alligator habitat). Alligator Harvest Permit Vouchers are issued to approved property applicants at the rate of one voucher for the first 20 acres of privately owned alligator habitat and additional vouchers for each additional 100 acres of privately owned alligator habitat. Each voucher in conjunction with the purchase of a Private Lands Alligator Possession Permit (\$100 for residents and \$200 for nonresidents) and Alligator Hunting License (\$25) allows the harvest of two alligators at least four feet long, however only one of the two may exceed seven feet long.

Number of Property Applications Received	122
Number of Properties Permitted	121
Number of Harvest Vouchers Issued	357
Number of Private Water Acres Involved	25,002
Number of Alligators Harvested	117

MISSISSIPPI
Private Lands - 2021
ALLIGATOR HUNTING VOUCHER INSTRUCTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS: Special requirements are in effect. Read all regulations carefully before applying.

1. Anyone, 16 years of age, resident or non-resident, may apply provided that the landowner has granted the applicant permission and completes and signs the landowner information form.
2. Submit a copy of landowners **2020 PROPERTY TAX RECEIPT** for the property intended to be hunted. To be eligible, *the property must contain a minimum of twenty (20) acres of permanent surface water and be located within one or any of the available counties. (Public waters on or adjacent to property are NOT applicable and are not legal for hunting).*
 - Leaseholders submitting an application should include a copy of the lease agreement signed by the landowner.
3. Submit a copy of the **PROPERTY DEED** for the property intended to be hunted. *A complete property description must be included.*
4. Submit a legible **MAP or AERIAL PHOTO** of the property labeled with property boundaries plainly marked.
5. A **COUNTY MAP** indicating the general location of the applicant's property.
6. Submit **BOTH Pages of the APPLICATION FORM** (filled-out completely) and all of the above items by mail or in person:

Applications WILL NOT be accepted unless you provide complete and legible information as listed. Maps with marked property boundaries and a map indicating the properties general location within the county are required, regardless.

Mail to: MDWFP
Attn: Private Lands Alligator Application
1505 Eastover Dr.
Jackson, MS 39211-6374

NOTE to Prior Private Lands Applicants:

1. If the property was issued vouchers in previous years and there are no changes, then only item #2 AND the completed application form (Both Pages) are required.
2. If additional water acreage compared to a previous year's application is to be considered, then all information above should be submitted again.
3. If a new property is to be submitted for application, then all information above is required.

******* Deadline for applications is July 1, 2021 *******

LANDOWNER / PROPERTY INFORMATION FORM

I, _____, the/an owner of the submitted
(print landowners name)

property, am providing the following information to the best of my knowledge and the applicant listed below (if different than landowner) has my permission to hunt the described property.

_____/_____/2021
(landowners signature)

Daytime Phone Number of Landowner _____

Property Name or Common Name Reference (i.e. Big Oak Plantation, Smith Tract, Sleepy Creek Hunting Club, etc.) _____

List all county(s) in which the property is located:

Estimated acreage of property/tract submitted in this application: _____

(If known) Estimated acreage of surface water within property/tract : _____

Have any man-made lakes or other permanent water impoundments been constructed in the last 4 years (circle one)? YES NO

- If yes, in what year? _____
- How many acres of surface water were constructed? _____

