

# Fact Sheet

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## History of Bussey Brake

- Original opening 1960 under International Paper Company ownership
- International Paper Company donated land 2013 (Act of Donation on record)
- We would like to acknowledge the federal Sport Fish Restoration Program for providing funding for the construction and renovation, of this facility. Completed in 2019.
- Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) funds support on-going LDWF management (stocking, monitoring, access); *SFR logo can be found in digital media portal*
- Morehouse Innovation and Technology Alliance (MITA) partnership 100% funding for kids' pier (in-progress)
- Partnerships with Keep Morehouse Beautiful and the Chamber of Commerce

## Site Improvements – *photos can be found in digital media portal*

- Description of site improvements (Sport Fish Restoration Funds)
  - New launch and mooring dock
  - Wave Breaks for pier/launch area protection
  - Boat lanes and markers for safety
  - Pier construction for access enhancement
  - Pump replacement for water control
- Pier locations
  - ADA compliant pier is located at northeast gate
  - Kids pier will be located at northeast gate
  - Small pier is located at southeast gate

## Record Fish Caught at Bussey Brake – *photos can be found in digital media portal*

- James Morgan set the new record for the state's #6 black crappie
- Anthony Griffith of Bastrop caught the state's #2 white crappie
- Tyler Stewart (local professional fisherman) caught the current lake record and his personal best largemouth bass, at 12.74 lbs.

## Usage Estimates

- Data collected from self-clearing permits
- First year of use (July 2020 – July 2021) total visits = 8,145

**Stocking History – Stocking possible through SFR funding.**

| Date | Species                  | Number and Size                   |
|------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2017 | Bluegill                 | 226,704 fingerlings, 4,352 adults |
|      | Florida Largemouth Bass  | 1,900,000 fry                     |
|      | Redear Sunfish           | 222,865 fingerlings               |
| 2018 | Black Crappie            | 4,645 fingerlings                 |
|      | Bluegill                 | 392,490 fingerlings               |
|      | Florida Largemouth Bass  | 500 adults                        |
|      | Northern Largemouth Bass | 45,546 fingerlings                |
|      | Redear Sunfish           | 109,300 fingerlings               |
| 2019 | Bluegill                 | 905,694 fingerlings               |
|      | Northern Largemouth Bass | 24 adults                         |
|      | Redear Sunfish           | 193,500 fingerlings               |
|      | Threadfin Shad           | 9,040 adults                      |
| 2020 | Florida Largemouth Bass  | 49,100 fingerlings                |
|      | White Crappie            | 32,500 fingerlings                |

**Common Fish in the Bussey Brake Lake**

- Bluegill
- Redear
- Bowfin
- Crappie
- Threadfin shad
- Spotted gar
- Largemouth bass (Northern and Florida)

**Regulations**

- Primary objective is to provide an exceptional and unique fishery to both shoreline and boat anglers. Emphasis on high catch rates of largemouth bass and quality size crappie and sunfish.
- Special Regulations (length restrictions, creel limits)
  - Black Bass: 16 in. max. length; daily creel = 5; although you may have 1 fish > 16” long
  - Crappie: 10 in. min. length; daily creel = 25
  - Bream: daily creel = 50
  - Rod-n-reel only
- State regulations are in effect for all other species. Regulations may be viewed at: [www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/seasons-and-regulations](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/seasons-and-regulations)
- No hunting, commercial fishing, swimming or water skiing allowed

**Boat and Kayak Launches**

- Northeast Gate N32° 52'18.40" W91° 54'87" = boat launch, fishing pier, large parking area
- Southeast Gate N32° 50'50.85" W91° 55'43.45" = fishing pier, small parking area, kayak launch

**Digital Media Portal URL (Photos and Video of Bussey Brake)**

- <https://ldwf.canto.com/v/BusseyBrake>