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# OKLAHOMA FISHING

OFFICIAL 2015-16

REGULATION GUIDE



» **The Bassmaster Classic Returns to Oklahoma!**

Page 9



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# OKLAHOMA FISHING

PUBLISHED BY THE  
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT  
OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
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### On the cover:

Oklahoma angler  
Edwin Evers at 2013  
Bassmaster Classic  
weigh-in. Tulsa, OK.

Photo by: B.A.S.S.



## Highlights of Changes

- **Walleye, Sauger and Saugeye:**  
The statewide minimum size is 14 inches.  
See page 10.
- **Flathead Catfish:** Daily limit is five (5).  
See page 10.
- **Lake Carl Etling:** All tiger muskie caught must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being taken (no harvest allowed). Bowfishing for tiger muskie is prohibited. See Appendix 9.
- **Wister Tailwater:** Closed to snagging and noodling from below the dam to the power-line at the confluence of the old and new river channels. No person may fish with more than two (2) poles (or rods) from below the dam to the power-line at the confluence of the old and new river channels. See Appendix 23.
- **Atoka Bluestem, Bluestem, Carl Blackwell, Healdton, Ponca City, Shell, Sooner and Thunderbird Reservoirs and the respective Tailwaters:** All walleye, sauger and saugeye less than 18 inches total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately. See Appendix.
- **Effective November 1, 2015:** removing mesh size restrictions when harvesting aquatic turtles commercially.
- **Fish Cleaning:** It is unlawful to possess a gamefish, hybrid striped bass or flathead catfish that has been filleted or has its head or tail removed while actively engaging in fishing. See page 7.
- **Department Fishing Areas:** Doc Hollis Lake added (located at Sandy Sanders WMA; closed to boating). American Horse Lake is open (closed to boating until September 1, 2015). See page 27.
- **Tailwaters:** Each angler must keep their fish separate, marked with their name and license number, when fishing in tailwaters, which is the first 1,000 feet below dam, except at Wister, where each angler must keep their fish separate, marked with their name and license number when fishing below the dam down to the power-line at the confluence of the old and new river channels. See Appendix 23.
- **Artificial Flies and Lures Defined:**  
Fishing tackle made by fly-tying or artificial lures made of wood, metal, glass, feathers, hair, synthetic fibers or hard plastic. See page 18.
- **Arkansas River:** All walleye, sauger and saugeye less than 16 inches total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately from Keystone Dam, downstream to the Oklahoma State line. This includes all major tributaries to the Arkansas River and R.S. Kerr, Webbers Falls, and W.D. Mayo reservoirs and their tributaries as legally defined in Title 800. See Appendix 6.
- **3-Day Wildlife Conservation Passport:** Effective November 1, 2015 for a price of \$15. See page 2.
- **Cherokee Nation Compact License:**  
Effective January 1, 2016, Oklahoma residents, older than 16 and younger than 65, who are citizens of the Cherokee Nation will receive a free annual fishing and hunting combination license. See page 6.





## LICENSE COSTS

Resident	Cost	Valid
Annual Fishing	\$25	January 1 - December 31
Annual Combination, Fishing & Hunting	\$42	January 1 - December 31
Fiscal Year Combination, Fishing & Hunting	\$53	July 1 - June 30
2-Day Fishing	\$15	Two consecutive days of choice
Youth Annual Fishing (16 & 17 years old)	\$5	January 1 - December 31
Youth Annual Combination, Fishing & Hunting (16 & 17 years old)	\$9	January 1 - December 31
Youth Fiscal Year Combination, Fishing & Hunting (16 & 17 years old)	\$19	July 1 - June 30
5-Year Fishing	\$88	Five years from date of purchase
5-Year Combination Fishing & Hunting	\$148	Five years from date of purchase
Lifetime Fishing	\$225	Lifetime
Lifetime Combination Fishing & Hunting	\$775	Lifetime
Lifetime Disabled Veteran Combination Hunting & Fishing (under 60 percent disability)	\$200	Lifetime
Lifetime Disabled Veteran Combination Hunting & Fishing (60 percent or more disability)	\$25	Lifetime
Lake Texoma (see 1A below)	\$12	January 1 - December 31
Paddlefish	Free	January 1 - December 31
Senior Citizen Fishing (see 2A below)	\$15	Lifetime
Senior Citizen Combination Fishing & Hunting (see 2A below)	\$25	Lifetime
Disability Fishing (see 3A below)	\$10	Five years from date of purchase
Land Access Permit (Honobia Creek & Three Rivers WMAs)	\$40	January 1 - December 31
3-Day Land Access Permit (not valid for fishing or hunting) (Honobia Creek & Three Rivers WMAs)	\$10	Three consecutive days of choice
Annual Wildlife Conservation Passport (permit does not provide fishing privileges)	\$26	January 1 - December 31
3-Day Wildlife Conservation Passport (permit does not provide fishing privileges)	\$15	Three consecutive days of choice
Fishing Guide License (Cost reduced to \$20 with Coast Guard Mariner credentials)	\$90	January 1 - December 31
Nonresident	Cost	Valid
Annual Fishing	\$55	January 1 - December 31
6-Day Fishing	\$35	Six consecutive days of choice
1-Day Fishing	\$15	One day of choice
Lake Texoma (see 1A below)	\$12	January 1 - December 31
Land Access Permit (Honobia Creek and Three Rivers WMAs)	\$85	January 1 - December 31
Paddlefish	Free	January 1 - December 31
Annual Wildlife Conservation Passport (permit does not provide fishing privileges)	\$26	January 1 - December 31
3-Day Wildlife Conservation Passport (permit does not provide fishing privileges)	\$15	Three consecutive days of choice
Fishing Guide License (Cost reduced to \$20 with Coast Guard Mariner credentials)	\$90	January 1 - December 31

**1A)** Allows anglers to fish the entire lake without having to purchase a resident or nonresident license. Oklahoma residents with a valid fishing license are not required to purchase this license if only fishing the Oklahoma portion of the lake.

**2A)** Residents who reach 65 years of age (or those who turn 65 during the calendar year) are eligible to purchase a Senior Citizen License which is good for the rest of their lives. Anyone born before January 1, 1923, is exempt from the license but must carry proof of age such as a driver's license. Senior Citizen License applications are available through [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com), Department headquarters, field installations and license vendors, but the license is purchased only through Department headquarters.

**3A)** For legal residents who have resided in this state for at least six months and who are receiving Social Security disability, Supplemental Security Income benefits, disability benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act, 45 U.S.C.A., Sect. 231a, postal employees receiving disability benefits under 5, U.S.C., Section 8451 (1998), or disability benefits through the Multiple Injury Trust Fund. This license is valid for five years. Can be purchased only through Department headquarters.

## Residency Definitions

A "resident" is any individual who has an established residence in Oklahoma for 60 consecutive days prior to submitting a license application, except for lifetime license applicants and senior citizen lifetime license applicants who must have established residency for a period of six months and intend to remain a state resident. Any person holding a valid driver license is considered a resident of the state that issued the permit. For a valid Oklahoma driver license to be used as the sole source of proof of residency, it must be at least 60 days from the date the license was issued, except for lifetime license applicants, whose license must have been issued for six months or longer. If a person does not hold a valid Oklahoma driver license, the Department may consider other reliable documentation, such as resident income tax returns, voter registration, motor vehicle or vessel registrations, and other public records documenting residence. Residency for children under 18 years of age is presumed to be that of the custodial parent or

legal guardian unless otherwise documented. Persons who own land in Oklahoma but do not live here are considered nonresidents. A person cannot claim multiple states of residence, with the following exception:

- Active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and any dependents, qualify as residents for the purpose of obtaining an annual license if the person presents valid military documentation.
- The residency status of any person, except active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces and any dependents of the member, shall terminate if the person obtains any resident hunting, fishing, trapping license or permit or valid driver license issued by another state.

A nonresident is any individual who is a resident of another state or who has resided in Oklahoma for a period of less than 60 days whether or not he or she intends to make Oklahoma his or her home.



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## License Requirements

An Oklahoma resident or nonresident fishing license is required of all persons who take, attempt to take or possess fish or other aquatic dwelling organisms by any method in Oklahoma. Persons fishing the Red River must have a valid Oklahoma fishing license unless exempt.

In addition, persons fishing on waters located within the Honobia Creek or Three Rivers Wildlife Management Areas must have a valid Land Access Permit, unless exempt.

Persons residing in another state who own land in Oklahoma but do not live on that land, and are fishing on that land, must purchase a nonresident fishing license.

All required licenses or written evidence of exemption and identification must be carried while fishing.

## Fishing Guide License

Fishing guides must possess an Oklahoma fishing guide license. This license costs \$90 unless the guide provides Coast Guard Mariner credentials, in which case the license costs \$20. For a list of licensed guides, visit [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com).

## License Exemptions

The following persons are exempt from the resident or nonresident fishing license:

- Residents under 16 years old.
- Nonresidents under 14 years old.
- Nonresidents under 16 years old who reside in Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Texas or Wisconsin.
- Resident owners or tenants, their spouses, parents, grandparents, children and their spouses, grandchildren and their spouses who fish in private ponds on land owned or leased by such owner or tenant.
- Nonresidents 65 and older who are residents of Texas. (Valid ID required.)
- Resident disabled veterans with 60 percent or more disability. Call State Department of

Veterans Affairs, (888) 655-2838 to acquire proof of exemption.

- Any person who fishes with pole and line, trotline or throw line in streams, natural ponds and mine pits in or forming the boundary of the county in which he is a bona fide resident, when using any bait other than commercial or artificial bait, blood, stink bait, cut fish, and shrimp.
- Any person legally blind or physically impaired who is unable to properly use fishing apparatus and one accompanying companion while the blind or physically impaired person is fishing.
- Persons under 18 who are in legal and physical custody of the State of Oklahoma or its agencies by court order.
- Persons under 18 who are in the custody of a child care facility as defined by Title 10 O.S., Section 402.
- Persons fishing during Oklahoma's Free Fishing Days.
- Any patient of a state institution in Oklahoma established for the care and treatment of mental illness or alcohol or drug dependency or any person developmentally disabled residing in any group home or other institution or persons developmentally disabled when accompanied by an attendant of such institution or legal guardian or when fishing on institutional property.
- Residents having a proven disability rendering them nonambulatory and confined to wheelchairs as certified by a duly qualified physician.
- Job Corps trainees of this state, having a proper identification card.
- Any person participating in an aquatic education event or clinic sanctioned by the Wildlife Department.
- The following persons are exempt from the purchase of the **Land Access Permit** (Honobia Creek and Three Rivers WMAs): Any Oklahoma resident who on the first day of the current calendar year was younger than 18, or anyone 64 or older. All nonresidents are required to purchase an \$85 annual Land Access Permit (no exemptions).



## About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award-winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports ODWC's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. It also manages the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

The revenue generated through ad sales significantly lowers production costs and generates savings. These savings translate into additional funds for other important fisheries and habitat programs.

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## OKLAHOMA'S LICENSED FISHING GUIDES

Fishing guides must possess an Oklahoma fishing guide license. This license costs \$90 unless the guide provides Coast Guard Mariner credentials, in which case the license costs \$20. For a list of licensed guides in Oklahoma, visit [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com).



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## SPECIAL LICENSES & PERMITS

### Fiscal-Year Licenses

The fiscal-year licenses (combination, youth combination) are valid from July 1 to June 30. These licenses allow fishing during the time period specified on the license.

### Resident 5-Year Combination Hunting/Fishing License

People who have been residents of Oklahoma for at least six months may buy a 5-year combination hunting/fishing license. Holders of these licenses are exempt from the annual fishing and hunting license only. Holders of resident 5-year licenses who become residents of another state during the 5-year period of their license may continue to use their license as a nonresident annual fishing or hunting license. When hunting, they must buy any season-specific hunting licenses that are not covered by a nonresident annual hunting license.