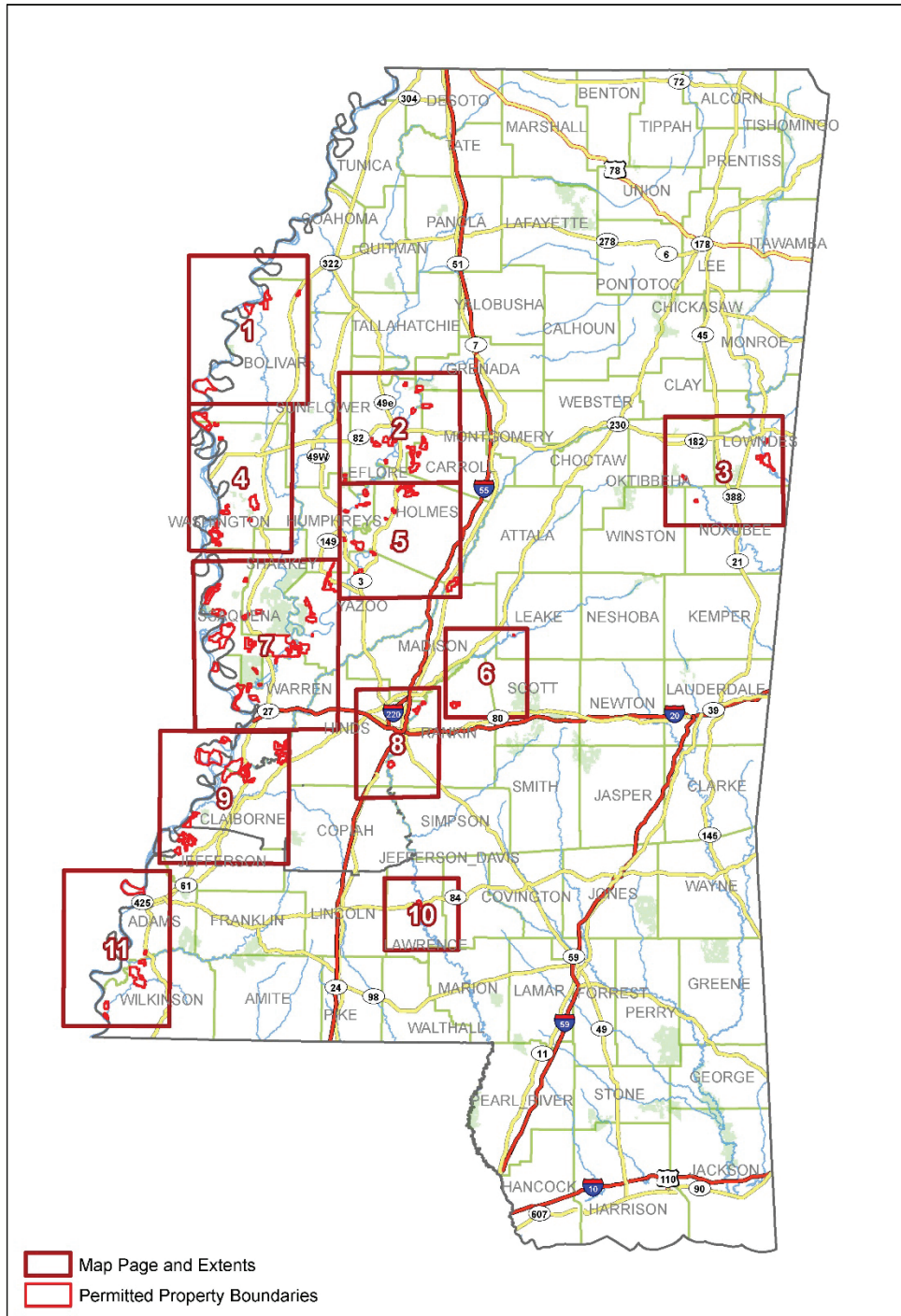
Has this property been permitted previously? YES ___ NO ___

Name the last year the permits were issued to this property ? _____

Check all that apply:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am the sole owner | <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by an estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by a business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by a corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by a partnership (commercial) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by an LLC | <input type="checkbox"/> Owned by a partnership (noncommercial) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Ownership (one other person) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify below |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Ownership (multiple owners) | _____ |

2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties Map index

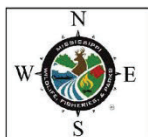
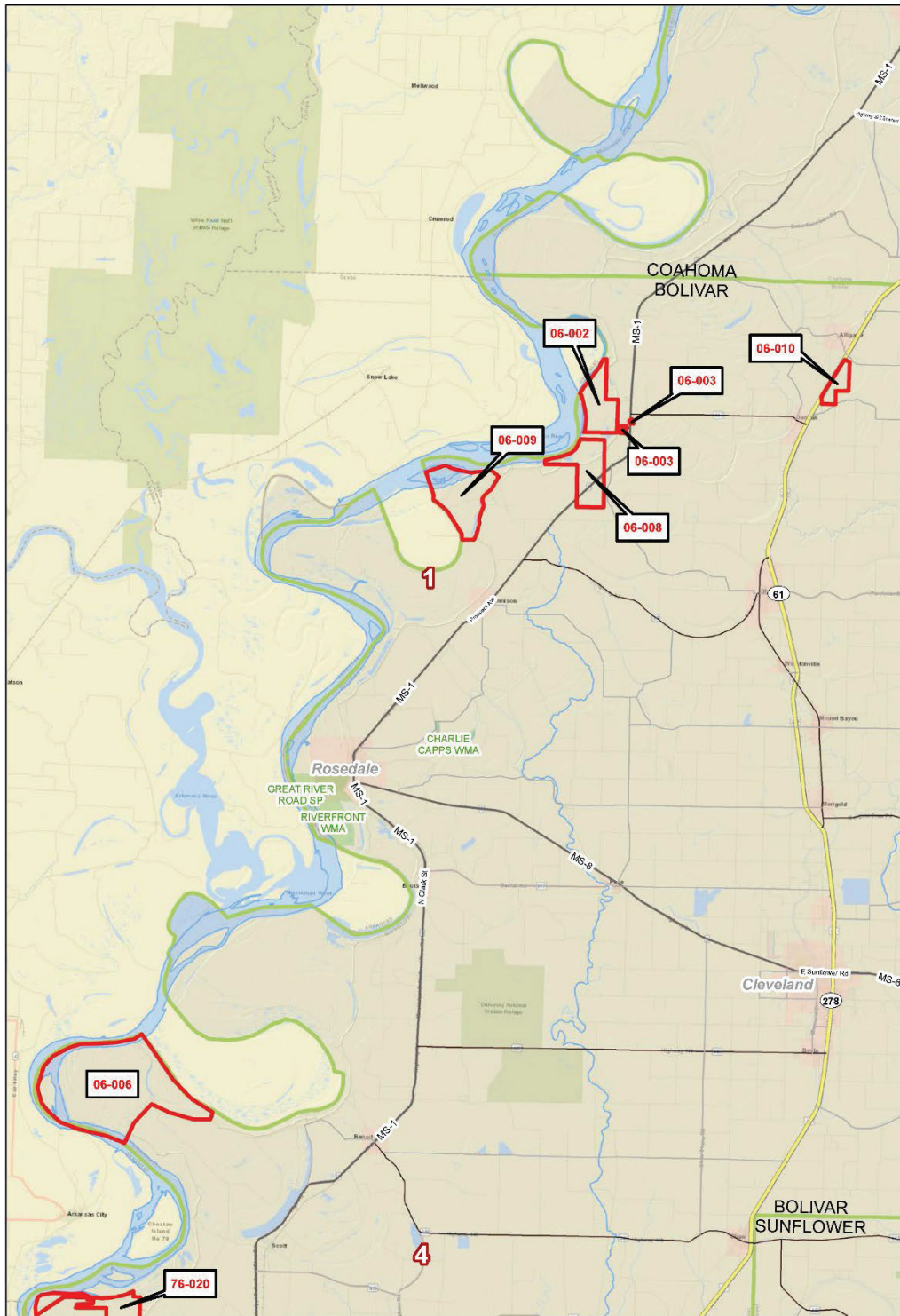


