

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo Returns to the Mississippi State Fairgrounds August 5-7

STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss. - The Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo, hosted by The Foundation for Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks and presented by Southern AgCredit, will be held at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds from Friday, August 5, through Sunday, August 7, in the Trade Mart. Joining the Expo will be the exciting Bulls, Bands and Barrels event, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 6, at the Mississippi Coliseum. Featuring rising country music star, Chase Matthew along with Justin Champagne and Cole Jones, Bulls, Bands and Barrels promises to be an unforgettable experience. World renowned championship cowboy Chris Shivers will be a featured guest participant at Bulls, Bands and Barrels.

"Agriculture and the great outdoors go hand in hand, and the Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo provides a great opportunity to bring ag and outdoor enthusiasts together at one event. We are excited to partner with the Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Foundation and look forward to serving as the host location for this event once again." said Andy Gipson, Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce. The Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo, the state's premier outdoor show, will fill the 60,000 square foot exhibit floor of the Trade Mart with displays of tractors, implements, power equipment, boats, UTVs, rods, reels, lures, game calls, outdoor clothing and more, all available at special Expo pricing. Also taking place at the Expo will be an archery shoot, a petting zoo presented by Southern AgCredit and presentations by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks' Museum of Natural Science and the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum. Sunday is "Kids Day" and children 12 and under will receive free admission.

"This show will highlight the incredible hunting, fishing, agricultural and outdoor spirit of our great state," said Don Brazil, CEO of The Foundation. "The Foundation is proud to be a part of this show, and we look forward to the great time we will have together in August!" Over 100 different vendors will be exhibiting thousands of products. Admission tickets for the Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo are available for purchase at the Mississippi Coliseum Ticket Office. Adult tickets are \$12.00, kid's tickets are \$6.00, and children 5-years and younger will be admitted for free.

Bulls, Bands and Barrels will present its high energy, non-stop action, heart pounding fun at the Mississippi Coliseum, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 6. Fans will not want to miss entertainment by rising country music star, Chase Matthew along with Justin Champagne and Cole Jones. World renowned championship cowboy, Chris Shivers will be a featured guest/participant at the event as well. Tickets can be purchased at www.BigTickets.com. Adult tickets start at \$30 (\$5 increase, day of event) and kid's tickets are \$15. For more information, visit BullsBandsandBarrels.com or visit Bulls, Bands and Barrels on Facebook.

"Central Mississippi has fantastic people who are among the greatest fans of the type of product we produce. We have been looking at coming here for a while," said Hunter Price, President and CEO of Bulls, Bands and Barrels. "When we were presented with this opportunity to work with the Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo, hosted by The Foundation for Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, we couldn't pass it up. We knew we'd found the right blend of location, great people to work with and great fans. We look forward to pulling out all the stops to help make the Mississippi Ag and Outdoor Expo weekend one for the books."

Ag and Outdoor Expo Dates and Ticket Info: Show Hours

12 p.m. to 7 p.m. – Friday, August 5 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Saturday, August 6 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Sunday, August 7 Tickets Adults – 13 years & older ... \$12.00 Kids – 6-12 years old \$6.00 Kids – 5 years and under Free

Bulls, Bands and Barrels Dates and Ticket Info:

- \Box Saturday, August 6, at 7:00 p.m.
- □ Adult tickets start at \$30 (\$5 increase on the day of the event)
- \Box Kids tickets are \$15
- □ Buy your tickets at <u>www.BigTickets.com</u>

For more information on the Mississippi Ag & Outdoor Expo, visit www.mississippioutdoorexpo.com.

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About The Foundation

In 2003, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) established a foundation to assist in protecting and preserving our wildlife heritage. The Foundation is the only outdoor organization that directly supports the MDWFP, which has the primary responsibility for hunting, fishing,

shooting sports and conservation in the state. Through the Foundation's financial support, various wildlife and educational projects associated with the MDWFP are made possible.

The Foundation also helps fund many additional programs not directly associated with the MDWFP whose goal is to preserve and protect the natural resources of the state.

For more information on the Foundation, visit <u>www.foundationmwfp.com</u>.

About Bulls, Bands and Barrels (BBB)

Bulls, Bands and Barrels is a premier western competition and entertainment tour featuring bull riding, barrel racing and up and coming national artists. Bull riding is considered a standard rodeo event for a variety of organizations. The event developed strictly as a contest, as opposed to other standard rodeo events which evolved out of the necessary skills of a working cowboy. Bull riding, often referenced as the most popular of event offerings at rodeos, makes up part of the industry's rough stock events. Barrel racing, another of the top two competitions in rodeo, is one of the most unique events in the rodeo world. While cowboys are riding spinning bulls, cowgirls are charging through the gate in a race against the clock. Barrel racing is truly one of the fastest events in rodeo. The Bulls, Bands and Barrels Tour features top level talent in each western emphasis while also providing top entertainment talent as a unique bonus for fans to enjoy.

For more information, visit <u>www.BullsBandsandBarrels.com</u> or visit Bulls, Bands and Barrels on Facebook.

Flyer attached.