### Lifetime Senior Citizen Combination Hunting/Fishing License

Residents born on or after Jan. 1, 1923, upon reaching age 65 (or those who turn 65 during the calendar year) are eligible to buy a senior citizen combination hunting/fishing license, which is valid for life. The license provides the same exemptions as a resident lifetime combination hunting/fishing license. Anyone born before Jan. 1, 1923, is exempt but must carry proof of age such as a driver's license.

### Disability Fishing License

Persons who have resided in Oklahoma for at least six months and who are receiving Social Security disability benefits, Supplemental Security Income benefits, or persons receiving disability benefits under the Federal Railroad Retirement Act or the Multiple Injury Trust Fund may buy a five-year disability fishing license for \$10. Applicants for this license are urged to ask for a Benefits Verification Statement from Social Security at (800) 772-1213.

### Lifetime Disabled Veteran Combination Hunting/Fishing License

This license is available to resident disabled veterans, as certified by the Veterans Affairs Department. For veterans with a disability of less than 60 percent, the cost of the license is \$200. For veterans with a disability of 60 percent or more, the cost of the license is \$25. The license provides the same benefits as a resident lifetime combination hunting/fishing license.

### Land Access Permit

A \$40 annual Land Access Permit is required of all residents who fish or hunt on Honobia Creek and Three Rivers Wildlife Management Areas, unless exempt. Nonresidents are required to buy an \$85 annual permit, no exemptions.

### 3-Day/Annual Wildlife Conservation Passport

People who use Department-managed areas for nonhunting or nonfishing activities, such as birdwatching or photography, are required to have either a Wildlife Conservation Passport or any current hunting or fishing license issued by the Wildlife Department.

*Buying a hunting or fishing license can cost less than buying a Wildlife Conservation Passport. Plus, license holders are granted the privileges of that license and can enjoy those activities during the license term.*

Residents who are younger than 18 at the start of the calendar year, and students and instructors participating in bona fide educational tours or activities sponsored or organized by an education institution or any other organized event sanctioned by and approved in advance by the Wildlife Department are exempt from the Wildlife Conservation Passport requirement.

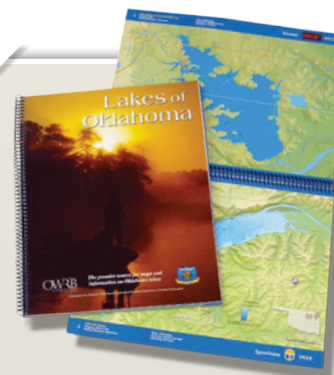
### Cherokee Nation Compact License \*\*\*EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016\*\*\*

Cherokee Nation citizens who are Oklahoma residents will receive a state issued/authorized combination hunting/fishing license purchased by and distributed by the Cherokee Nation. In addition, one deer (deer gun antlered) and one turkey (spring turkey) will be included. Nonresidents are not eligible. This is a tribal/state, dual jurisdiction compact license.

These compact licenses will cover the same privileges as provided to other Oklahoma citizens. All regulations including checking of deer and turkey are the same. All the same statewide regulations apply to holders of a compact license regardless of where the person hunts or fishes, including tribal lands. More restrictive tribal standards may be imposed by the Cherokee Nation to hunting and fishing on the Cherokee Nation's Indian Country.

No refunds will be provided by ODWC to tribal members for licenses that have already been purchased, including lifetime licenses.

**For additional Cherokee license information, call the Cherokee Nation (918) 453-5000.**



## A TERRIFIC RESOURCE!

**No angler should be without a copy of "Lakes of Oklahoma"**

"Lakes of Oklahoma" is compiled by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and published in cooperation with the Wildlife Department. It is the premier source for maps and information on Oklahoma lakes. This atlas packs maps of more than 140 lakes into a single volume, showing details such as water depth, boat ramp sites and other recreational information.

This atlas was published with funds granted through the Sport Fish Restoration Program, which is supported by a special excise tax paid by boaters and anglers.

"The 'Lakes of Oklahoma' atlas is a great example of a Sport Fish Restoration Program project," said Barry Bolton, chief of fisheries for the Wildlife Department. "I'm confident this book will greatly improve the access to information anglers and boaters need to spend a weekend at the lake with their family."

"Lakes of Oklahoma" is free of charge when picked up at the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation headquarters, 1801 N. Lincoln, or the Oklahoma Water Resources Board office, 3800 Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City. To request a copy by mail, go online to [owrb.ok.gov](http://owrb.ok.gov) (a postage fee is required).

## FREE FISHING DAYS

**June 4-5, 2016**

Anyone may fish in Oklahoma these days without a state license or permit!

(Some city permits may still be required.)

***Be sure to take someone fishing!***



## WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PASSPORT

For a list of Wildlife Management Areas and Fishing Areas where a passport is required, please visit [wildlifedepartment.com/regs/passport.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/regs/passport.htm)

## General Regulations

### Game Fish

Largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass; black and white crappie; rainbow and brown trout; sauger, saugeye and walleye; white and striped bass; blue and channel catfish. Species not listed are nongame fish.

#### It is unlawful to:

- Fish without carrying a license or written evidence that you are exempt.
- Fish upon the land of another without consent of the owner, lessee or occupant of that land. Anglers must obtain permission to enter any posted or occupied land or land primarily devoted to farming, ranching or forestry purposes. Nothing in this guide shall be interpreted as permitting fishing or allowing access into any area, public or private, without permission from the owners or custodian as required by law. Consent is not valid for more than one year, unless the owner, lessee, or occupant specifically grants consent for a specified period of time.
- Catch fish from the waters of this state which are dead or die as a result of angling, and not remove those fish and bury or burn them, except nothing will prevent anglers from returning fish remains to lakes and reservoirs (any fish that does not meet length

requirements must be returned to the water immediately). No person may bury or burn any dead fish where it will become exposed through erosion or where that land is at any time subject to overflow.

- Sell, barter or trade fish, frogs or turtles, except with a commercial license.
- Enter, swim, wade, operate a boat or a float or floating device in any safety zone (the water area below any dam for a distance of 50 yards from base of the dam).
- Use, operate or park vehicles not registered for use on public roadways under Vehicle Code 47 O.S. 1971, 15-101 through 15-114, on lands owned or managed by the Wildlife Department.
- Possess fish, or parts thereof, taken by another person without written information which includes the taker's name, address, license number, date taken, and number and kind of fish, plus name and address of person receiving those fish.
- Use and/or place into lakes and reservoirs of this state any container, including but not limited to drums, cans, tubs, boxes or barrels

which attract, entice or lure fish into an open cavity within the container.

- Possess, consume or use any alcoholic beverage as defined in 37 O.S., Section 163.1 on any lands or waterways subject to the control of the Wildlife Department, except in designated parking or camping areas.
- Use or possess any controlled and/or dangerous substance as defined in 63 O.S., Section 2-101 on any lands or waterways subject to the control of the Wildlife Department.
- Use Jet Skis, jet boats and other similar non-propeller-driven watercraft in the upper Illinois River above the confluence with Baron Fork Creek.
- Tamper with the trotline, throwline, jugline or limblime of another person without permission from that person.
- Stock fish in any public waters including streams and rivers without written consent from the Wildlife Department director.
- Possess a gamefish, hybrid striped bass or flathead catfish that has been filleted or had its head or tail removed while actively engaging in fishing.

## Method of Take Regulations

**These methods are legal for taking game and nongame fish throughout the year, statewide, unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations" in the Appendix.**

**Rod and Reel:** A person may use up to seven rods while fishing unless restricted further under "Special Area Regulations."

**Trotline/Throwlines:** Trotlines/ throwlines are restricted to no more than three lines and 100 hooks per person.

A legal trotline/throwline has:

- no glass or metallic floating device on the line;
- no metallic posts in water for attachment;
- lines made of nonmetallic material only;
- hooks at least 24 inches apart;
- owner's name and address attached to each line;
- been attended at least once every 24 hours;
- not been set within three feet of surface of water at any point beyond six feet from either point of attachment, except at Great Salt Plains and Fort Supply reservoirs where water is less than three feet deep.

**Jugline:** Juglines are restricted to no more than five hooks per line and 20 juglines per person. A legal jugline is a vertical line suspended from a nonmetallic or nonglass floating device, drifting free or anchored, and has:

- owner's name and address attached;
- been attended at least once every 24 hours.

**Limblime:** Limblines are restricted to no more than two hooks per line and 20 limblines per person. A legal limblime is a line attached to a limb, branch, other natural object, or non-metallic manmade material and has:

- the owner's name and address attached;
- been attended at least once every 24 hours.

**Yo-Yo:** Yo-yos are restricted to no more than 20 per person and shall:

- have the owner's name and address attached;
- not be left unattended for more than six hours;
- not be strung or suspended from any horizontal line across any channel or navigable waterway;
- have no more than 10 yo-yos attached from any one line or support;
- not have metallic material in lines used for attachment;
- have lines no greater than 50 feet in length and must be placed or suspended without restricting or impeding boat traffic. Lines must be visible to boats at all times, day or night.

**These methods are legal for taking nongame fish according to the following provisions unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations" in the Appendix.**

**Bow and Arrow:** Bowfishing may be used to take nongame fish only, throughout the year in all waters unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations." Legal bowfishing is restricted to:

- any bow (including a crossbow);
- devices that permit a bow to be held mechanically at full or partial draw are permitted.



**Gig, Grabhook, Spear and Speargun:** Gigs and spears are legal for taking nongame fish and white bass only. Grabhooks (handheld hook, handheld pole of natural or man-made material, or rope with a single hook attached used in the initial taking of a fish) are prohibited in all state waters. Note: Scuba divers in Delaware and Mayes counties are no longer exempt from the grabhook restriction. Spearguns used by Scuba divers are legal for taking nongame fish, blue and channel catfish.

Gigs, spears and spearguns shall:

- not contain more than three points with no more than two barbs on each point;
- be lawful in all rivers and streams from Dec. 1 through March 31, and year-round in all reservoirs, unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations;"

- Gigs shall be lawful year-round in rivers and streams in Delaware and Mayes counties, unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations."

**Snagging:** Snagging, the dragging of one single hook or one treble hook attached to a fishing line through the water to impale fish, shall be lawful in all waters year-round for nongame fish only unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations." Only one rod or pole per angler is allowed while snagging.

**Noodling:** Noodling is the taking of nongame fish and catfish by use of hands only. Possession of hooks, gaff hooks, spears, poles with hooks attached or ropes with hooks attached while in the act of noodling shall be proof of violation of the "hands only" noodling

law. Noodling shall be lawful year-round in all waters during daylight hours only unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations."

**Netting (Noncommercial):** The use of gill nets, trammel nets, hoop nets, or haul seines is prohibited statewide.

**Seines, Cast Nets, Trawls and Dip Nets (Noncommercial):** Seining, cast netting, trawling and dip netting bait for personal use is lawful in all waters year-round except Lakes Taft, Lone Chimney, Overholser (including tailwaters and downstream to NW 10th Street bridge), Hefner, Draper, Close to Home Fishing Waters (see page 16), the Wichita Mountains NWR, and in Wildlife Department Fishing Areas (see page 27), however cast nets may be used to take bait for personal use at Lake Carl Etling and on the Illinois River from the south boundary of the MarVal trout camp downstream to the U.S. 64 Bridge. The use or possession of cast nets is prohibited on all Oklahoma Scenic Rivers.