2021 Permitted Properties

Private Lands Alligator Season
Index Map



2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 1



2021 Permitted Properties

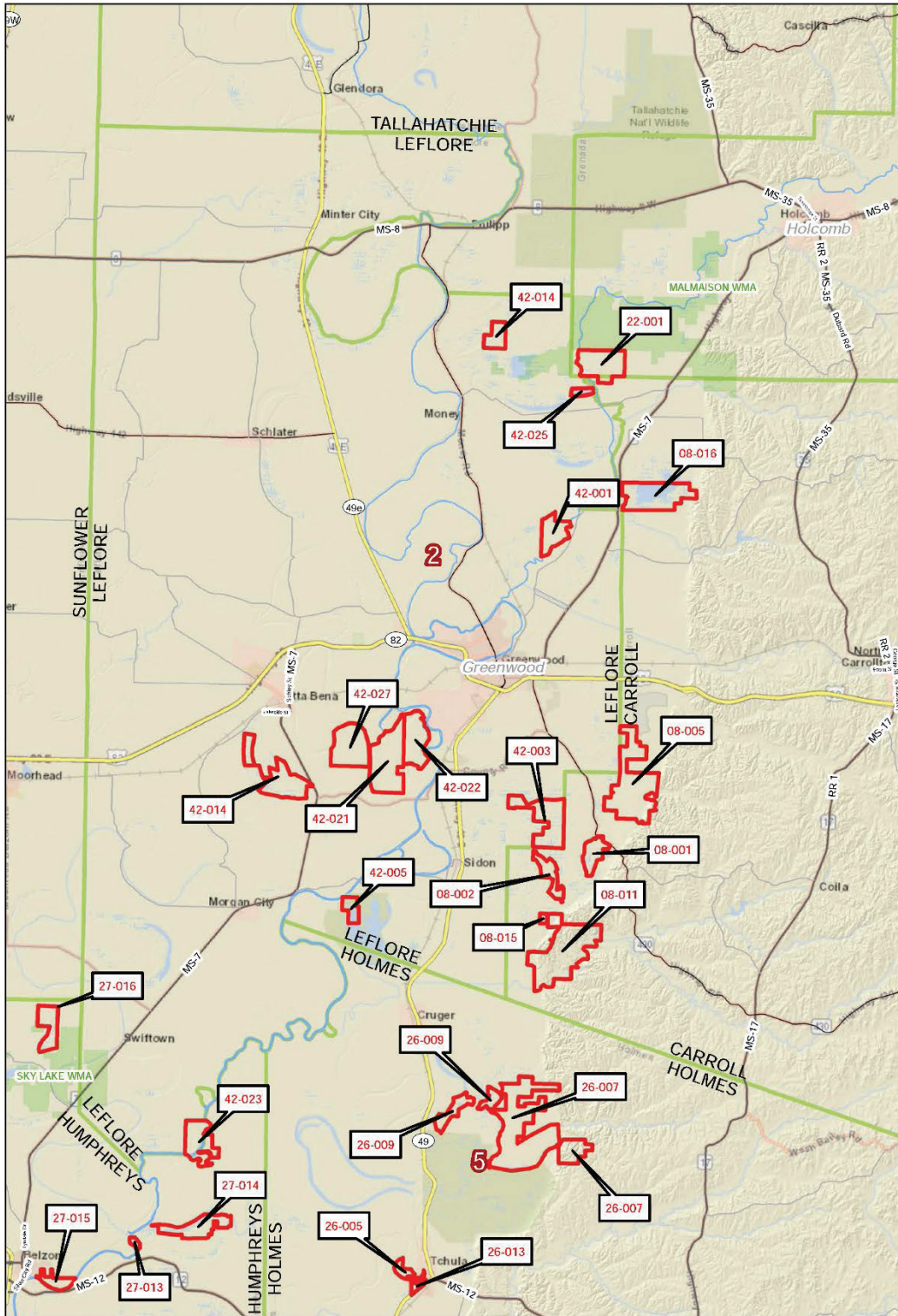
Map
1 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Bolivar County

