

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON GRAFENWOEHR
UNIT 28130
APO AE 09114-8130

AMIM-BAW-WR

25 March 2026

SUBJECT: Grafenwoehr Outdoor Recreation Center Fishing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

1. PURPOSE: To provide information and guidance to Anglers fishing the USAG Bavaria Outdoor Recreation (ODR) program waters.

2. APPLICABILITY: This SOP is applicable to all fishing or related activities in waters controlled under lease by USAG-Bavaria DFMWR

3. GENERAL:

a. Eligibility

(1) Authorized MWR patrons, their dependent family members, and their bona fide guests. All guests must be always accompanied by their sponsor and possess a valid German fishing license and day permit.

(2) Host Nation personnel directly employed by U.S. Army organizations, with their place of duty at Rose Barracks, Tower Barracks, or Grafenwoehr Training Area may purchase annual or day passes to fish in MWR-controlled waters. They may not bring guests to fish. A Common Access Card (CAC) or DBIDS installation access card is used to establish eligibility. The number of permits issued to Host Nation (HN) personnel will not exceed 50% of the total number of permits issued. If the number reached 50%, no new permits will be issued until additional U.S. Forces personnel obtain a permit.

b. Personnel fishing on the MWR waters must comply with all applicable procedures and regulations. Ignorance of the rules set forth in this SOP, German Fishing Law, and the German Animal Protection Act is not a valid reason for failure to comply. All Anglers will receive a copy of this SOP when purchasing or renewing fishing permits and must be familiar with the contents.

c. Fishing Wardens are appointed to supervise and control fishing, and to report any violations of this SOP and German Laws. Wardens are identified by a Warden card. Wardens may check creel limits and report violators of this SOP to the fishing coordinators within MWR.

d. All Anglers must cooperate with Wild B.O.A.R. staff and the appointed Fish Wardens. Non-compliance may result in the MPs and/or German Polizei being notified, and fishing privileges suspended or revoked.

f. Fishing is authorized from one hour before sunrise until sunset.

g. Night fishing is authorized every Friday from 1 May through 30 September and is limited to Dickhauter Lake.

(1) Any person participating in night fishing shall check in with the Wild B.O.A.R. Outdoor Recreation Center in person, by telephone (prior to 18:00 weekdays, 17:00 weekends), or via email. Contact information is on the fishing permit. This is for statistical purposes to justify continuing to allow night fishing.

AMIM-BAW-W

SUBJECT: Grafenwoehr Outdoor Recreation Center Fishing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

(2) Camping is allowed lakeside during night fishing only after registering with the Wild B.O.A.R. and paying the applicable fees. A valid tent tag (provided by the Wild B.O.A.R. after registration) must be visible for inspection by Staff, Fishing Wardens, or other authorities.

(3) Open fires are not allowed.

e. Recreational Lodging (cabins and rooms) is available at Big Mike Lake (Rose Barracks) and on Tower Barracks. Campsites are available at Big Mike Lake and Dickhauter Lake campgrounds. Contact the Wild B.O.A.R. for availability, reservation, and payment.

f. Age requirements.

Note: According to Bavarian laws, youth must be at least 7 years old to participate in fishing.

Age(s)	Allowances and Limitations
7-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May fish with one of the two poles allowed to a licensed adult angler, under supervision of that adult angler• No license or separate permit required
7-10	May not land the fish, remove the hook, or dispatch the fish
10 and older	May land the fish, under observation of a licensed adult angler
10-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May obtain a permit to fish on post with their own pole, accompanied by a licensed adult angler (parent or guardian).• Without permit, still limited to one of the two poles allowed to a licensed adult angler.
14 and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May obtain their own license.• If licensed, may obtain a permit to fish on post with up to two of their own poles.• May not supervise an unlicensed minor angler or allow another youth to use one of the two pole limit.• If licensed, still requires adult supervision at the MWR facilities. However, the adult does not need to be a licensed angler.
18 and above	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must obtain a license• If licensed, may obtain a permit to fish on post• If licensed, may oversee youth anglers (and unlicensed anglers at MWR fishing events)

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS:

a. Fees

(1) Licensed Angler

- **Annual** permit (valid for 365 days from the date of purchase). HFSS Member: \$150; Non-Member: \$200
- **Daily** permits (valid for 24 hours). HFSS Member: \$15; Non-Member: \$20

(2) Youth Accompanied

- **Annual** permit (valid for 365 days from the date of purchase). sponsor is HFSS Member \$75; Non-Member: \$100
- **Daily** pass (valid for 24 hours). sponsor is HFSS member: \$7 Non-Member: \$10 (member/ Non-Member

(3) **Monthly** permit (Youth only, either "Accompanied" or "Licensed"). Sponsor is HFSS Member: \$20; Non-Member: \$25

(4) **Weekend** permits; (valid four days of Federal or Training Holiday weekends): \$35

(5) Night fishing tent fee (Dickhauter lake only): \$5

b. While fishing all personnel must have in their possession the following:

- (1) Valid ID Card
- (2) Valid German Fishing license
- (3) Valid Fishing Permit

AMIM-BAW-W

SUBJECT: Grafenwoehr Outdoor Recreation Center Fishing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

- (4) Appropriate measuring device(s)
- (5) Small club and knife to dispatch fish
- (6) Valid Tank Trail Pass displayed in the windshield of your vehicle IAW 5.e, below.

c. Reporting.