Any person may seine, trap or transport nongame fish commonly used for personal bait, provided the seine does not exceed 20 feet in length and 1/2 inch mesh; unless seining for minnows, then the mesh shall not exceed 1/4 inch. Minnow traps shall have a mesh size no greater than 1/2 inch, shall not be longer than three feet, shall not exceed 18 inches in diameter on round traps or 18 inches on a side on square or rectangular traps. The trap entrance (throat) cannot exceed two inches across the opening. No person shall fish with more than three minnow traps. All minnow traps must have the owner's name and address attached and the traps must be attended once every 24 hours. All game fish and nongame fish not commonly used for bait must be released immediately. No person may take or possess more than 25 nongame baitfish harvested from a river or stream. No person may possess with intent to transport or transport via land-based transportation more than 200 nongame fish, including shad, for personal use as bait (see page 24 for special regulations). The sale, offer for sale, transport from Oklahoma with intent to sell or offer to sell shad taken from Oklahoma waters is prohibited. Minnow traps cannot be made with glass. Cast nets shall have a mesh size no greater than 3/8 inch square. Trawl nets pulled by motor-driven boats may not exceed three feet in diameter and 3/8 inch square mesh. Cast nets, trawls and handheld dip nets are lawful for taking nongame fish only as bait for personal use. A resident or nonresident fishing license is required of each person using these methods, unless exempt.

## WHAT'S LEGAL WHEN NOODLING?

### Legal:

- Using only the hands to take catfish and nongame fish, which includes buffalo and carp.
- Using a stringer to secure a fish once it has been caught.

### Not legal to use to help catch fish:

- Any object other than your hands used to help you catch a fish.
- It is unlawful to place into any lake or reservoir any container that will attract, entice or lure fish into an open cavity within that container. Containers include, but are not limited to, drums, cans, tubs, boxes and barrels. It is also illegal to noodle within such containers.

### Not legal to possess when noodling:

- Hooks, gaffs, spears, poles with hooks attached, ropes with hooks attached.

### Season & Limits:

- Noodling is lawful year-round in all waters only during daylight hours unless restricted under "Special Area Regulations." The daily limit for flathead catfish is five, no size restrictions. The daily limit for blue and/or channel catfish is 15 (combined), only one of which may be 30 inches or longer. There is no statewide daily limit or size restriction for buffalo (except black buffalo, which the daily limit is one) carp or any other nongame fish, unless noodling in a river or stream, which the daily limit for nongame fish is 25.

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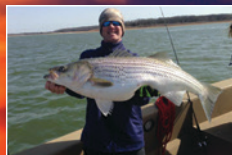
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Dr. Shannon Brewer



# THE CLASSIC RETURNS

## BASSMASTER CLASSIC DAY ONE RESULTS

- |    |
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| 1  |
| 2  |
| 3  |
| 4  |
| 5  |
| 6  |
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March 4-6, 2016  
Grand Lake O' the Cherokees  
Weigh-Ins at BOK Center  
Tulsa, OK



Photo courtesy of B.A.S.S.



# STATEWIDE DAILY & SIZE LIMITS

SPECIES	DAILY LIMIT (for areas without special regulations)	SIZE LIMIT (for areas without special regulations)
Largemouth and/or Smallmouth Bass	6 (combined)	14" minimum (in public waters)
Spotted Bass	None	None
Channel and/or Blue Catfish (D)	15 (combined)	Only one Blue Catfish over 30"
Flathead Catfish (D)	5	None
White and/or Black Crappie	37 (combined)	None
Striped Bass (A)	5 (except Lake Texoma)	None
Striped Bass Hybrids (A)	20	Only five fish over 20"
White Bass	None	None
Trout (A)	See Trout regulations on pages 18-21	
Walleye, Sauger and/or Saugeye	6 (combined)	14" minimum
Paddlefish (A)	See Paddlefish regulations on page 14	None
Alligator Gar (B)	1	None
(All species not listed, except shad and species of special concern I and/or II (see page 11), have no daily or minimum size limits) (C)		

- A.** Release of paddlefish, trout, striped bass and/or striped bass hybrids caught and placed on a stringer, in a livewell, or otherwise held in possession is prohibited, statewide (no culling).
- B.** Alligator gar may be caught by use of rod and reel, trotline, and throwline. Alligator gar taken by bow and arrow, gigs, spears, or spearguns cannot be released. Alligator gar caught and placed on a stringer cannot be released (a practice called culling). Harvest must be reported to the Wildlife Department (580) 924-4087.

- C.** It is unlawful to take or possess more than 25 nongame bait fish in rivers or streams, except for shad, of which 200 may be taken or possessed.
- D.** For noodling limits, see page 8.

Some areas have different regulations. See Appendix, "Special Area Regulations" for daily and size limits on specific areas.

## BLACK BASS (LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH & SPOTTED BASS)

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- Largemouth & Smallmouth – 6 (combined)
- Spotted – None

### Statewide Minimum Size Limit:

- Largemouth & Smallmouth – 14" minimum (in public waters)
- Spotted – None

Check Appendix for areas with additional daily and size limits.



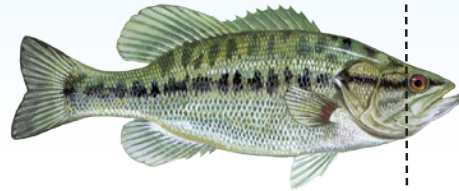
### Largemouth Bass

- Mouth hinge well behind eye
- State record: 14 lbs., 13.7 oz.



### Smallmouth Bass

- Mouth hinge in front of eye
- State record: 8 lbs., 7 oz.



### Spotted Bass

- Mouth hinge even with back edge of eye
- State record: 8 lbs., 2 oz.

**Tooth Patch:** Another way to distinguish black bass is the presence or absence of a tooth patch on the tongue. The majority of largemouth bass have no tooth patch on the tongue, while smallmouth and spotted bass do have a tooth patch on the tongue.



Most largemouth bass have no tooth patch on the tongue.



Smallmouth and spotted bass display a tooth patch on the tongue.

## CATFISH

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- Channel and/or Blue Catfish combined – 15
- Flathead Catfish – 5

### Statewide Size Limit:

- Channel Catfish – None
- Blue Catfish – Only one over 30"
- Flathead Catfish – None

Check Appendix for areas with additional daily and size limits.  
For noodling limits, see page 8.



#### Channel Catfish

- Curved anal fin
- State record: 35 lbs., 15 oz.



#### Blue Catfish

- Straight anal fin
- State record: 98 lbs.



#### Flathead Catfish

- Tail not forked
- State record: 78 lbs., 8 oz.

## CRAPPIE

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- 37 (combined White and/or Black crappie)

### Statewide Minimum Size Limit:

- None

Check Appendix for areas with additional daily and size limits.

#### Black Crappie

- No true pattern to black spots
- 7-8 bony spines in dorsal fin
- State record: 4 lbs., 10 oz.



#### White Crappie

- Distinct vertical bands of blue/gray spots
- 5-6 bony spines in dorsal fin
- State record: 4 lbs., 15 oz.



## DAILY LIMITS & MEASURING FISH

Daily limits are for 24-hour periods (midnight to midnight). No person can have in his or her possession while in the field more than one daily limit of any fish species. Nonresidents cannot have more than two days' limit in his or her possession at any time.

Daily limit is 1 for any fish species of special concern in category I or II, which includes alligator gar, black buffalo, shovelnose sturgeon (see Title 800:25-19-6). Such harvest must be reported to the Wildlife Department.

When measuring fish, total length is measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail, with fish laid flat on a ruler, mouth closed and tail fins pressed together.





# STATEWIDE DAILY & SIZE LIMITS

## STRIPED BASS, HYBRIDS, & WHITE BASS

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- Striped Bass - 5
- Striped Bass Hybrids - 20
- White Bass - None

### Statewide Size Limit:

- Striped Bass - None
- Striped Bass Hybrids - No more than 5 fish over 20"
- White Bass - None

Check Appendix for areas with additional daily and size limits.

Oklahoma's  
Official  
State Fish

### Striped Bass

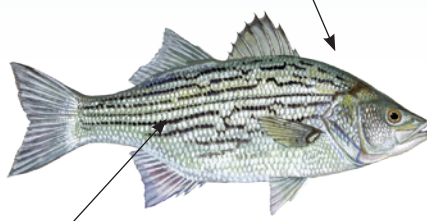
- Back not arched
- State record: 47 lbs., 8 oz.



- Strong, unbroken dark lines

### Striped Bass Hybrid

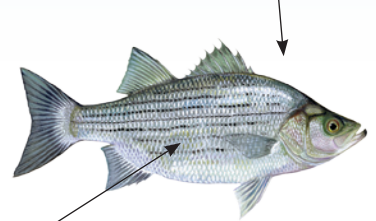
- Back slightly arched
- State record: 23 lbs., 4 oz.



- Some broken lines

### White Bass

- Arched back
- State record: 4 lbs., 9.6 oz.



- Faint lines, usually unbroken

## DISTINGUISHING WHITE BASS

**White bass** are also distinguished from striped bass and striped bass hybrids by tooth patches on the tongue. White bass have a single tooth patch, striped bass and striped bass hybrids have two tooth patches.

*Downward Views Inside Mouth of Lower Jaw and Tongue.*



Two long patches on tongue

**Striped Bass and Striped Bass Hybrid**



One round or heart-shaped patch on tongue

**White Bass**

## TROUT (RAINBOW & BROWN)

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- Rainbow Trout - 6
- Brown Trout - 6

### Statewide Minimum Size Limit:

- None

Check pages 18 - 21 for areas with additional daily and size limits.

### Rainbow Trout

- State record: 11 lbs., 4.32 oz.
- Black spots on tail



- Iridescence on sides

### Brown Trout

- State record: 17 lbs., 4.6 oz.
- Few or no black spots on tail



- Orange and red spots on side

## WALLEYE, SAUGER, SAUGEYE

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- 6 (combined)

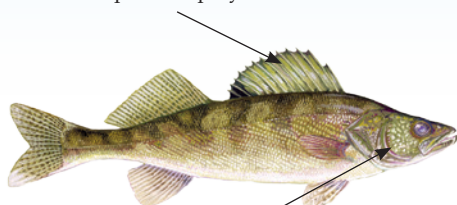
### Statewide Minimum Size Limit:

- 14" minimum

Check Appendix for areas with additional daily and size limits.

### Walleye

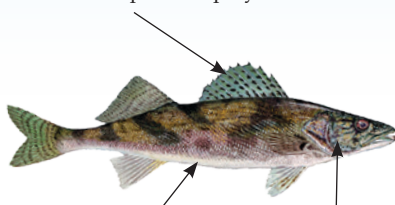
- State Record: 12 lbs., 13 oz.
- No spots on spiny dorsal fin



- Few or no cheek scales

### Sauger

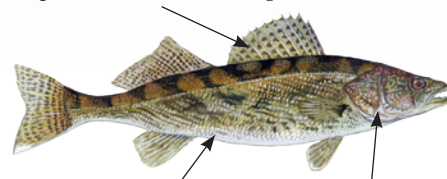
- State Record: 5 lbs., 5 oz.
- Distinct spots on spiny dorsal fin



- Tan body with distinct brown blotches
- Cheek covered with scales

### Saugeye

- State Record: 10 lbs.
- Spiny dorsal fin with distinct spots and bars in webbing



- Body gold with distinct brown blotches
- Cheek covered with scales

## PADDLEFISH

### Statewide Daily Limit:

- 1

### Statewide Minimum Size Limit:

- None

### Statewide Annual Limit:

- 2

Harvest must be reported via E-Check at [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com).

Check page 14 for additional paddlefish regulations.



- Distinctive rounded, protruding blade in front.
- State Record: 125 lbs., 7 oz.