 Property Boundaries

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2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 2



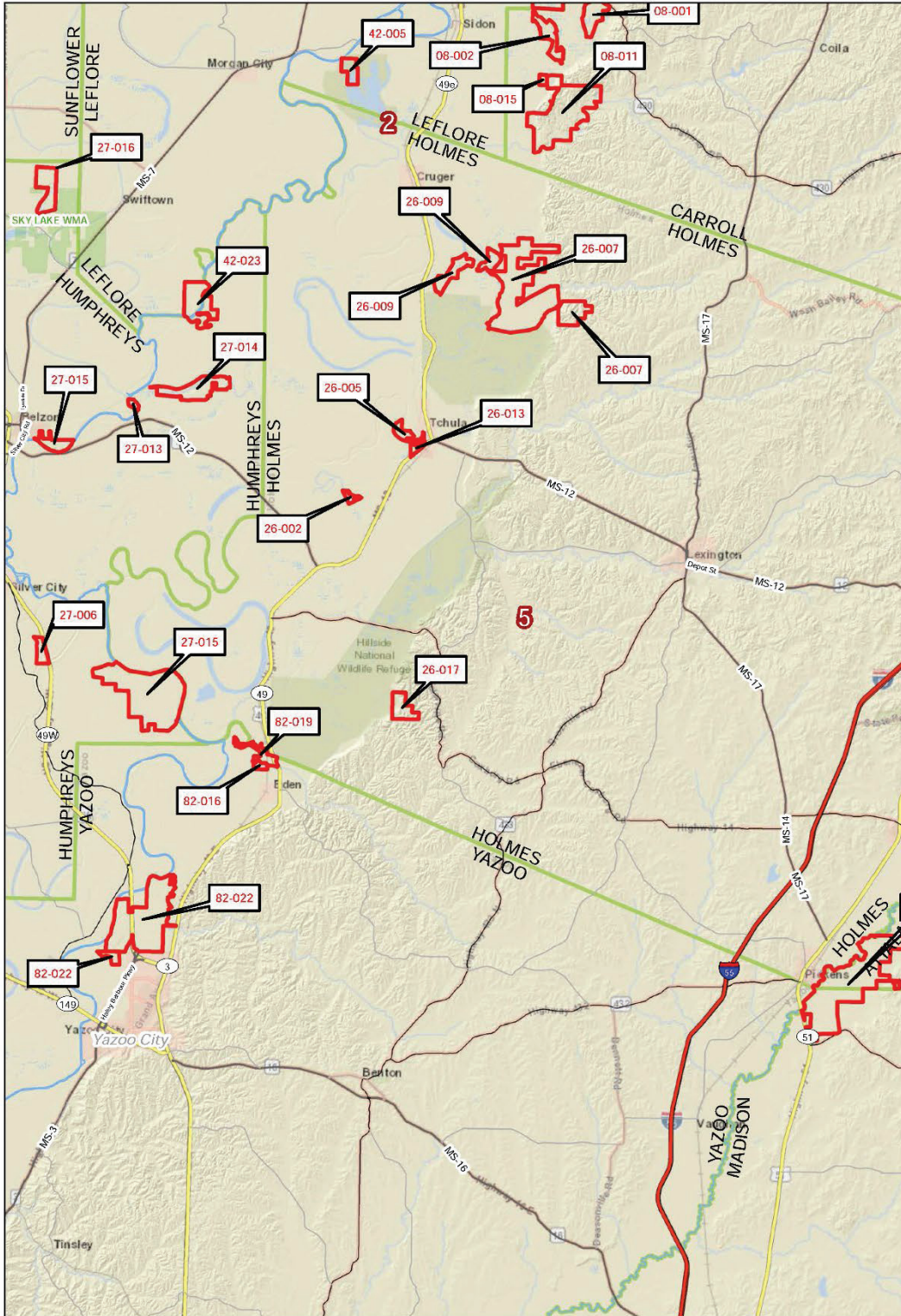
2021 Permitted Properties

Map
2 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, LeFlore, Humphreys Counties