(1) Anglers will report fish removed from MWR waters to help monitor populations and inform stocking efforts.

(2) Submit information the day fish are caught via an online questionnaire. Wild B.O.A.R. staff will provide the link to the application when fishing permits are issued (see QR code below).

(3) ODR will periodically award an annual permit by random drawing from submitted reports.

5. RESTRICTIONS:

a. **The daily creel limit on all lakes is two (2) fish per day.** All species are included in this limit. *NOTE - Bait fish exceeding 19 cm/ 7.5 inches will count against daily creel limit.

b. Swimming is not authorized on post.

c. Ice fishing is not authorized on post.

d. Battery operated or manually paddled boats are authorized for use on Big Mike, Dickhauter, Swim Site, and L-Lake from sunrise to sunset. Fishing directly from a boat after sunset is NOT authorized, however boats may be used to set up your rig and or retrieve your fish from a bank-side rig.

e. Personnel with daily permits are limited to fishing in the Dickhauter, Big Mike, Little Mike, Sand Holes, and Rod and Gun lakes. The L- Lake and Swim Site locations are **off limits** to personnel not holding an annual pass. Tank trail passes are required for access to the Swim Site, Rod and Gun Lakes, and L-Lake. GTA Operations issue POV passes for tank trails only with a valid annual or federal holiday weekend fishing permit. Note- Range Control will not issue a tank trail pass for short-term (i.e. 1- or 2-day) fishing excursions.

f. Catch and release as an objective is not authorized! However, any fish caught out of season, or which does not meet the minimum length should be unhooked and gently released back into the water.

g. Using live fish or pet foods as bait is not allowed.

h. Chumming is allowed using small feeder baskets, PVA socks, and biodegradable natural fish food sources in suitable amounts. Non-biodegradable materials or non-natural food sources are forbidden.

i. Fish used for bait must come from MWR waters, no baitfish shall be brought from off-post.

j. Nets will be used to land fish

k. Fish finders and other electronic means of finding or attracting fish are not allowed.

l. All fish, including bait fish, must be killed immediately and in accordance with German law. Appropriate holding nets/ baskets/ cages are authorized for use while carp fishing only. **Live fish will not be transported in and around or off of the installation.** An exception is made for transporting carp to a holding water to flush the meat.

m. Posted signs will indicate temporary closures and are binding.

AMIM-BAW-W

SUBJECT: Grafenwoehr Outdoor Recreation Center Fishing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

6. MWR FISHING ACCESS IN GTA:

a. Fishermen requesting the use of restricted areas must contact the Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA) Firing Desk at CIV: 09641-70-526-1200 or DSN: 526-1200 to gain permission to enter these areas **AND** are required to report when they have departed these locations.

Personnel fishing in restricted areas must be in possession of a cell phone that can contact the GTA firing desk and will be required to provide the number to range control at the time of registration. If fishing for more than one day at the same location, anglers must repeat the procedure each day to receive approval.

b. Restricted Areas: The following areas are "restricted use" areas as they are inside surface danger areas of live fire ranges. When the ranges are active, fishing is not allowed in the area and access to the waters is strictly prohibited! Anglers desiring to fish at the following areas during must follow the procedures in paragraph 6.a, above.

(1) The Swim Site located vicinity Range 206 -Vilseck (NOTE - Fishing is not allowed beyond the signs stating "NO FISHING BEYOND THIS POINT" or past the buoys placed across the lake.

(2) L-Lake (Grünhundweiher) (GTA- vicinity Range 114). Fishing from shore is only permitted on the north and east banks. Boats are allowed.

(3) The Thumbach stream west of barrier gate #333 (GTA- vicinity Range 312)

(4) Rod and Gun Lakes (east GTA, south of the airfield; TA5) Anglers are required to check the daily range bulletin and be cautious of dismounted training being conducted in TA 5, FARP, and the Land Nav Course.

c. Unrestricted Areas: The following areas are not inside range surface danger areas and are safe for use during all authorized times (note limitations below). Fishermen using these lakes are not required to call-in nor call-out with the Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA) Range Operations Firing Desk.

(1) Big Mike Lake (Rose Barracks)

(2) Little Mike Lake (Rose Barracks)

(3) Dickhauter Lake- including the back/west portion of Dickhauter lake west of barrier gate #122 and #123. (GTA, at the Wild BOAR)

(4) Schaumbach Stream (North side of GTA)

(5) Sand Holes Lakes 1-3 (North side of GTA)

(6) Thumbach Stream (GTA- downstream from Range 108) Anglers fishing the Thumbach stream that runs to the footbridge vicinity Range 108 may park at the footbridge and fish without contacting range control. Fishermen desiring to fish upstream of the footbridge must contact range control. **WARNING:** Fishing the Thumbach stream west of Range 107 (Troop Marching Trail footbridge) is strictly prohibited.

7. Point of Contact for this SOP and other inquiries regarding the G-ODR MWR Fishing program is Mr. Joel Fischer, HFSS program coordinator, at DSN: 526-2628 (CIV: 09641-70-526-2628) or joel.d.fischer.naf@army.mil

CATCH REPORT



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