## ALLIGATOR GAR

### Statewide Daily Limit:

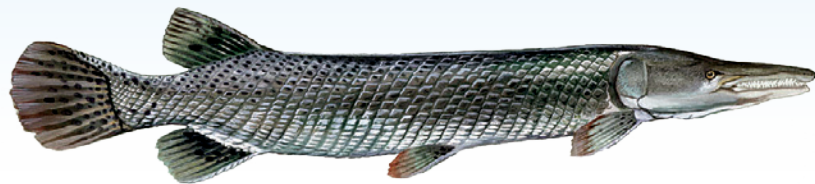
- 1

### Statewide Minimum Size Limit:

- None

Harvest must be reported to Wildlife Department (580) 924-4087.

Check Appendix for areas with additional daily and size limits.



- State Record: 254 lbs., 12 oz.

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# PADDFISH REGULATIONS

## Paddlefish Regulations

Paddlefish daily limit is one daily on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. **Any paddlefish caught on a Monday or Friday must be released immediately.** Anglers cannot possess a paddlefish in the field on Mondays or Fridays.

Once you keep a fish, you must stop paddlefish fishing (snagging) for the day and report the harvest using the online E-Check system.

**The annual paddlefish harvest limit is two paddlefish per angler.**

Paddlefish angling by all methods is closed on the Spring River from the State Highway 60 bridge upstream to the Kansas line. Snagging of paddlefish or any fish is closed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. year round on the Grand River from the State Highway 412 bridge upstream to the Markham Ferry (Lake Hudson) dam.

Residents and nonresidents must obtain a free paddlefish permit in addition to a fishing license before fishing for paddlefish. The free permit is available at [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com) or by contacting fishing license dealers or any Wildlife Department office in the state (see Fisheries Offices, page 28).

Residents and nonresidents may have one paddlefish in their possession in the field. Nonresidents may possess no more than the annual harvest limit at any other time.

Catch and release of paddlefish by use of rod and reel, trotlines and throwlines is allowed, year-round. Paddlefish must be released immediately after being caught, unless kept for the daily limit. Anglers must stop snagging for the day when a paddlefish is kept. Anglers fishing trotlines or throwlines must release all paddlefish before leaving their lines (unless keeping one for a daily limit).

Paddlefish taken by bowfishing, gigs, spears and spearguns cannot be released. These methods cannot be used Mondays and Fridays.

Paddlefish not immediately released are considered kept and must be tagged immediately with the angler's paddlefish permit number. Date and time of harvest must also be recorded on the permit immediately. All harvested paddlefish must be reported within 24 hours to the Online Check Station at [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com). Under no circumstances can any paddlefish be caught, kept and later released (no culling).

Each cleaned paddlefish and its parts (carcass, meat or eggs) must be tagged and kept

separate from all other cleaned paddlefish or paddlefish parts. Each person must keep his paddlefish distinctly separate from paddlefish taken by others. Paddlefish and paddlefish parts must remain tagged until the person in possession of the same reaches his residence.

When snagging for paddlefish, anglers are allowed only one single hook or one treble hook. All hooks must have barbs removed or completely closed. Anglers must stop snagging when a paddlefish is kept. When landing a paddlefish, it is illegal to use gaff hooks or any technique or device that injures the fish, unless the angler is bowfishing.

No person can possess eggs (attached to the egg membrane) of more than one paddlefish. No person can possess more than 3 pounds of processed paddlefish eggs or fresh paddlefish eggs removed from the membrane. Processed eggs are any eggs taken from a paddlefish that have gone through a process that turns the eggs into caviar or into a caviar-like product.

No person can ship into or out of, transport into or out of, have in possession with the intent to so transport, or cause to be removed from this state, raw unprocessed, processed or frozen paddlefish eggs.

All paddlefish must have all internal organs removed before leaving the state.

**Note:** For information on fishing below dams for paddlefish, see "Tailwaters" in the Special Area Regulations section starting on Appendix 23.



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## IMPORTANT PADDFISH REGULATIONS

- All harvested paddlefish **must be reported** within 24 hours using the online E-Check system at **[wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com)**.
- The **daily harvest limit** is 1 paddlefish. The annual harvest limit per angler is 2 paddlefish. Catch-and-release is permitted year round where allowed.
- The **nonresident possession limit** is equal to the annual harvest limit.
- **Legal snagging** is limited to only one rod and reel per angler.



Bill Wentroth

## PADDLEFISH RESEARCH CENTER

**Location:** 61091 E. 120 Road, Miami, OK 74354. (Four miles north of Twin Bridges State Park.)

**Hours:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, opening March 1, 2016 and closing April 30, 2016.

**Contacts:** Call Paddlefish/Caviar Coordinator Brandon Brown at (918) 686-3673 or the PRC at (918) 542-9422.

**Fish pick-up:** Wildlife Department personnel will pick up live paddlefish from bank and boat anglers at Grand Lake. Call the PRC to arrange for a pick-up.

**Purpose:** Wildlife Department biologists collect important biological data for paddlefish management, process paddlefish meat for anglers and salvage paddlefish eggs. The PRC also serves as the hub for statewide paddlefish management and research activities.

**Q: Why can I only keep two fish this year when in previous years there was no limit?**

**A:** After years of data collection and consideration of numerous alternatives, Wildlife Department biologists have concluded that an individual annual harvest limit is the best solution for long-term harvest management in Oklahoma. Fortunately, a majority of anglers will not be affected by this restriction, as 83 percent of paddlefish anglers keep two or fewer fish per year. The primary goals are to conserve the resource and reduce total harvest while preserving opportunity for as many anglers as possible. Catch-and-release angling for paddlefish remains available statewide, year-round with few restrictions.

**Q: I am confused about the new regulations. I have a permit, so what do I need to do to harvest a fish on a legal harvest day?**

**A:** Once an angler catches and decides to keep a fish, the fish should be labeled with the angler's paddlefish permit number. One option is to put duct tape around the bill and write the angler's permit number on the tape in permanent marker. Record the date and time of harvest on the "record of game" section on the paddlefish permit.

Within 24 hours of harvest, the paddlefish must be reported. Go to [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com) or visit the Paddlefish Research Center during business hours to report your harvest. Once reported, the angler will receive a confirmation number. Retain the number for your records by writing it on the paddlefish permit.

**Q: Why is it now prohibited to snag for paddlefish with more than one rod and reel while fishing from a boat?**

**A:** In recent years, snagging for paddlefish has transitioned from primarily a bank fishery to a boat fishery due to improvements in sonar technology, access, and information on staging areas. Groups of paddlefish staging to spawn are highly vulnerable to boats with multiple rods per angler, and this scenario provides for higher incidence of take violations, additional fish stress, and gives boating anglers a distinct advantage over bank anglers.

**Q: What do I do if I catch a banded paddlefish?**

**A:** If you harvested the fish, there will be an opportunity to report the band during the E-Check process at [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com). If you released the fish, please report your band at [PaddlefishBands.com](http://PaddlefishBands.com) or call the Paddlefish Research Center at (918) 542-9422.

## TURTLE & BULLFROG REGULATIONS

### Turtle Regulations

Turtles may be taken in all waters with a resident or nonresident fishing license with the provisions listed below. Turtles taken with a firearm require a hunting license. Turtles may be taken year-round provided that:

- no more than six turtles per day are taken;
- shooting of turtles on federal reservoirs is prohibited;
- terrestrial (land) turtles may not be sold;
- taking of the western chicken turtle, map turtle, painted and razor-backed musk turtles and/or alligator snapping turtle is prohibited;
- the Wichita Mountains NWR is closed to turtle harvest;
- all soft-shell turtles greater than 16 inches front to back must be returned to water immediately.
- no aquatic turtles may be sold or purchased without the proper commercial turtle harvester or buyer's license.

**Note:** The above regulations apply to the non-commercial harvest of turtles. Separate regulations govern the commercial harvest of turtles.

### Bullfrog Regulations

Bullfrogs may be taken with hook and line, gig, spear, bow and arrow or other methods, except firearms, under a resident or nonresident fishing license. Bullfrogs taken with a firearm require a hunting license. Bullfrogs may be taken year-round provided that:

- no more than 15 bullfrogs per day are taken;
- bullfrogs may not be sold or shipped out of state;
- the Wichita Mountains NWR is closed to bullfrog harvest.





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## "CLOSE TO HOME" FISHING

### Looking for a nearby lake or pond to fish?

Through agreements between Oklahoma municipalities and the Wildlife Department, these areas offer convenient "Close to Home" fishing opportunities in metro areas.

Close-to-Home Fishing waters have the following restrictions:

- Fishing is limited to no more than three rods and reels per person, with no more than three hooks per line (treble hooks are considered one hook). No other fishing methods are allowed.
- All largemouth bass must be released (returned to the water) immediately after being caught; no harvest is allowed.
- Channel catfish and blue catfish have a combined daily limit of six; only one blue catfish over 30 inches is allowed to be kept.
- No netting of any kind (including castnetting) is permitted.

For all other species, consult the statewide regulations.



#### Oklahoma City – (405) 297-1426:

- Crystal Lake (6625 SW 15th). Fishing pier may be reserved for youth-related aquatic programs. For more information, contact City Care at (405) 657-7947.
- Dolese Youth Park (5105 NW 50th)
- Edwards Park (1515 N Bryant Ave.)
- Kids Lake (3200 W Wilshire Blvd.)
- Kitchen Lake (5894 SE 119th)
- Route 66 Park (9901 NW 23rd)
- South Lakes Regional Park (4210 SW 119th)
- Zoo Lake (2101 NE 50th) — east shoreline only

#### Choctaw – (405) 390-8198:

- Choctaw Creek Park (2001 N. Harper)
- Ten Acre Park (NE 10th Street and Choctaw Road)

#### Del City – (405) 670-7314:

- Eagle Lake (3405 E Reno)

#### Edmond – (405) 359-4630:

- Hafer Park (1034 S Bryant Ave.)
- Mitch Park (1501 W Covell Road)
- Bickham-Rudkin Park (450 E 33rd St.)

#### El Reno – (405) 262-4070:

- Legion Park (620 S. Reno Ave.)
- Southern Hills North (2710 Faith Ave.)
- Southern Hills South (2810 Faith Ave.)

#### Enid – (580) 554-1536:

- Meadowlake Park (Corner of South Van Buren Street and West Rupe Avenue)
- Government Springs North Park (300 S 5th St.)
- Crosslin Park (1600 block West Purdue Avenue)
- City of Enid Water Works (1400 block West Chestnut Avenue)

#### Guthrie – (405) 282-8400:

- Mineral Wells Park (Division and Mineral Wells Circle)
- Highland Park (Warner Avenue and N Drexel Boulevard)

#### Harrah – (405) 454-2951:

- Heritage Park (1374 N Church Ave.)

#### Jenks – (918) 299-5883:

- Veterans Park Pond (E 101 and Elm)

#### Jones – (405) 399-5301:

- Battey-Mullhousen pond (North Henney Road and West Main Street)

#### Lawton – (580) 581-3400:

- Elmer Thomas Park - Lake Helen (Interstate 44 and NW Cache Road)
- Liberty Lake (1717 NW Kinyon)
- Skyline Pond (NE 27 and Dearborn Ave.)
- Park Lane Pond (Southeast Pinewood Dr.)

#### Medicine Park – (580) 529-2825:

- Medicine Creek (From Gondola Dam to State Highway 49 bridge)

#### Moore – (405) 793-5090:

- Little River Park (700 SW 4th)
- Buck Thomas Park Pond (1903 NE 12th St.)

#### Mustang – (405) 376-7739:

- Wildhorse Park (SW 59th and Mustang Rd.)