 Property Boundaries

2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 5



2021 Permitted Properties

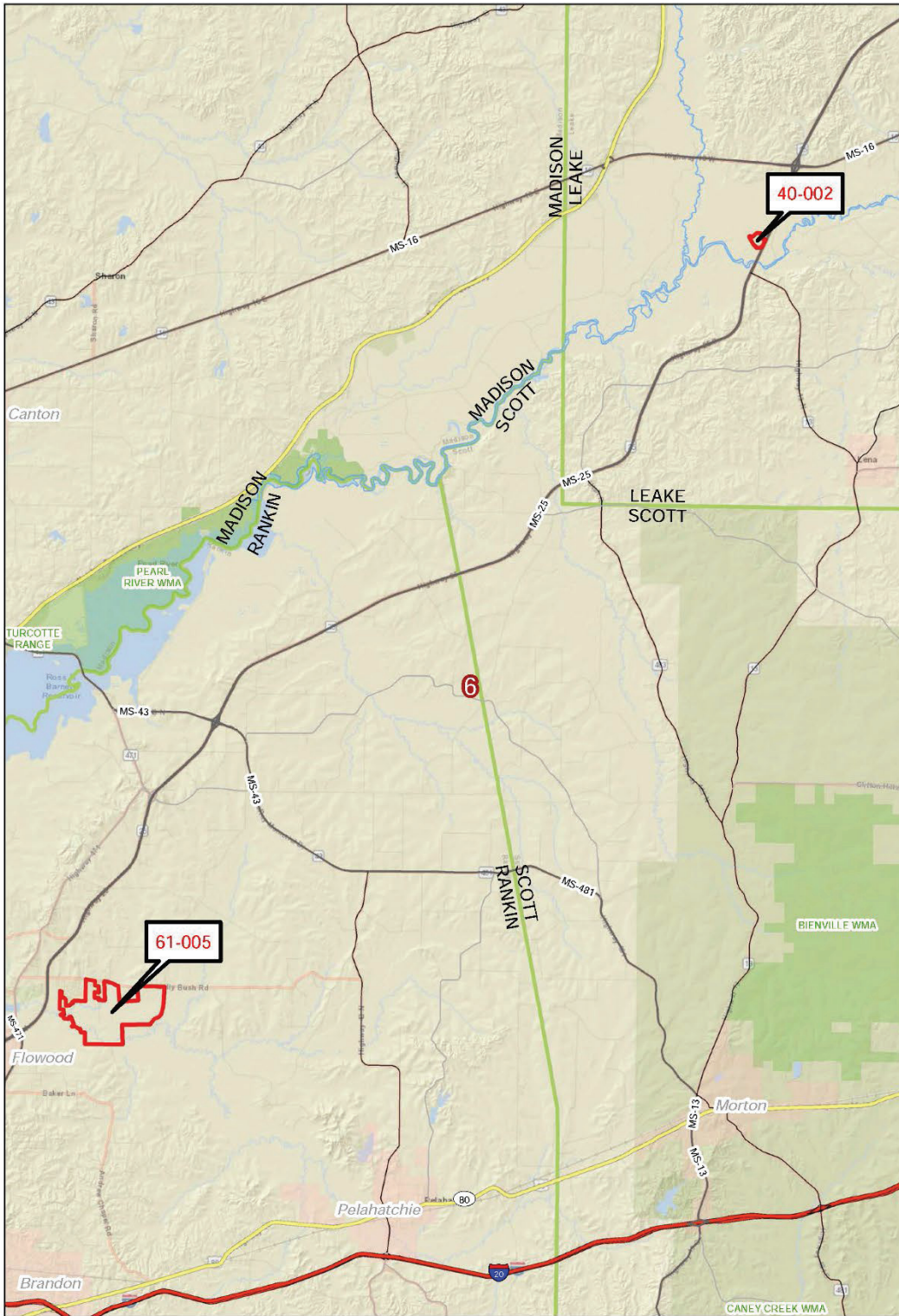
Map
5 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Carroll, Holmes, Humphreys, LeFlore, Yazoo Counties

 Property Boundaries

Map data provided by Esri, DeLorme, Garmin, IGN, Intermap, iPC, NITD, NRC, Swisstopo, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, Esri, Mapbox, Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community.

