

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Welcomes Bass Pro to Mississippi

(Pearl, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today welcomed Bass Pro Shops to Mississippi. The Governor was joined by Johnny Morris, founder of Bass Pro Shops; Jim Hagle, CEO of Bass Pro Shops, fishing legend Bill Dance, Senator Dean Kirby, Pearl Mayor Jimmy Foster, Chip Miskelly, Noel Daniels and developer Murray Wikol.

“With its prime game habitats, pristine lakes and beautiful camping areas, Mississippi is a destination point for anyone who enjoys the outdoors,” Musgrove said. “Bass Pro will offer the equipment and the expertise to make the outdoor experience even better.”

Governor Musgrove and the Mississippi Development Authority worked with local leaders and elected officials to bring Bass Pro Shops to Pearl. When the retail outlet opens in early 2005, it will create approximately 300 new jobs for the Jackson Metro area.

“The location of this development along Interstate 20 will offer an easily accessible attraction for Mississippians and its visitors,” said Musgrove. “This is a great addition to the area, and I’m excited about the economic and tourism opportunities it will bring to the area.”

The first Bass Pro Shop opened in Springfield, Missouri, in 1972. Currently, there are 15 locations around the country. The Pearl location will be part of the Bloomfield development, which will feature 180,000 square feet of retail space, as well as restaurants, an amphitheatre and a wildlife museum and aquarium. Bass Pro Shops features outdoor recreational products for fishing, hunting and camping.

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