#### Norman – (405) 366-5472:

- George M. Sutton Urban Wilderness Area (12th Avenue NE and Rock Creek Road)
- Norman Lions Northeast Park (1800 Northcliff Ave.)
- Griffin Community Park (1001 E Robinson)

#### Yukon – (405) 354-7208:

- City Park (2200 S Holly St.)
- Welch Park (615 Annawood Road)
- Robertson Activity Center (1200 Lakeshore Drive)

## TULSA URBAN FISHERIES

Residents in the Tulsa area have access to many urban ponds. For local residents looking for a place to fish that is close to home, these sites offer plenty of opportunities. Listed sites are open to the public in the Tulsa area. All statewide fishing regulations apply, in addition to any municipal or county regulations not listed here. For more information, go online to [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/tulsaurbanfisheries.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/tulsaurbanfisheries.htm).

- **Brookwood:** 81st and South Yale, southwest corner.
- **Crescent Pond:** South of 81st between Sheridan and Memorial, in Southfield Estates neighborhood.
- **Garden Ridge Pond:** Behind the Hillcrest building, southeast corner of U.S. 169 and State Highway 51. Simplest access from Garnett Road then west on South 109th East Avenue.
- **The Gardens:** 51st and South Hudson, southwest corner.
- **Hunter Park:** South of 91st between Sheridan and Yale.
- **Leake Park:** 71st and South Memorial, southwest corner.
- **Lynn Lane Reservoir:** South of 21st between South 177th East Avenue (Lynn Lane) and South 193rd East Avenue (Tulsa County Line).
- **Metcalf:** South of 11th on South Mingo Road.
- **Minshall Park:** 71st and Sheridan, southwest corner.
- **Mohawk Park:** Zoo main entrance is 36th Street North east of Sheridan Road. Mohawk Reflective Ponds are accessible by taking an immediate right turn on Cherokee Drive once in the main entrance. Public fishing allowed in Mohawk Creek area; from main entrance, continue north on Chickasaw Drive to Creek Drive, which parallels Mohawk Creek.
- **MS6:** North of 11th on South Mingo Road.
- **Nelson Park:** South 92nd East Avenue and Skelly Drive (south of Interstate 44).
- **Owen Park:** West Edison Street and North Quanah Avenue, south of Tulsa Country Club.
- **Redford:** North of East Skelly Drive on South 101st East Avenue.
- **Veterans' Pond:** 101st and South Elm in Jenks, northeast corner.

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## General Trout Regulations

### License Requirements:

- A resident or nonresident fishing license is required of all persons who take or attempt to take fish, including trout, unless otherwise exempt.
- A trout license (stamp) is **no longer required** because it is included in the resident or non-resident fishing license.

### Trout Stocking Seasons:

See map and description of each state-designated trout area. Anglers may fish for and harvest trout any time during the year, unless otherwise specified by area.

### Method of Taking:

- It is unlawful to take fish from state-designated trout areas during trout season by any means except one rod and reel (or one pole and line).
- Trout caught and placed on a stringer or otherwise held in possession cannot be released later (no culling).
- All trout in possession must be kept on a stringer marked with that angler's name and fishing license number. All anglers must have their own stringer.

### Daily & Size Limits:

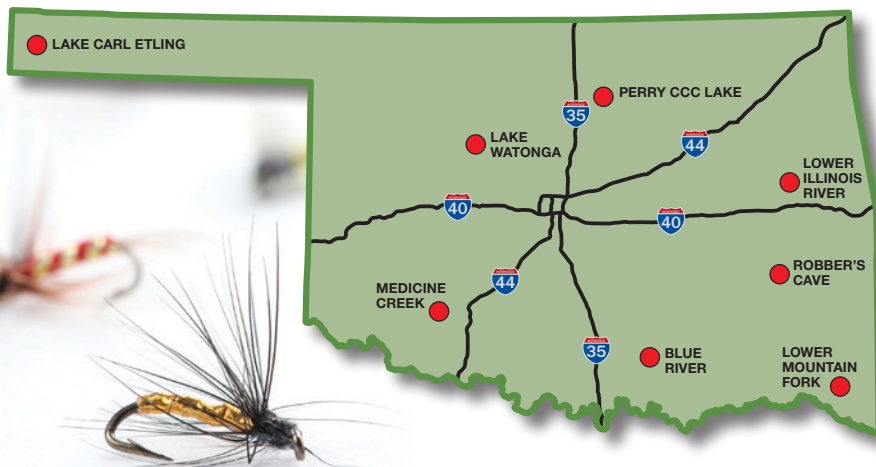
- Daily limit is six rainbow trout in all state-designated trout areas except in portions of the Blue River, the Lower Illinois River and the Lower Mountain Fork River. (See maps and descriptions on pages 19 and 21.)
- There is no minimum size limit for rainbow trout at any state-designated trout area except in portions of the Lower Illinois River and the Lower Mountain Fork River. (See maps and descriptions on pages 19 and 21.)
- Daily limit for brown trout is six with no minimum size limit, except at the Lower Mountain Fork River and Lower Illinois River where the daily limit is one; size limit: 20-inch minimum, with a possession limit of two after the first day.

### Possession Limit:

No person shall have in his possession in the field more than one daily limit of any trout species. After the first day, no person shall have more than 12 rainbow trout and 12 brown trout in his or her possession, except at the Lower Mountain Fork River and Lower Illinois River where the possession limit for brown trout is two. Nonresidents shall not have more than two days' limit of any trout species upon leaving the state.

### Artificial Flies and Lures Defined:

Fishing tackle made by fly-tying or artificial lures made of wood, metal, glass, feathers, hair, synthetic fibers or hard plastic and barbless hooks only. The use of any substance, including soft plastics, in combination with restricted fishing tackle is prohibited.



## TROUT STOCKING & FISHING REPORT

To see a general schedule for trout stocking and fishing reports, please visit [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/trout\\_stock\\_schedule.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/trout_stock_schedule.htm) and [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/fishrpt.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/fishrpt.htm)

## VETERANS POND (JENKS) TROUT REGULATIONS

Through generous donations from BancFirst and Trout Unlimited Oklahoma Chapter, Jenks provides a special trout season at Veterans Pond, East 101st Street South and South Elm St., from Dec. 1 through Feb. 28 of the following calendar year.

- Only one pole or rod and reel per person.
- Only six trout per person per day.
- No culling (releasing fish caught earlier and kept).
- Bank fishing only; no wading, tubing or boating.
- A state fishing license is required.



## DOLESE YOUTH PARK POND TROUT REGULATIONS

Through generous donations from Dolese Bros. and Trout Unlimited 89er Chapter, Oklahoma City provides a special trout fishing season at Dolese Youth Park pond from Dec. 1 through Feb. 28 of the following calendar year.

- Only one pole or rod and reel per person.
- Only six trout per person per day.
- No culling (releasing fish earlier caught and kept).
- Bank fishing only. No wading, tubing or boating.
- State fishing license and Oklahoma City fishing permit required. For Oklahoma City rules and permit information, call (405) 755-4014.





## Lower Mountain Fork River

### Trout Stocking Season:

Year-round.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location:

Twelve-mile portion of the Lower Mountain Fork River and its tributaries from the Broken Bow Reservoir spillway downstream to the U.S. 70 bridge. About five miles of this designated trout stream lies within Beavers Bend State Park, in McCurtain County.

### Bank Access/Boat Ramps:

Bank access is unlimited within the state park and downstream to the re-regulation dam. Another public access point exists at Presbyterian Falls. Boat ramps are just upstream of and below the re-regulation dam.

### Notes of Interest:

Camping and cabin facilities are available within Beavers Bend State Park and below the re-regulation dam. For information, call the park at (580) 494-6300. **For weekly fishing reports for the Lower Mountain Fork River, visit [www.flyfishoklahoma.com](http://www.flyfishoklahoma.com) or call (858) 480-5142.**

### Trout Regulations:

- Brown trout - Daily limit: one; size limit: 20-inch minimum.
- Rainbow trout - Daily limit: six combined from Red and Blue Zones. See Zone regulations below.

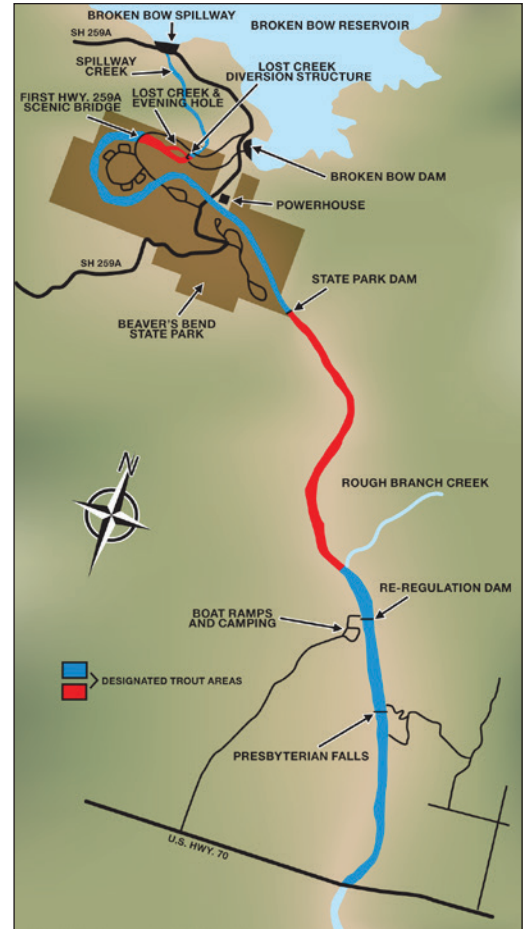
### Special Regulations by Zone:

**Blue Zones:** (From the Broken Bow Reservoir spillway downstream to the Lost Creek diversion structure; from the first State Highway 259A scenic bridge downstream to the State Park Dam; and from the mouth of Rough Branch Creek downstream to U.S. 70 bridge):

- Rainbow trout - Daily limit: six; no minimum size limit.
- Use of bait and barbed hooks is permitted.

**Red Zones:** (From the Lost Creek diversion structure downstream to the first State Highway 259A scenic bridge, including the Lost Creek channel; and from the State Park Dam downstream to the mouth of Rough Branch Creek):

- Rainbow trout - Daily limit: one; Size limit: 20-inch minimum.
- Possession of any trout less than 20 inches is prohibited.
- Use of bait or barbed hooks is prohibited in the Red Zone. Fishing is restricted to barbless hooks, artificial flies and artificial lures only.



**ANS Alert:** Didymo, an aquatic nuisance species commonly referred to as "rock snot," has been identified in the Lower Mountain Fork River. To prevent spreading this undesirable organism, please clean and dry waders and other fishing equipment after use in the Lower Mountain Fork River.

## Blue River

### Trout Stocking Season:

Trout are stocked from Nov. 1 through March 31 of the following calendar year.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location:

A 6.25-mile portion of the Blue River flowing through the Blue River Public Fishing and Hunting Area located in Johnston County, four miles east of Tishomingo on State Highway 78 and six miles north.

### Bank Access:

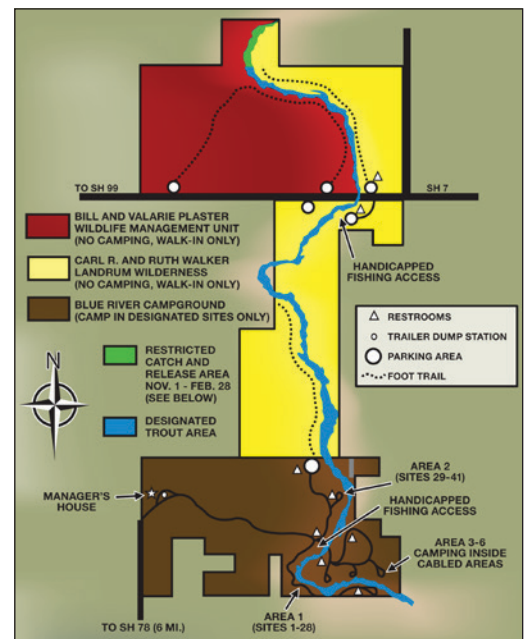
Bank/wading access is available throughout the area (see accompanying map).