2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 6



2021 Permitted Properties

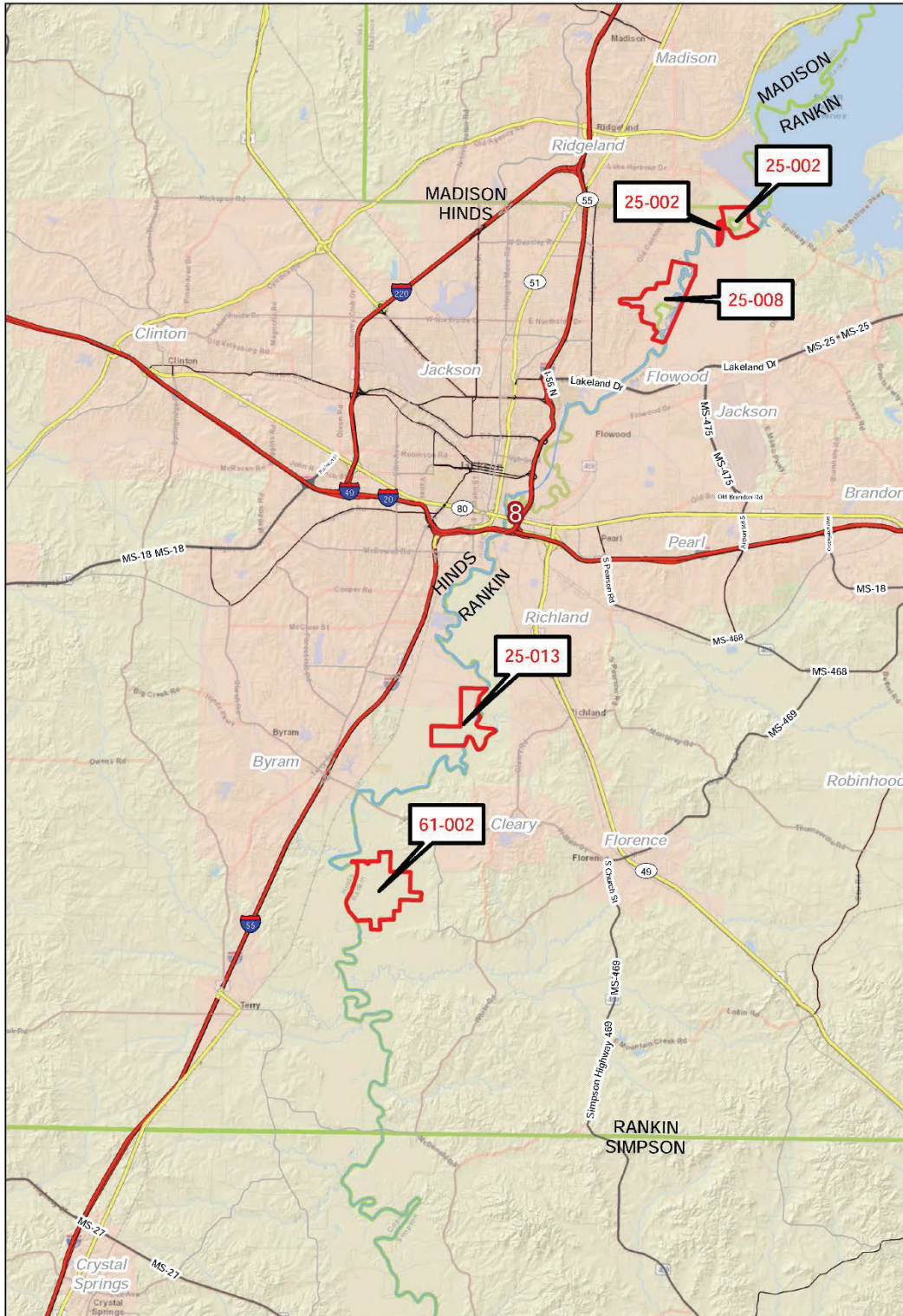
Map
6 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Leake, Rankin Counties

 Property Boundaries

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2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 8



2021 Permitted Properties

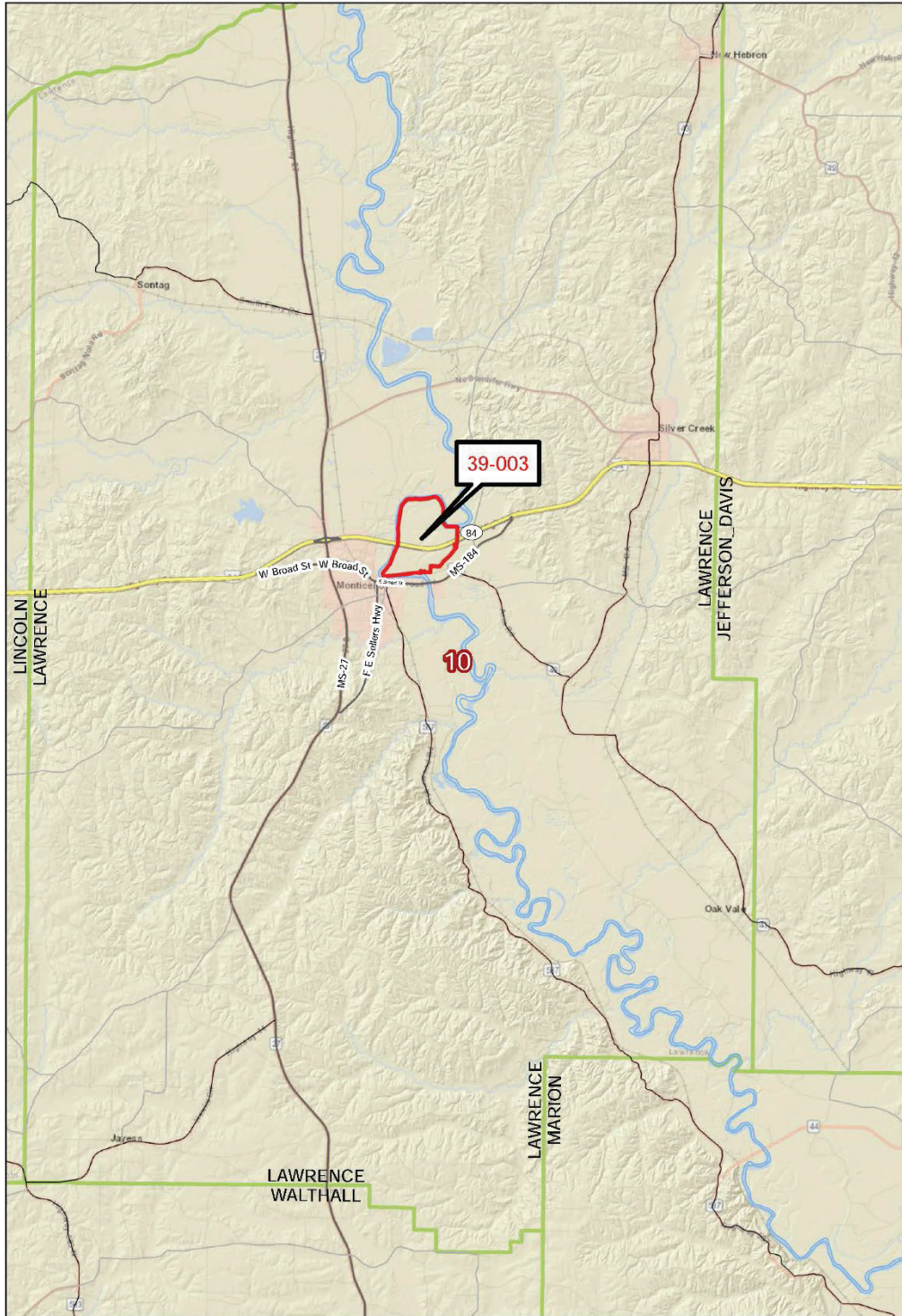
Map
8 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Hinds, Rankin Counties

