



William J “Billy Joe” Rish Recreation Area

2021 PARK FACTS

| <u>VISITATION</u> | <u>ECONOMIC IMPACT</u> | <u>LOCAL JOBS SUPPORTED</u> | <u>STAFF</u> | <u>VOLUNTEERS</u> | <u>ACRES</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| * | * | * | 1 | * | * |

*THIS PARK IS IN DEVELOPMENT. FACT COLLECTION HAS NOT BEGUN YET



Stephanie McDonald, Park Manager

Welcome to the newest addition in the network of Florida state parks. This recreation area is designated for people with disabilities, their families and their caregivers.

During your visit to William J. “Billy Joe” Rish Recreation Area, you’ll quickly discover some incredible day-use facilities

and experiences, including the amazing beach, the bayside canoe and kayak launch, and the visitor center.

Keep an eye out for wading birds on the bayside of the park. Great blue herons, egrets and a variety of other birds forage for food in the shallow waters of St. Joseph Bay. Look overhead for osprey searching for lunch, soaring brown pelicans and even bald eagles.

I hope to see you soon at Rish Recreation Area.

Plan your visit at FloridaStateParks.org



This information fact sheet was produced by the Florida State Parks Foundation (FloridaStateParksFoundation.org)

FLORIDA STATE PARKS

A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO FLORIDA'S WELL-BEING!



The Florida State Parks and Trails system is one of the state's greatest success stories having won the prestigious National Gold Medal of Excellence a record four times. Florida residents and, visitors from around the world, are drawn to Florida's state parks and trails as *the places* to hike, bike, kayak, swim, fish, camp, lay on the beach, hunt for shells, learn about nature and Florida history, have family reunions, and even get married!

Plan your visit at FloridaStateParks.org.

FY 2020-21 Statewide Economic Data

- **175 Florida State Parks and Trails**
(164 Parks / 11 Trails comprising nearly 800,000 acres)
- **\$4.4 billion direct economic impact**
- **\$300 million in sales tax revenue**
- **61,983 jobs supported**
- **29 million visitors served**



The mission of the Florida State Parks Foundation is to support and help sustain the Florida Park Service. The Florida State Parks Foundation supports the entire Florida State Park system through programs that:

- preserve and protect state parks
- educate visitors and decision makers about the value of state parks
- encourage community engagement and active use of state parks
- provide financial support to supplement state funding

Find Out More - Get Involved
FloridaStateParksFoundation.org



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