### Notes of Interest:

Camping facilities available only at the Blue River Campground area (see map). Special access is provided for people who use wheelchairs. For information, call (580) 443-5728. For complete public use restrictions, see page 27.

### Special Regulations:

From Nov. 1 to Feb. 28, the portion of the Blue River which enters the north side of the property and flows to the end of the first walk-in trail is catch-and-release only. (See shaded area on map.) Fishing is restricted to barbless hooks, artificial flies and lures only. Starting March 1, special regulations do not apply. Also, no camping and no vehicles are allowed except in designated parking areas of the Carl R. and Ruth Walker Landrum Wilderness and the Bill and Valerie Plaster Wildlife Management Unit. Nonhunting and nonfishing visitors to the area are required to possess a Wildlife Conservation Passport, unless exempt (see page 6).



## Robber's Cave

### Trout Stocking Season:

Trout are stocked from Nov. 1 through March 15 of the following calendar year.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location:

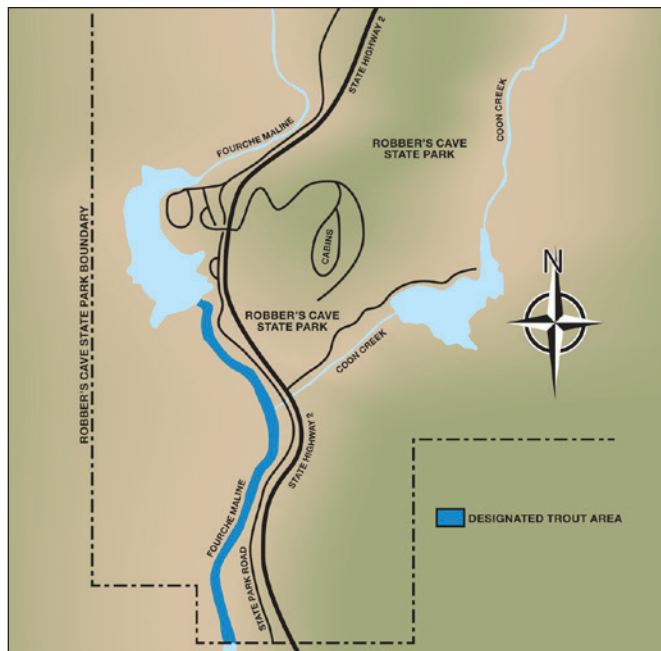
A 1.5-mile portion of Fourche Maline River immediately below Carlton Lake Dam downstream to the southern boundary of Robber's Cave State Park, located in Latimer County, five miles north of Wilburton on State Highway 2.

### Bank Access:

Bank access is good because the entire designated trout stream lies within Robber's Cave State Park.

### Notes of Interest:

Camping and cabin facilities are available within the state park. For information, call (918) 465-2565.



## Lake Carl Etling

### Trout Stocking Season:

Trout are stocked from Nov. 1 through April 30 of the following calendar year.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location:

This 159-acre lake is within Black Mesa State Park in Cimarron County, about 30 miles northwest of Boise City.

### Bank Access/Boat Ramps:

Berms extending from the south bank. Boat ramps on east and south sides of the lake.

### Notes of Interest:

Camping facilities, including hookups, are available within the state park. For information, call Black Mesa State Park at (580) 426-2222.



wildlifedepartment.com

## Medicine Creek

### Trout Stocking Season:

Trout are stocked from Nov. 1 through March 15 of the following calendar year.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location:

Medicine Creek from Gondola Lake dam downstream to the State Highway 49 bridge.

### Bank Access:

A sidewalk along the east side of Medicine Creek in the town of Medicine Park will offer the best fishing access. Parking and fishing access also will be found along the creek's east bank just north of the State Highway 49 bridge. The west side of the creek is mostly undeveloped but is accessible on foot. Anglers should avoid trespassing on any residential property.

### Notes of Interest:

Camping facilities are available at the nearby Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. For more information, call the refuge headquarters at (580) 429-3222 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Lodging is available in and around Medicine Park.



## Lower Illinois River

### Trout Stocking Season:

Year-round.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location:

A 7.75-mile portion of the Illinois River from Tenkiller Ferry Dam to U.S. 64 bridge near Gore in Sequoyah County.

### Bank Access/Boat Ramps:

The Lower Illinois River Public Fishing and Hunting Area – Simp and Helen Watts Management Unit offers public fishing access to almost one mile of the trout stream and 320 acres of public hunting opportunity (see map). To reach the area, travel north on State Highway 100 from Gore about four miles. Turn east onto county road E0990 and travel about one mile to the entrance. Park in the designated parking area only. The area is managed for walk-in access only.

Four other public access sites are available along the state-designated trout stream, including a pool off the river located immediately below the dam which allows trout fishing even during high power generation. Another good site is located at the River Road Public Access Area about six miles downstream from the dam. The Gore Landing Public Access Area, operated by the town of Gore, (918) 489-2636, offers camping and a boat launching ramp.

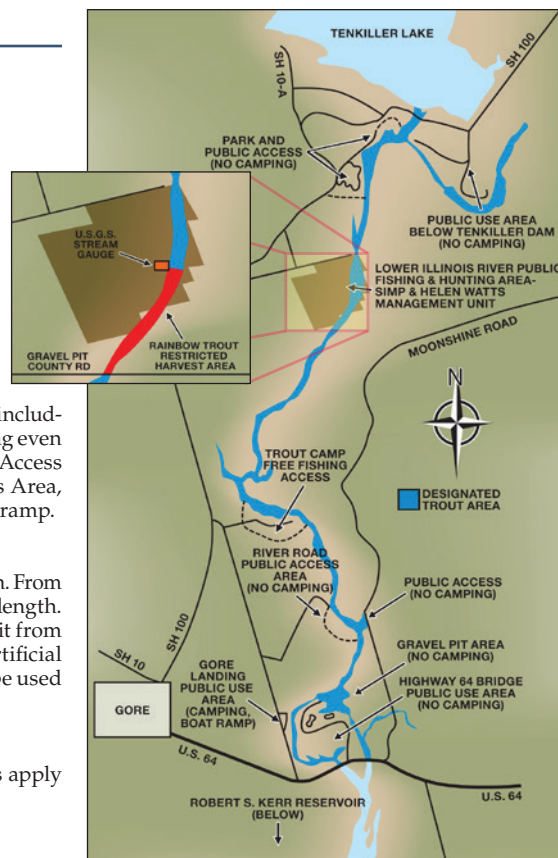
### Special Regulations: Daily limit

Brown trout – one; 20-inch minimum length. Rainbow trout – six, no minimum length. From USGS stream gauge downstream to Gravel Pit County Road: one; 20-inch minimum length.

Trout fishing in the Lower Illinois River Simp and Helen Watts Management Unit from the USGS stream gauge downstream to Gravel Pit County Road is restricted to artificial flies and lures only and barbless hooks only. Single barbed hooks 3/0 or larger may be used only when fishing with natural bait for species other than trout.

### Lower Illinois River Public Fishing and Hunting Area

Simp and Helen Watts Management Unit – all general trout fishing regulations apply (see page 18). No overnight camping is allowed on the area.



## Perry CCC / Lake Perry Park

### Trout Stocking Season

Trout are stocked from Nov. 1 to March 31 of the following calendar year.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location

One mile south of Perry off State Highway 86 in Noble County. This 32-acre lake is within five minutes of Interstate 35.

### Bank Access/Boat Ramps

Bank access plentiful; boat ramp on west side of the lake.

### Notes of Interest

Historic pavilions near the south shoreline were projects of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934.

### Special Regulations

The City of Perry issues permits for fishing and boating. Camping is available nearby. For information, call (580) 336-4241.

## Lake Watonga

### Trout Stocking Season

Trout are stocked from Nov. 1 through March 31 of the following calendar year.

### Designated Trout Area/Size/Location

Seven miles north of Watonga in Blaine County. This 55-acre lake is within Roman Nose State Park.

### Bank Access/Boat Ramps

Bank access and a boat ramp on the west side of the lake.

### Notes of Interest

Camping and lodge facilities are available within Roman Nose State Park. For information, call the park at (800) 892-8690.



# OKLAHOMA RECORD FISH

\* *New Records in blue*

## Rod and Reel Record Fish

Common Name	Lbs.	Oz.	Length	Girth	Where	When	Angler
Bass, Largemouth	14	13.7	26 1/8	23	Cedar Lake	3-13-13	Dale Miller
Bass, Smallmouth	8	7	23 1/8	18	Lawtonka	3-21-12	Ryan Wasser
Bass, Spotted	8	2	23 1/2	17 1/2	Pittsburg Co. Pond	6-27-58	O. J. Stone
Bass, Striped	47	8	48	30	Lower Illinois River	6-10-96	Louis Parker
Bass, White	4	9.6	20	17	Kaw Lake	4-6-13	Miguel Farias
Bass, Hybrid Black	8	5.6	22 3/4	16 1/2	Veterans Lake	3-27-06	Dru Kinslow
Bass, Hybrid Striped	23	4	33 1/2	27	Altus-Lugert Lake	4-1-97	Paul Hollister
Bass, Hybrid Yellow	2	5	15 3/4	12 5/8	Kiamichi River	3-26-91	George R. Edwards
Buffalo, Bigmouth	59	15	43 3/4	33 1/2	Greenleaf	11-12-88	Leroy Broadrick
Buffalo, Black	42	8	42 1/4	29	Chimney Rock Lake	11-17-13	Jeff D. Olinger
Buffalo, Smallmouth	47	10	42 1/4	31	Chimney Rock Lake	12-14-14	Jeff D. Olinger
Bullhead, Black	6	13	18 5/8	17 3/4	Jackson Co. Pond	5-24-84	Gary Cole
Bullhead, Yellow	2	5	16	10 5/8	Okfuskee Co. Pond	5-3-14	Nathan W. Williams
Carp, Common	39	10.4	39 1/4	30 3/4	Grady Co. Pond	4-23-02	Brandon Hughes
Carp, Grass	68	15.2	49	34	Chelsea City Lake	4-5-08	Jereme Budgick
Carp sucker, River	7	11	24	17	Canadian Co. Pond	4-18-90	W.C. "Bill" Kenyon
Catfish, Blue	98		54 1/2	39 1/2	Lake Texoma	11-11-04	Billy Nabors
Catfish, Channel	35	15	39 1/4	26 1/4	Taft Lake	9-11-05	Gary Doak, Jr.
Catfish, Flathead	78	8	51	36 1/2	El Reno City Lake	5-11-10	Richard Williams
Crappie, Black	4	10	20 1/4	17 3/4	Ottawa Co. Pond	6-16-74	Rollie Williams
Crappie, White	4	15	19	16 1/4	Kingfisher Co. Pond	5-4-91	Frank Robinson
Drum, Freshwater	38		41 3/4	28 3/4	Tenkiller Lake	5-23-76	Harold Phillips
Eel, American	5	7	39 1/2	9 7/8	Lower Illinois River	6-3-95	Dolores Munsell
Gar, Alligator (snagged)	254	12	97 3/4	44	Texoma	4-23-15	Paul Easley
Gar, Longnose	43	8	64 1/2	23 1/2	Eufaula	8-28-12	Howard Zumner
Gar, Shortnose	5	6	32		Brown Lake, McAAP	8-16-03	Robert Byrd
Goldeye	2	8	18 5/8	10 3/4	Arkansas River	4-27-96	James R. Smith
Herring, Skipjack	3	6	19	13 3/8	Eufaula Tailwaters	4-3-92	Bobby Moore
Paddlefish	125	7	55	41 1/4	Arkansas River	4-10-11	Aaron Stone
Pickrel, Chain	2	10	22 1/2	9 1/2	Lower Mtn. Fork River	4-22-82	Eric Lowe
Pickrel, Grass		7	13	5 1/8	Beaver Creek	3-17-95	Barry Bryant
Pike, Northern	36	8	44		Lake Carl Etling	6-13-76	Raymond Fernandez
Redhorse, River	8	5	28 1/2	17 1/8	Illinois River	2-11-77	Willis Pippin
Sauger	5	5	23	14	Kerr Reservoir	1-18-81	Chet Munds
Saugeye	10		28 1/4	19	Fort Cobb Lake	2-24-06	Curt Wilkerson
Sunfish, Bluegill	2	6	12 3/4	14 1/2	Kay Co. Pond	5-8-87	Tom Shorter
Sunfish, Green	2	7	13	14 1/4	Pontotoc Co. Pond	10-16-72	Eddie Shulanberger
Sunfish, Hybrid	1	14	12 3/8	13 7/8	Bryan Co. Pond	5-24-97	Hal Smith
Sunfish, Redear	2	1	12 3/4	13	Logan Co. Pond	11-15-73	Ruby Lee Farmer
Trout, Brown	17	4.6	32 3/4	20	Lower Mtn. Fork River	4-10-05	Jason Archie
Trout, Rainbow	11	4.32	29 3/16	16 9/16	Lower Illinois River	4-4-15	Paul Glover
Walleye	12	13	30 3/8	19 1/2	Robert S. Kerr	5-8-04	Kerry Carter