Property Boundaries

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2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 10



2021 Permitted Properties

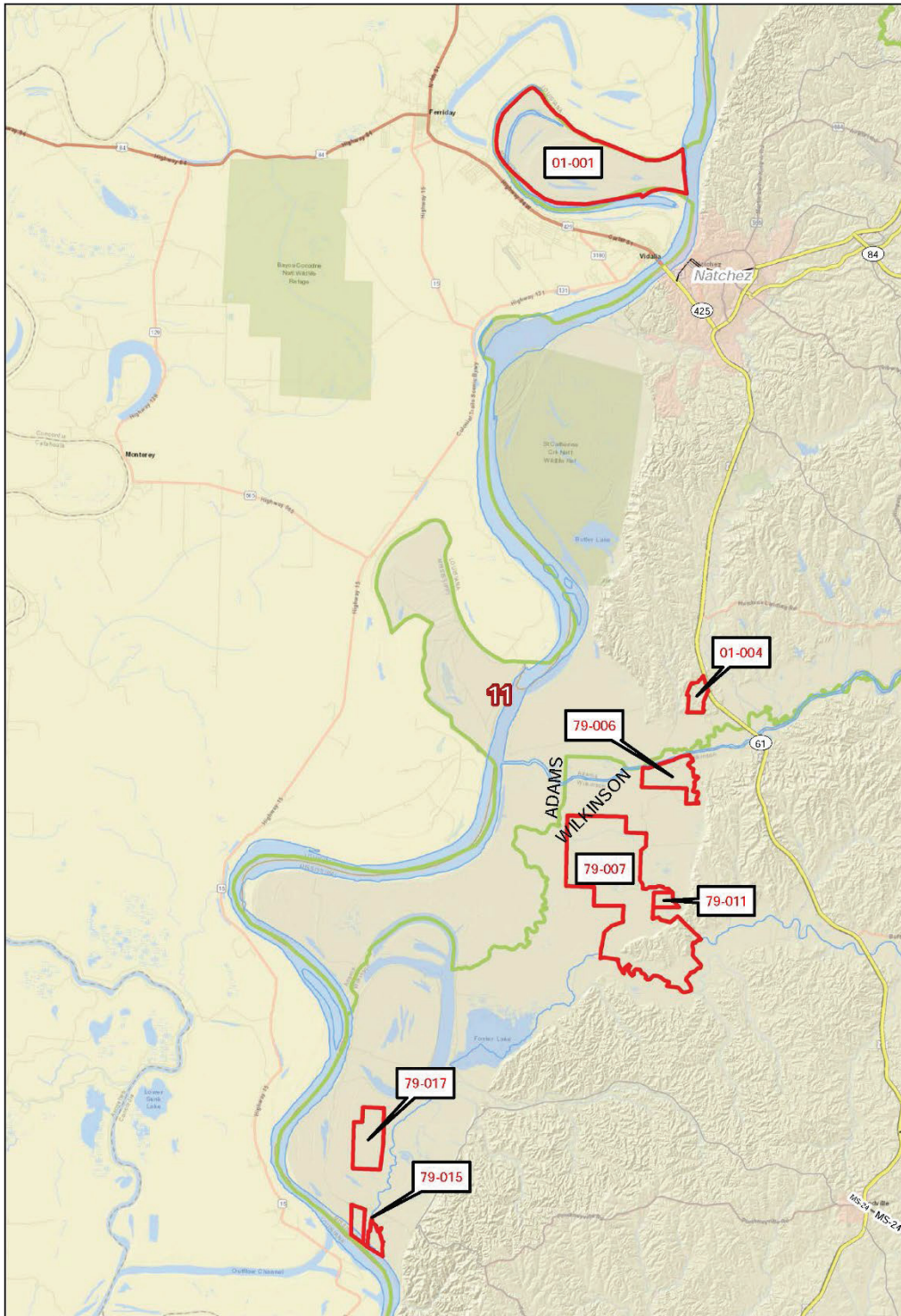
Map
10 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Lawrence County

