

For more information, call the Department of Public Works, Environmental Division at 253-966-6450 or 967-3474.

OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAMS

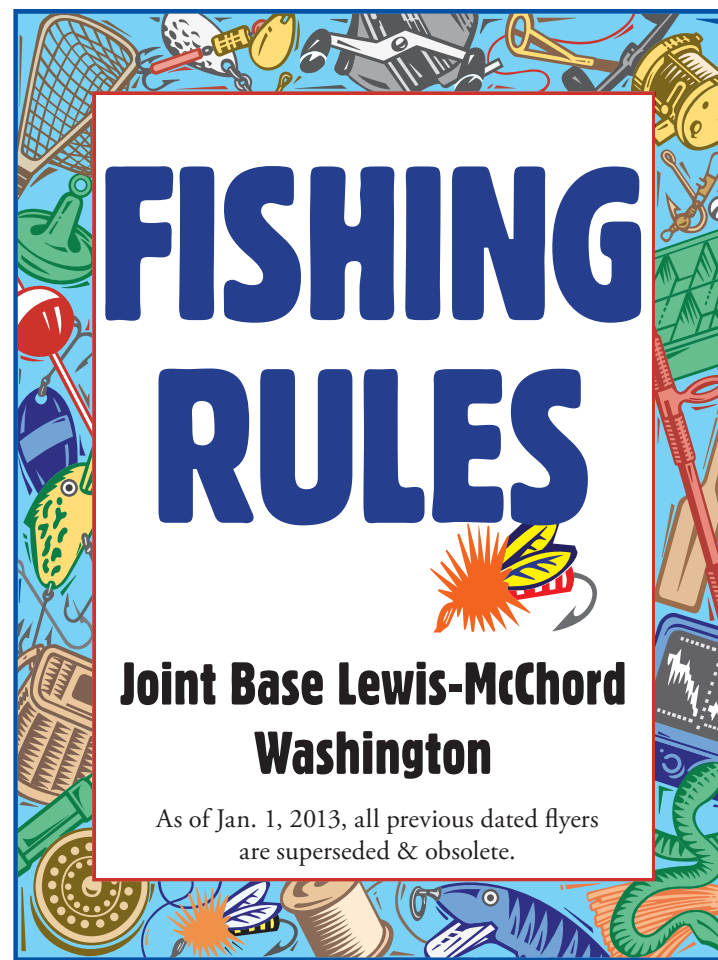
Our trips include sea kayaking, whitewater rafting, hiking, caving, float trips, fishing, crabbing, clamming, and the scuba shop offers scuba classes. Plus, new programs are added all the time. Pick up a calendar for dates.

Free fishing weekend

Every June, Washington state offers a weekend where no fishing license is required on any lake. Contact the Northwest Adventure Center or Russell Landing for dates. Come to Russell Landing at Lewis North or Adventures Unlimited at McChord Field and rent one of our fishing boats. No fishing is allowed on boat ramps at Russell Landing.

Deep-sea fishing

Check out the Northwest Adventure Center calendar for chartered bottom fishing and salmon fishing trips to Westport.



Individuals interested in hunting at JBLM must register with the Northwest Adventure Center (NAC). Contact the NAC for more information and guidance.

LEWIS NORTH

Russell Landing Marina

Bldg. 8981, American Lake Ave.

253-967-2510

Northwest Adventure Center

Bldg. 8050, NCO Beach Rd.

253-967-6263/8282

McCHORD FIELD

Adventures Unlimited

Bldg. 739, Battery Rd.

253-982-2206/2303



1. PURPOSE

This regulation outlines policies and procedures for fishing at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (hereinafter referred to as JBLM).

2. APPLICABILITY

This regulation is applicable to all personnel engaged in fishing at JBLM. IAW JBLM regulation 215-1 and IAW JBLM regulation 350-30.

3. POLICY

A. *Fishing at JBLM is a privilege and not a right!*

B. All personnel engaged in fishing on JBLM will comply with applicable regulations to include the Federal Migratory Treaty Act, Revised Code of Washington, the Game and Fisheries Codes of the State of Washington, as well as all JBLM Regulations. This includes taking and possession limits. Federal laws prevail in all cases.