## Unrestricted Division Record Fish

Common Name	Lbs.	Ozs.	Length	Girth	Where	When	Angler/Method
Buffalo, Bigmouth	60	6.4	43	33 3/4	Texoma	4-25-15	Allen Bynum/bow & arrow
Buffalo, Black	57	12	43 1/4	31	Tenkiller Lake	6-30-84	Chester Penn/trotline
Buffalo, Smallmouth	50	4	39 1/2	33 1/2	Broken Bow Lake	5-20-10	Rickey Smith/trotline
Carp, Common	48	13	40	32	Broken Bow Lake	5-16-10	Scotty Littles/bow & arrow
Carp, Grass	77		53	36 1/4	Arbuckle Lake	7-30-02	Brandon Taber/bow & arrow
Carp sucker, River	9	6.4	25 3/4	17 3/4	Canton Lake	5-10-15	Josh A. Brooks/bow & arrow
Catfish, Blue	118	8	57	41 3/4	Lake Texoma	5-4-88	Dan Grider/jugline
Catfish, Flathead	106		60	39 1/2	Wister Lake	4-5-77	C. Clubb/trotline
Eel, American	5	8.7	40	9 3/4	Webbers Falls	8-15-02	Billy Davison/trotline
Gar, Shortnose	9	11.5	43 1/4	13 3/8	Kaw Dam Tailwaters	9-2-07	Dwayne Carter/bow & arrow
Gar, Spotted	9	12.8	37 1/4	13.5	Arbuckle Lake	4-19-08	Jimmy Nelson/bow & arrow
Hogsucker, Northern	2	1	15 5/8	9 1/4	Illinois River	3-15-10	Clint Williams/gigging
Paddlefish	134		55	44	Grand Lake	8-13-92	Charles Ham/trotline
Redhorse, Black	5	11	25 3/4	12 3/4	Illinois River	12-6-09	Brandon Taber/bow & arrow
Redhorse, Golden	8	12	29	16 1/4	Illinois River	3-16-08	Everett Noblin, Jr./gigging
Redhorse, River	10	19	28 1/2	15	Illinois River	3-17-10	Carl Williams/gigging
Sturgeon, Shovelnose	2	15	29	8 1/2	Arkansas River	10-12-97	Paul R. Forman/throw line

## How to Certify a State Record

1. Fish **must** be caught on rod and line and must be hooked and played by only one person. *(Except for unrestricted division, which recognizes fish species taken by legal means other than rod and reel such as bow and arrow, gig, spear, trotline, jugline, limblime, etc. These records must tie or exceed the weight of the existing rod and reel record.)*
2. Fish **must** be caught in accordance with Oklahoma fishing regulations.
3. No fish caught from any hatchery or commercial put-and-take lake is eligible.
4. Accredited or certified weight scales **must** be used to weigh the fish. Accredited steel measuring tapes **must** be used to measure the fish. The fish should be measured from tip of the snout to the end of the tail, with fish laid flat on a ruler, mouth closed and tail lobes pressed together, giving length of fish in inches. Measure the girth of the fish in inches around its widest point. Three witnesses, one of which must be an employee of the Wildlife Department, must witness the weighing and measuring of the fish and sign the affidavit.
5. The fish may be frozen, but must be in a thawed, natural, live-weight condition when approved by a Wildlife Department biologist or technician. Preserve the fish until you receive an official letter of verification from the director of the Wildlife Department.
6. A clear photograph showing a close-up side view of the fish must accompany the completed fish affidavit form. All photographs become the property of the Wildlife Department.
7. The Wildlife Department reserves the right to collect fish scale, tissue or spine samples to check fish identification and to refuse any questionable fish affidavit submitted. The affidavit must be submitted within 30 days of the date the fish is caught.
8. With the exception of grass carp, no restricted exotic species will be eligible for state record fish recognition.



Brad Johnston

Jeff D. Olinger of Sand Springs holds his state-record smallmouth buffalo caught December 14, 2014, at Chimney Rock Lake. The fish weighed 47 pounds, 10 ounces.



Matt Mauck

Paul Easley showcases his state record alligator gar caught April 23, 2015, in Lake Texoma. The fish weighed 254 pounds, 12 ounces.

## LAKE RECORD FISH PROGRAM

### What is the biggest fish you've ever caught?

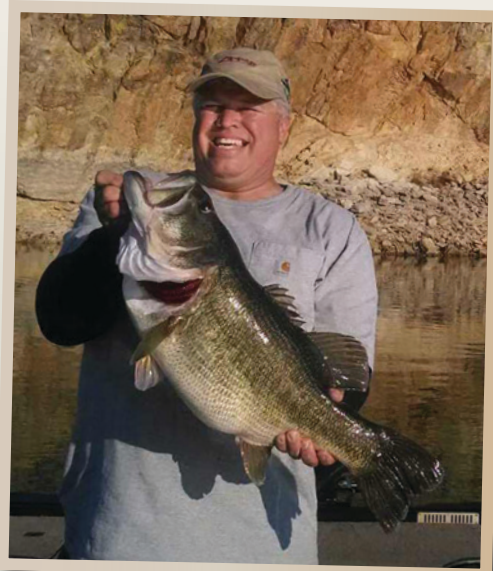
A 7-pound largemouth, a 2-pound crappie or a 45-pound blue catfish? While your fish may not have broken a state record, it could very possibly be the biggest fish ever caught out of your favorite lake. The Lake Record fish program was established to recognize big fish and the lakes where they are caught.

### Been to the lake lately? You might have caught a lake record!

The Lake Record fish program continues to grow, as more and more anglers find themselves holding a fish that qualifies for a lake record. From lakes large and small, from one side of the state to the other, the Lake Record program recognizes anglers who land a fish that is a record for that lake.

Once an angler catches a fish that might qualify as a lake record, he or she must have the catch certified at a Lake Record Keeper location. For a full list of record keepers, visit our web site, [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing.htm).

**To qualify for the Lake Record Program, your catch must be larger than a 6-pound largemouth bass; 4-pound smallmouth bass; 2-pound spotted bass; 2-pound crappie; 15-pound channel catfish; 40-pound blue or flathead catfish; 3-pound white bass; 20-pound striped bass; 8-pound hybrid; 5-pound walleye/saugeye; 1-pound sunfish or 40-pound paddlefish.**



Chase Jewell

Charles Jewell of Healdton caught this Lake Murray record largemouth bass on February 2, 2015. The fish weighed 12.3 pounds and was released back into the lake.



## AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES (ANS)

### STOP INVASIVE SPECIES

# CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.

**As soon as you pull your boat out of the water, remember to:**

#### Clean.

Pressure wash your boat, trailer and equipment with hot water (140° F) and remove all zebra mussels, plant fragments and mud that are visible.

#### Drain.

Drain all water from your boat, motor, bilge, live wells, coolers and ballast.

#### Dry.

If pressure wash is not available, allow the boat, trailer and equipment to dry thoroughly for at least five days before visiting a new water body.



texasinvasives.org

### IT'S THE LAW!

ANS are invasive, non-native species that threaten the ecological integrity of aquatic ecosystems in Oklahoma. People must remove all aquatic plant species and zebra mussels from boats, trailers and other gear prior to launching boats in state waters. If you find something you believe to be an ANS, call biologist Curtis Tackett at (405) 365-5060. For more information on ANS, go online to **ProtectYourWaters.net**



### SHAD RESTRICTION

No person shall transport shad from the following waters. If shad are collected from these listed waters for use as bait, they may only be used in the water body from which they were collected.

- The Red River below Lake Texoma to the Arkansas state line
- Grand Lake O' the Cherokees
- The Neosho River from Grand Lake to the Kansas state line
- The Kiamichi River below Hugo Lake to the Red River



Bighead Carp Juvenile



Silver Carp Juvenile



Gizzard Shad

### ATTENTION ANGLERS

Bighead and silver carp are invading Oklahoma waters. If you catch either of these species, do not release the fish back into the water. Report it to Wildlife Department personnel immediately by calling (405) 365-5060. Anglers are allowed to possess dead or live bighead and silver carp when reporting them to the Wildlife Department. The Wildlife Department is collecting biological data on these species to better understand their population status and the threats they pose to state lakes and rivers. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## ANS in Oklahoma

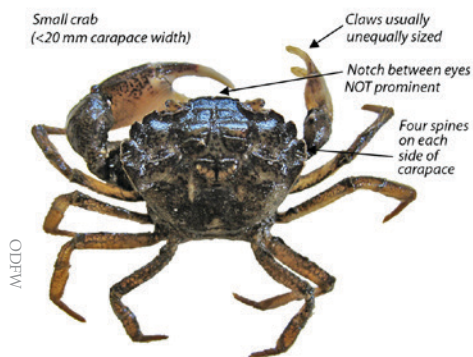
**Note:** For a complete list of aquatic nuisance species in Oklahoma, including noxious aquatic plants, please refer to Title 800 or visit [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/ans.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/ans.htm).



Bighead Carp



Silver Carp



Harris Mud Crab



Hydrilla



White Perch



Zebra Mussels



Didymo



Golden Algae

## PROHIBITED SPECIES LIST

Importing into the state or possession of the following exotic fish or their eggs in Oklahoma is illegal:

- Alewives
- Australian Red Claw (Crayfish)
- Bighead Carp
- Black Carp
- Blueback Herring
- Boney-Tongue Fishes
- Electric Catfish
- Electric Eel
- Freshwater Stingray
- Gar-Pike Minnow
- Houri
- Parasitic South American Catfish
- Pavon or Peacock Bass
- Piranha
- Rainbow Smelt
- Rudd and Rudd Hybrids
- Silver Carp
- Snakehead
- Walking Catfish

**Disclaimer:** For a complete list of species and their genus that are illegal to import into the state or possess in Oklahoma please refer to Title 800 or visit [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/prohibitedfish.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/prohibitedfish.htm)



Australian Red Claw (Crayfish)



Piranha



Walking Catfish



Peacock Bass



Northern Snakehead



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: I'm 72 years old and live in Texas. Do I need to buy a fishing license if I'm visiting Oklahoma to fish?**

**A:** No. If you are a Texas resident who is 65 or older, you can take advantage of the reciprocal agreement between Oklahoma and Texas. This agreement allows anyone 65 and older to fish in the other state without having to buy a license.