 Property Boundaries

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2021 Permitted Private Lands Properties – Map 11



2021 Permitted Properties

Map
11 of 11

Private Lands Alligator Season
Adam, Wilkinson Counties

 Property Boundaries

HUNTER RECRUITMENT BY ALLIGATOR HUNTING SEASON

YEAR	# First Time Customers Who Bought a (754) Alligator Hunting License	Total # of Alligator Hunting Licenses Sold	Percent New MDWFP Customers	# Permits Issued
2021	137	3,342	4.10	985
2020	130	3,041	4.27	986
2019	154	2911	5.29	960
2018	139	2126	6.53	930
2017	156	3088	5.05	920
2016	204	3283	6.21	920
2015	207	3602	5.74	1138
2014	175	2887	6.06	920
2013	205	2762	7.42	920
2012	162	2169	7.47	810
2011	77	1424	5.41	480
2010	54	865	6.24	260
2009	57	834	6.83	240
2008	65	816	7.97	240
TOTAL	1,785/137 avg.	29,808	6.19	9,734

Alligator License/Permitting Revenue 2019-2021

Privilege	Cost Each	Number Sold 2019	Number Sold 2020	Number Sold 2021	Revenue 2020	Revenue 2021
Alligator Hunting License	\$25	2,911	3041	3340	\$76,025	\$83,500
Public Water Possession Permit	\$200	957	986	985	\$197,200	\$197,000
RES Private Lands Possession Permit	\$100	79	120	104	\$12,000	\$10,400
NR Private Lands Possession Permit	\$200	14	12	14	\$2,400	\$2,800
TOTAL					\$287,625	\$293,700

Alligator Hunting Records – Public Waters

As of close of 2021 Hunting Season

	Longest (male)	Heaviest (male)	Longest (female)	Longest (female)	Heaviest (female)
RECORD	14 ft. 3/4 in.	822 lbs.	10 ft. 0 in.	10 ft. 0 in.	319 lbs.
Taken by:	Brian Burnside	Clayton Gibson	Brandon Maskew	Paul Edwards	Craig Jones
Town	Brandon, MS	Natchez, MS	Ellisville, MS	Okolona, MS	Mendenhall, MS
Date	August 28, 2017	August 28, 2015	August 31, 2013	Sept. 5, 2019	August 30, 2015
Water Body	MS River	MS River	Pascagoula River	Steele Bayou	Eagle Lake
Method of Harvest	Rod/Reel -Snatch hook	Rod/Reel -Snatch hook	Rod/Reel -Snatch hook	Rod/Reel -Snatch hook	Rod/Reel -Snatch hook
Length	14 ft. 3/4 in.	13 ft. 1/2 in.	10 ft. 0 in.	10 ft. 0 in.	9 ft. 11 in.
Weight (lbs.)	766.5	822	295	289	319
Belly Girth (in.)	69	65	50	48	47
Tail Girth (in.)	43	48	32	34	37
ZONE	Southwest	Southwest	Southeast	West Central	West Central

Alligator Hunting Records - Private Lands

As of close of 2021 Hunting Season

	Longest (male)	Heaviest (male)	Longest (female)	Heaviest (female)
RECORD	14 ft. 1/4 in.	826 lbs.	10 ft. 1/2 in.	9 ft. 5.5 in.
Taken by:	Kennie Crechale	Kennie Crechale	Jonathon Kent	Kevin Goza
Town	Morton, MS	Morton, MS	Greenwood, MS	Flowood, MS
Date	August 29, 2015	August 29, 2015	September 19, 2015	September 25, 2010
County Taken	Warren Co.	Warren Co.	Issaquena Co.	Issaquena Co.
Length	14 ft. 1/4 in.	14 ft. 1/4 in.	10 ft. 1/2 in.	9 ft. 5 4/8 in.
Weight (lbs.)	826	826	283 (Tie Record)	283 (Tie Record)
Belly Girth (in.)	68	68	46	48
Tail Girth (in.)	48	48	32	32
Method of Harvest	Firearm/Rifle - Daytime	Firearm/Rifle - Daytime	Rod/Reel -Snatch hook	Rod/Reel - Snatch Hook

