



2026-2027 WPAFB FISHING REGULATIONS

GRAVEL, TWIN, AND BASS LAKE: All persons sixteen years of age and older wishing to take fish from these areas are required to have in their possession a Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Fishing Permit. A state license is not required to fish the land-locked lakes; however, it is required to take frogs or turtles in these lakes. Taking of turtles and frogs is according to State of Ohio laws. **ALL GUESTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN AUTHORIZED BASE SPONSOR WHILE FISHING.**

HEBBLE CREEK, TROUT CREEK, and MAD RIVER: All persons twelve years of age or older wishing to take fish from these areas are required to have in their possession at all times a Wright-Patterson AFB Fishing Permit **AND** a State of Ohio Fishing License.

EXCEPTION: A base fishing permit is not required of a US Armed Forces veteran who the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has determined to be totally or permanently totally disabled, and who has a personal description and a certification of disability from the Veteran's Administration in possession while fishing.

LICENSE/ PERMIT: A new state license and/or base permit is required 1 year (365 days) from the date of previously purchased base fishing permit. If this permit is lost, stolen or destroyed it can be reissued at a replacement cost. The state license and/or base permit must be in possession at all times while fishing and must be shown to any person upon request.

Base fishing permits MUST be purchased online at: <https://wpafb.isportsman.net/>. For other information, please call 257-4857, or by email 88CEG.CEIE.NaturalResources@us.af.mil.

DAILY CATCH/ POSSESSION LIMITS: Catch and release only for all fish species. Consuming fish caught in base lake waters not advised. (Updated Jul 2022). Turtle and frog possession limit in accordance with ODNR-DOW possession limits.

CLAMS, MUSSELS, OR MUSSEL SHELLS may not be taken, possessed, or collected for any purpose.

LINE LIMITS: Anglers may not use more than two fishing lines whether fastened to a pole, a rod and reel, or hand held. Not more than three hooks may be used on each line. Each angler must maintain constant control over the fishing rods at all times. Trotlines, set or bank lines, and float lines are not allowed except in Mad River, where their use is according to State of Ohio regulations. Snagging of fish is not allowed on this base. Minnow traps and seines may be used in streams and Mad River according to Ohio laws. Their use requires an Ohio fishing license. They may not be used in landlocked waters on base.

GAME WARDENS: The 88th Security Forces Squadron is responsible for enforcing hunting and fishing laws and regulations. They can be reached at 257-6516 or 257-6517.

SEASONS: Except for temporary individual lake closures, there are no hours or seasons for the use of the landlocked lakes. Turtles may only be taken 01 Jul- 31 Dec 2026.

EXOTIC SPECIES: It is unlawful to transport and introduce any aquatic species (fish, invertebrate, plant) from one body of water to another. Bait restrictions, if any, will be posted at the individual lakes.

ARCHERY FISHING: Bows of any weight pull may be used for archery fishing. Appropriate state license and/or base permit are required. Archers may take frogs and forage fish. Crossbows, spear guns of any type, and CO₂ cylinder operated guns are not allowed.

SAFETY PROVISIONS: All persons under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a licensed adult while fishing. **Boating is allowed on base lakes provided all ODNR- Division of State Parks & Watercraft laws/guidelines are followed. No boats are permitted beyond the buoy line at Bass Lake. This is a restricted area.** Ice fishing is not allowed. IAW WPAFBI32-2001, C, 26. Camp fires/bon fires are prohibited, unless approved by Fire Emergency Services Flight.