C. All personnel engaged in fishing at JBLM must have valid Washington state fishing license and must cooperate fully with the Military Police, Federal Game Wardens and Washington Game Agents.

D. Military personnel in violation of the provisions of this regulation are subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Those military personnel who are subject to prosecution in Magistrate Court and all civilians will be prosecuted by the Magistrate Court System or the District Court.

E. All personnel are subject to suspension or revocation of their fishing privileges for violations of this regulation. Civilian personnel may be permanently barred from re-entering the installation for serious infractions of federal, state or installation regulations.

4. FISHING AND BOATING at JBLM-LEWIS

A. **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)** - Personnel and their family members may fish all the lakes and streams at JBLM unless the area is otherwise posted, closed by a Daily Bulletin announcement or as written in JBLM Regulation 215-1, the current State WDFW Fishing Pamphlet or the JBLM Fishing Rules Pamphlet guide.

1) In accordance with JBLM Reg 215-1 Area Access Recreational Use Permits for fishing are not required for active duty military, retired military, appropriated and non-appropriated fund employees, their immediate family members or the accompanied guests of these valid identification (ID) card holders in the following waters:

American Lake, Cat Lake, Lewis Lake, Chambers Lake, Sequalitchew Lake, Vietnam Village Marsh, Johnson Marsh, Shannon Marsh, Wright Marsh, Solo Point and the Nisqually River e.g., (Tank Bridge)(Trotter Woods).

2) **Area Access permit is required** by all individuals desiring to utilize JBLM training areas for other activities such as but not limited to: hiking, horseback riding, dog training, wildlife and vegetation observation, orienteering, photography, model boating, service group camping activities (Boy Scouts, etc). Individuals must check in with Range Control Area Access Section.

2) Two non-DoD guests are authorized per ID card holder.

3) The vehicle used will have a valid DoD sticker.

B. **NON-DOD PERSONNEL** – Require an Area Access Recreational Use Permit and are restricted to American Lake, Chambers Lake and the Nisqually River (Trotter Woods)(Tank Bridge) only.

1) Area Access Recreational Use Permits for fishing may be obtained at the Range Control Area Access Section, Bldg 4074, Kaufman Ave, phone (253) 967-6277. Guidance for permit application is outlined in JBLM Regulation 350-30 and installation web page. Area Access permits are also required by all non- DoD personnel wishing to participate in activities that include but are not limited to hiking, horseback riding, dog training, wildlife and vegetation observation orienteering, photography, model boating, service group camping activities (Boy Scouts, etc). Individuals must check in with Range Control Area Access Section.

2) The Area Access Recreational Use Permit will be displayed on the dashboard of the vehicle at all times while the vehicle is on JBLM property.

3) Non-DoD personnel must check in daily with Range Control Area Access Section IAW JBLM Regulation 350-30.

4) The following access restrictions apply to all vehicles that do not have a valid DoD sticker:

a. Access to and the use of Solo Point on Puget Sound, the boat launch adjacent to the Family Beach on American Lake and the Community Recreation Division (CRD) Beach Boat Launch on American Lake is prohibited.

b. Access to American and Chambers Lake or the Nisqually River is restricted to a direct route on paved roads only. These are the only freshwaters civilians are authorized to fish.

**Keep JBLM clean –
pick up your trash & bait cans!**

C. **GENERAL INFORMATION** – The following fishing and boating restrictions are in effect at JBLM.

a. Fishing License age requirements and exemptions will be in accordance with current Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

b. Nisqually Lake located in the Central Impact Area is closed and off limits to all personnel.

c. Sears Lake is open year round only for juveniles that are family members or guests of DoD personnel as outlined in WDFW regulation.

d. American Lake, Fiander Lake, Cat Lake, Chambers Lake, Sequelitchew Lake, Vietnam Marsh, Johnson Marsh, Spanaway Marsh and Shannon Marfish are open on a year-round basis, except when closed for training.

