

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Black Bass Regulations on Bussey Brake Wildlife Management Area (LAC 76:XIX.111)

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do provide notice of their intent to amend a Rule (LAC 76:XIX.111) by modifying the Black Bass Regulations on Bussey Brake Wildlife Management Area. The new maximum length limit will be increased from 16 to 18 inches and removes the daily take allowance of one bass over 16 inches.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement, the filing of the Notice of Intent and compiling public comments and submissions for the commission's review and consideration. In the absence of any further action by the commission following an opportunity to consider all public comments regarding the proposed rule, the Secretary is authorized and directed to prepare and transmit a summary report to the legislative oversight committees and file the final Rule.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§111. General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and Regulations

A.-G.17.1.iii. ...

m. Bussey Brake. Area closed to all hunting and trapping activity.

Area closed to all activities between two hours after sunset until 4 a.m. with the exception of rod and reel or cane pole fishing. Fishing may take place between these hours at the north fishing pier or by boat. Access to all other areas are prohibited between these hours. Recreational fishing and all other allowed non-consumptive uses only. No personal watercraft or water skiing. No camping. No ATVs/UTVs or electric bicycles allowed. No motorized vehicles of any type allowed on reservoir levee except at boat launch for purpose of launching boat or to access fishing pier. Pulling boats over levees or any other activities that cause detriment to the levees is prohibited. Horseback riding and non-motorized bicycles are allowed only on the designated trail named Levee Trail (see map at boat launch kiosk). Access is granted at two marked locations, adjacent to the boat launch and just beyond the boat launch parking area. No tying boats to channel marker poles. A No-Wake Zone is in effect in the harbor inside the wave break. No boats allowed within 30 feet of fishing piers.

i. Fishing: fish may be taken only by rod and reel or cane pole for recreational purposes. Tournament fishing allowed by Special Use Permit only. All types of nets, including but not limited to gill nets, trammel nets, hoop nets, wire nets, fyke nets and fish seines are prohibited. Trotlines, yo-yos, limb lines, stump lines, slat traps, jugs, cans, and pipes are prohibited. Shoreline (non-boat) fishing only allowed at designated locations. No fishing or lake access from rocks along interior of reservoir levee.

(a). Black Bass (*Micropterus spp.*)

(i). Daily limit: recreational daily creel limit shall be five fish, in the aggregate;

(ii). Possession limit: possession limit shall be five fish while on water and ten fish while off water, in the aggregate;

(iii). Length: the maximum total length limit shall be 16 18 inches, with the exception that one fish over 16 inches may be kept one bass over 22 inches may be temporarily retained in an aerated livewell immediately prior to weighing on a personal scale or LDWF provided certified scale. The bass must be immediately released into Bussey Brake Reservoir following weighing, and all anglers in the boat (if caught from boat) must cease fishing until the retained bass over 22 inches has been released.

G.17.m.i.(b).-G.21.c.vi. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115 and R.S. 56:116, R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325 (C) and R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:1279 (July 1999), amended LR 26:1494 (July 2000), LR 27:1049 (July 2001), LR 28:1603 (July 2002), LR 29:1124 (July 2003), repromulgated LR 29:1522 (August 2003), amended LR 30:1495 (July 2004), LR 31:1611 (July 2005), LR 32:1251 (July 2006), LR 33:1382 (July 2007), LR 34:1429 (July 2008), LR 35:1264 (July 2009), LR 36:1566 (July 2010), LR 37:2190 (July 2011), LR 38:1732 (July 2012), LR 39:2292 (August 2013), LR 40:1540 (August 2014), LR 41:963 (May 2015), LR 42:1112 (July 2016), LR 43:1423 (July 2017), LR 44:1277 (July 2018), LR 45:938 (July 2019), LR 46:961 (July 2020), LR 47:904 (July 2021), LR 48:511 (March 2022), LR 48:1867 (July 2022), LR 49:1235 (July 2023), LR 50:794 (June 2024), LR 51: , LR 51: .

Family Impact Statement

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Poverty Impact Statement

This proposed Rule will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

Provider Impact Statement

This proposed Rule has no known impact on providers as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

Small Business Analysis

This proposed Rule is anticipated to have a positive economic impact on small businesses as described in R.S. 49:965.2 through R.S. 49:965.8.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed Rule until June 5, 2025, to Ryan Daniel, Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 368 Century Tel Drive, Monroe, LA, 71203 or via e-mail to rdaniel@wlf.la.gov.

Kevin Sagrera

Chairman