

# PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

## February

- Begin manipulation of water temperature for stimulating early bass spawning.

## March (1st Wednesday)

- Artificial spawning of paddlefish (8-11 a.m.).

## March/April/May

- Florida largemouth bass spawning and egg incubation.
- Prepare ponds and begin pond production of bream species.

## April

- Feed training of Florida largemouth bass fingerlings.

## May-September

- Grow-out of channel catfish, advanced largemouth bass fingerlings, bream, and crappie species.

# VISITING BOOKER FOWLER

## Visitors Center

Booker Fowler is home to a Visitors Center boasting 10,000 gallons of native fish aquaria and hand painted murals of some of Louisiana's beautiful aquatic habitats.

Hours: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Friday

## Fish Hatchery

Open for tours during the fish production season, mid-February through mid-May.

Walk-ins welcome from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

To schedule a guided tour or a group tour, please call (318) 748-6914

## School Groups

Appointment only

Please call

Aquatic Educator Angela Capello or  
Extension Biologist Alayna McGarry  
at (318) 748-6914

# BOOKER FOWLER FISH HATCHERY



## DID YOU KNOW?

The Louisiana Fish Hatchery Program has worked with United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the City of Shreveport hatcheries to stock over 60 million fish in Louisiana waters over the last ten years!



Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries  
Booker Fowler Fish Hatchery  
10 Joan Stokes Road  
Forest Hill, LA 71430  
Ph (318) 748-6914  
Fax (318) 748-6930

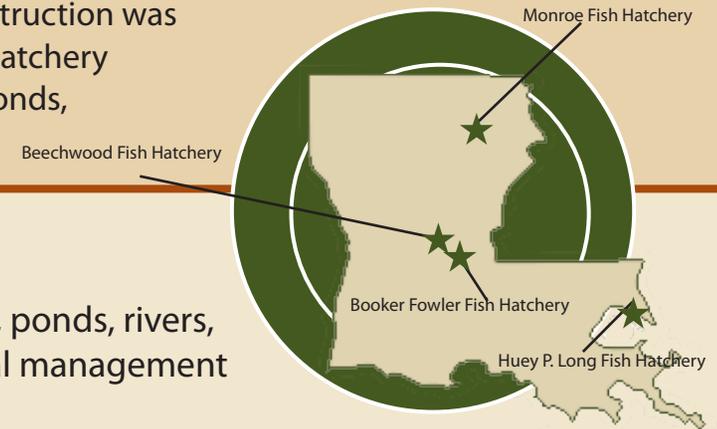
This public document was published at a total cost of \$836.51. 3,000 copies of this public document were published and partially paid for by a Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Grant (F-136) from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in this first printing at a cost of \$836.51. This document was published by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, to inform Louisiana residents and non-residents about the Sport Fish Restoration Program. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by state agencies.



## Freshwater Sport Fish Enhancement & Restoration

Booker Fowler Fish Hatchery is Louisiana's freshwater fish production hub. It is one of four freshwater fish hatcheries owned and operated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Construction was completed in 1996. The facility is named after Mr. Booker Fowler, one of the state's first fish hatchery managers. Features of the hatchery include 40 one-acre and 15 quarter-acre plastic-lined ponds, 16 large concrete raceways, an indoor fish hatchery, and a visitors center.

### Louisiana's Fish Hatcheries



## The Fish Stocking Process

**Step 1** Every fall, fisheries biologists from around the state request fish for public lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams for the following calendar year. These requests are based on the individual management needs of each waterbody.

**Step 2** Fish stocking requests are prioritized based on greatest need.

**Step 3** Hatchery biologists determine how to meet the requests and begin working with production partners to plan spring and fall fish production.

**Step 4** Fish production begins in mid-February. Eggs are produced, hatched, and grown into fingerlings until they are ready to be stocked.

**Step 5** As fish grow into fingerlings, hatchery workers harvest and stock the fish according to the established fish stocking priority list for that year. Fingerling grow-out and stocking continues until the next February when the fish production cycle begins again.



## What We Do For Our State

The Louisiana Fish Hatchery Program provides and stocks healthy fish as a fisheries management tool

- to enhance statewide sport fisheries
- to increase and promote freshwater recreational fishing opportunities
- to aid in the recovery of fisheries affected by natural or man-made disasters
- to produce threatened or endangered species when necessary

The hatchery program also assists other local, state, and federal agencies by providing fish and fish transportation services for outreach activities that introduce or encourage fishing.