5. FISHING AND BOATING at JBLM-McCHORD

The following fishing rules apply at JBLM-McChord Field, as noted in the State of Washington Fish and Wildlife Statewide General Definitions and Special Rules for Westside Rivers and Westside Lakes. Refer to the aforementioned JBLM Policy for all other rules.

A. General Base Fishing Policies:

1) Fishing hours are dawn to dusk daily. Fishing sites are subject to closure at base discretion.

2) Fishing is limited to one rod per person, which must be attended when the line is in the water.

3) Catch and release fishing is not permitted, except as provided in paragraph B below.

4) Only Finfish harvesting is permitted. Crustacean and shellfish harvesting are not allowed.

5) No boating, swimming or wading are allowed in any waters on McChord.

6) Pets are not allowed in any waters at McChord.

B. Clover Creek and Morey Creek: Selective Fishery Regulations are in effect. Fishing season is open from the first Wednesday in May through Oct. 31. All anglers are required to:

1) Use only **barbless hooks**. A barbless hook is a single-pointed hook from which all barbs have been filed off, pinched down, removed, or deleted when manufactured.

2) Use **no bait**; use artificial flies and lures only.

3) Keep only trout that are 12” or more in length, with a daily catch limit of two trout. Releasing smaller trout means fishing is protected for next year. Salmon fishing is **not** permitted.

C. Morey Pond: Fishing season is open from the first Wednesday in May through Oct. 31. Daily catch limit is five fish total (trout and bass), any size. Salmon fishing is **not** permitted. Fishing will be done using only one single hook. Treble hooks are specifically prohibited. Anglers 12 years of age or younger must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years old. **Fishing is not permitted in the dam bypass channel between Morey Pond (exit) and Clover Creek.**

D. Carter Lake: Fishing is restricted to youths 14 years of age and younger on the date of the annual youth fishing derby (normally the third Saturday in April). During the fishing derby, anglers 12 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years old. From the Sunday after the fishing derby through Oct. 31, any properly licensed angler and unlicensed youth 14 years and younger may fish in Carter Lake. Daily catch limit is five trout, any size. Fishing will be done using only one single hook. Treble hooks are specifically prohibited.

6. TRESPASSERS

Individuals violating the above policies are trespassing on a controlled access federal reservation and they are subject to citation by the Military Police. Trespassers may be barred from subsequent authorized access to the installation.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Chambers Lake (within JBLM) — Trout catch-and-release only. Selective Fishing Regulations as outlined in the Washington Fishing Regulation apply, except electric motors are allowed. Only artificial flies or lures with a barbless single pointed hook are allowed. Live bait is prohibited. These rules apply to all species of fish in Chambers Lake. Note: Non-trout species may be kept.

B. Muck Creek and tributaries within the JBLM Military Reservation (tributaries include: Lacomus Creek, Johnson Creek, South Creek and South Creek Potholes, as well as, Halverson Marsh) — Trout catch-and-release only. Selective Fishery Regulations as outlined in the Washington Fishing Regulation Guide apply.

C. A freshwater license is required to fish for any species in freshwater, including *salmon, *sturgeon, trout and bass. A saltwater license is required to fish for any species in saltwater, including *salmon, *steelhead, *sturgeon, *halibut, rockfish, and others. A shellfish/seaweed license is required to harvest the following shellfish: crab, oysters, shrimp, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, cockles, mussels, hard

and soft shell clams, geoduck, crawfish, goose barnacles, scallops, squid, octopus, razor clams and Hood Canal shrimp. The Washington Fishing Regulation Guide is the official source of information on fishing and food fish water. **Must have a valid catch record card for this species.*

D. Night fishing, when authorized by state law — Fishing by DoD personnel at night will be allowed in all lakes except in the South Rainier Training Area (e.g., No Name, Fiander and Cat Lakes).

JBLM Fishing Opportunities

Many lakes at Joint Base Lewis-McChord are available for fishing. These lakes provide opportunities to catch a variety of fish, including trout, salmon and many warm-water species. The following information is provided as a service to JBLM anglers.

AMERICAN LAKE is 1,123 acres, 347 acres of which are at JBLM-Lewis North, and the maximum depth is 90 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Rainbow Trout and Rock Bass are abundant, including the occasional trout over 16 inches. Cutthroat Trout, a native fish, and Kokanee average 13–14 inches and are common catch. Largemouth Bass and Brown Bullhead (catfish) are present as well as an occasional Smallmouth. **Outlook:** Outdoor Recreation will release 60,000 Rainbows. Bill’s Boathouse is scheduled to release approximately 20,000 Rainbows. **Best Bet:** Rainbow Trout should be very good once the water warms. Kokanee fishing is best in June to early July. Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass and Yellow Perch should provide excellent summer fishing.

CAT LAKE is 4 acres with maximum depth of 25 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie and Brown Bullhead (catfish) are present. **Outlook:** Rainbow carry-over is poor. **Best Bet:** None

CHAMBERS LAKE is 100 acres with maximum depth of 10 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Selective fishing regulations as outlined in the Washington Game Fish Regulations. Trout catch-and-release only. Electric motors are allowed. Only artificial flies or lures with a barbless single-point hook are allowed, live bait is prohibited. Non-trout species may be kept. Other species that are common include bass, Bullhead, catfish and Pumpkinseed Sunfish. Good for frog gigging in late summer. **Outlook:** Fair Cutthroat in upper reaches for catch-and-release only. **Best Bet:** Float tube and a fly rod for Spiny-rays.

FIANDER LAKE is 30 acres with maximum depth of 8 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Black Crappie and Largemouth Bass are common. Brown Bullhead (catfish) and

very large carp are present. **Outlook:** Spiny-ray population should provide for fair fishing.

JOHNSON’S MARSH is 125 acres with a maximum depth of 10 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Black Crappie, Cutthroat Trout and Coho Salmon are uncommon, native fish from Johnson and Muck Creeks. Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed Sunfish and Brown Bullhead (catfish) are common. **Outlook:** Fair for trout and bass. **Best Bet:** None. Area managed for water-fowl protection. **Note:** Wild Cutthroat release. There must be a healed scar in the location of the missing fin. Catch-and-release only on Johnson and Muck creeks.

LEWIS LAKE - TA 16 is 54 acres with a maximum depth of 8 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Largemouth Bass and Pumpkinseed Sunfish are common. **Outlook:** No stocking scheduled. **Best Bet:** Good early bass season. Coho planted in 1997.

SEQUALITCHEW LAKE - TA 2 is 60 acres with a maximum depth of 10 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Largemouth Bass are common. Coho Salmon are present in the lake and provide good angling. Pumpkinseed Sunfish are abundant and Black Crappie are present. Blue Gill Sunfish, Rock Bass, Yellow Perch and Brown Bullhead (catfish) are uncommon but large size if you do catch one. **Outlook:** Rainbow carry-overs are scarce. This lake can be very weedy once the weather warms up. **Best Bet:** Bass should be fair. Coho planted in 1997.

SPANAWAY MARSH - TA 9 is 360 acres with a maximum depth of 10 feet. This newly developed wetland has a small, but growing Spiny-ray population. This population will continue to improve in the future years due to natural reproduction. The northern section of the marsh is closed from Dec. 1–Aug. 31 of each year. This section will be marked by Public Works (EW grid 15.0).

VIETNAM VILLAGE MARSH - TA 10 is 69 acres with a maximum depth of 10 feet. **Fish Population Status:** Largemouth Bass and some large Pumpkinseed Sunfish are common but Black Crappie are uncommon. **Outlook:** Spiny-ray population. **Best Bet:** Your choice. Early spring bass fishing can be good but watch for pot holes when wading. Coho planted in 1997.

Note: Morey Pond, Carter Lake, Clover Creek and Morey Creek at JBLM-McChord Field descriptions are listed in section 5 under McChord.