**Q: I live in Missouri and am 76 years old. Can I fish for free in Oklahoma because I'm a senior citizen?**

**A:** No. All nonresidents who are 65 and older (except Texas residents) are required to buy a fishing license in Oklahoma. A nonresident one-day fishing license costs \$15, and a nonresident six-day fishing license costs \$35.

**Q: I have an Oklahoma fishing license. Am I permitted to fish on the Texas side of Lake Texoma?**

**A:** No. You must have either a Texas license to fish on the Texas side of Lake Texoma, or you can buy a Texoma fishing license for \$12, which allows you to fish both sides of the lake.

**Q: Is it true that anyone can fish in an Oklahoma state park without needing a fishing license?**

**A:** No. A fishing license is required for Oklahoma state park waters.

**Q: Do I need a fishing license if I fish in my neighborhood pond?**

**A:** In most all cases a fishing license is required. For more information, contact your local game warden.



My Question Concerns	Who To Call
Registration of Boat or Motor	Oklahoma Tax Commission, (800) 522-8165 or <a href="http://www.tax.ok.gov">www.tax.ok.gov</a>
Boating Laws and Safety	Oklahoma Highway Patrol Marine Enforcement Section, (405) 522-1880 or <a href="http://www.dps.state.ok.us/lp/lps.htm">www.dps.state.ok.us/lp/lps.htm</a>
Polluted Waters	Department of Environmental Quality, (405) 702-8100 or <a href="http://www.deq.state.ok.us">www.deq.state.ok.us</a>
Injured Wildlife	Wildlife rehabilitator (see list at <a href="http://wildlifedepartment.com/lawforms/wildliferehab.pdf">wildlifedepartment.com/lawforms/wildliferehab.pdf</a> )
Camping Fees or Rules	Operator or caretaker of site
Fish Kill	Wildlife Department, (405) 424-6062 or (405) 990-7029 or <a href="http://wildlifedepartment.com">wildlifedepartment.com</a>
State Parks, Events, Brochures	Oklahoma Tourism, (800) 652-6552 or <a href="http://TravelOK.com">TravelOK.com</a>
Oklahoma City Fishing Rules, Permits	Oklahoma City, (405) 755-4014 or <a href="http://OKC.gov">OKC.gov</a>

**Q: Can you tell me about camping sites and fees for the lake where I'm fishing?**

**A:** The lake's operator sets rules about camping, so one should first determine the proper source for camping information. The Wildlife Department allows camping in designated areas at its 15 Department-owned lakes, but specific rules may differ for each lake. For a list of public lakes and contact information, go to [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/lakecontact.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/lakecontact.htm).

**Q: On Google Earth, I keep seeing small lakes labeled "Oknoname." Can I fish in them?**

**A:** These are watershed flood control reservoirs built by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Most are on private land, so you would need permission from the landowner to fish on the property.

**Q: When are they going to stock trout in the Lower Mountain Fork River, Illinois River, Robbers Cave, etc.?**

**A:** The Wildlife Department lists a trout stocking schedule on its web site at [wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/trout\\_stock\\_schedule.htm](http://wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/trout_stock_schedule.htm).

**Q: Can I catch trout when it's not "trout season"?**

**A:** Yes. Trout season is the period during which trout are stocked, and certain other restrictions apply. You may catch and keep trout year round. See trout regulations for daily bag limits and size restrictions.

**Q: If I have my pond stocked through the Wildlife Department's Farm Pond Stocking Program, do I have to allow the public to fish in my pond?**

**A:** No. Law enforcement personnel are permitted to check licenses of those fishing in your pond (landowners and their immediate family are exempt), but you do not have to allow other people to fish in your pond.

**Q: Can I go tube fishing or float fishing in Wildlife Department-owned lakes?**

**A:** Yes.

**Q: Where can I find the list of flood control/watershed lakes that I can fish in?**

**A:** Such a list doesn't exist. Watershed lakes or flood control projects were created through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and most are on private land. You will need to contact the landowner for permission to fish on the property.

## HONOBIA CREEK, THREE RIVERS FISHING

Honobia Creek and Three Rivers Wildlife Management Areas offer anglers more than 100 ponds, several creeks and three major rivers in which to fish throughout the 300,000-plus acres that make up the areas. The Little and Mountain Fork rivers are in Honobia Creek WMA and offer anglers great fishing opportunities for sunfish; flathead and channel catfish; and largemouth, spotted and smallmouth bass. The Glover River is one of the last remaining free-flowing rivers in the United States and offers excellent fishing for sunfish; flathead catfish; and largemouth, spotted and smallmouth bass. Primitive camping locations can be found up and down the rivers on each side. Floating in a canoe or kayak to fish the rivers is an excellent way to cover a lot of water, but anglers can also wade to beat the heat in the summer. For more information about fishing or hunting on Three Rivers or Honobia Creek WMAs, call biologist Dakota Christian, (918) 527-5308.

## Department Fishing Areas – PUBLIC USE RESTRICTIONS

The following rules and restrictions govern public use on all Wildlife Department Fishing Areas. Wildlife Department Fishing Areas are listed in [blue type](#) on pages 28–29.

**Waterfowl Refuge Portion** - The Waterfowl Refuge Portion (WRP) of the following lakes/areas is closed during Oct. 15 - Jan. 31 to all public use and access: Canton, Hackberry Flat, Hugo, McClellan-Kerr, Red Slough, and Wister. Visit [wildlifedepartment.com](http://wildlifedepartment.com) for a map of the WRP portion or contact the Area Managers listed in the "Oklahoma Hunting" guide.

**Fishing** - Fishing is permitted at all times in accordance with regulations. "Closed areas" may be designated for purposes of safety and/or security. After 10 p.m. and until 5 a.m., all Wildlife Department fishing areas are restricted to fishing and hunting (when applicable) related activities only. No person may fish with more than two poles, except during trout seasons at Designated Trout Areas when only one pole per person is allowed. Trotlines, throwlines, limblines, juglines, nets, seines, yo-yos, spearguns, noodling and taking of bait minnows by any method is prohibited, except cast nets may be used to take bait for personal use only at Lake Carl Etling. Lake Dahlgren (Lexington WMA) is closed to fishing during designated controlled hunts (check current "Oklahoma Hunting" guide for dates).

**Hunting** - Always check the current "Oklahoma Hunting" guide for season details and restrictions. Hunting is permitted on the following lakes: Hall, Jap Beaver, Burtschi, Nanih Waiya, Ozzie Cobb, Schooler, Evans Chambers, American Horse and Vanderwork during open hunting seasons from Sept. 1 through spring turkey season, including migratory bird seasons. Hunting is restricted to shotguns and bows only. These lakes are closed to antlerless deer harvest, except during archery season. Hunting regulations and restrictions for lakes Dahlgren, Doc Hollis and Vincent are the same as those listed for Lexington WMA (Dahlgren), Sandy Sanders WMA (Doc Hollis) and Ellis County WMA (Vincent). Hunting and shooting other than provided above is prohibited. "Closed areas" may be designated for purposes of safety and/or security. Trapping is prohibited.

**Camping** - Limited to three days, except at the Lower Illinois River PFHA, Kiamichi River Access Area and Arcadia CEA where no camping is permitted, and at Lakes Watonga and Carl Etling where camping is limited to 14 consecutive days, and at Blue River PFHA where camping is restricted to 14 days in a 30-consecutive-day period. Camping is permitted only in designated camping areas. Quiet shall be maintained in camping areas between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. Operation or use of any audio-producing device including radios, televisions and musical instruments or motorized equipment used in such a manner as to reasonably annoy or endanger persons at any time or exceed state or local laws governing noise levels is prohibited.

**Boats & Motors** - Must comply with existing state boat regulations and boat operators must

obey Oklahoma State Boat Laws. All boats must be operated at no-wake speed (six miles per hour or less) and may not be left on the water or at areas longer than the limit on camping.

**Water Skiing** - Water skiing is prohibited.

**Littering** - Disposal of trash, refuse and debris, including organic and inorganic material is prohibited, except in designated trash containers.

**Motor Vehicles** - Driving, occupying or parking any motor driven vehicle, except on maintained roads (unless posted as "no parking zones"), designated parking areas and camping areas is prohibited. It is unlawful to operate any vehicle in a manner to create a public nuisance or to park in a "no parking zone." Motor vehicle operators must be licensed drivers.

**Vandalism, Theft, & Damage to Property** - Vandalism, theft, cutting or defacing of trees and vegetation, removal of soil, rocks, water or minerals or damage to state property are prohibited.

**Fireworks/Explosive Devices** - Possession or use of explosive devices, including fireworks and firecrackers, is prohibited.

**Swimming** - Swimming is not permitted in Wildlife Department lakes.

**Dogs** - Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times, except when used to hunt during legal open seasons on those areas where hunting is permitted.

**Disorderly Conduct** - No person shall use threatening, abusive or indecent language, participate in disorderly assemblage nor publicly appear nude or intoxicated on any lands owned and managed by the Wildlife Department.

**Glass beverage containers** - Are prohibited at Department fishing areas, except in designated camping and parking areas.

**Alcoholic Beverages/Controlled Substances** - Beer and other alcoholic beverages are not allowed (as defined in O.S. Title 37, Section 163.1), except at camping and parking areas. No person shall use any controlled dangerous substance (as defined in O.S. 63, Section 2-101) on any lands or waterways subject to control of the ODWC.

### Blue River Public Fishing & Hunting Area

*In addition to restrictions listed above, the following regulations apply to the Blue River PFHA:*

- **Wildlife Conservation Passport** - All persons who enter or use the Blue River PFHA must possess the Wildlife Conservation Passport, unless exempt (see page 6).

- **Hours** - Vehicular access is closed to all except emergency traffic from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. year-round.

- **Hunting** - Always check current "Oklahoma Hunting" guide for season details and restrictions. All hunting is restricted to shotgun and archery only. Closed to waterfowl hunting and antlerless deer harvest during deer gun season.

- **Camping** - Camping is restricted to 14 days in a 30-consecutive-day period. The Area Manager may grant extensions. Extension approval will be based upon degree of area use, anticipated weekend or holiday occupancy and recreation season. Requests for extensions must be received by the Area Manager a minimum of 48 hours prior to start of extension date. Camping is permitted only in designated camping areas. No person shall leave a vehicle, camper, tent or any personal property unattended for more than a 48-hour period without approval of the Area Manager. Unauthorized placement of camping equipment or other items placed at a campsite, and/or personal attendance without overnight occupancy at a campsite for the purpose of reserving a campsite for future occupancy is prohibited. All property removed from unauthorized placement at a campsite will be at the owner's expense and liability.

- **Carl R. & Ruth Walker Landrum Wilderness Area & Plaster Wildlife Management Unit** - Special rules pertain to these areas, including walk-in access only (except where wheelchair access provided), no camping, and no swimming.

### Arcadia Conservation Education Area

- **Fishing** - Walk-in fishing is allowed year-round on the Arcadia Lake shoreline within the conservation area. Fishing is not allowed on the ponds or wetland areas.

- **Hunting** - All hunting seasons are closed except controlled archery deer hunts, which are offered through the City of Edmond. For more information log on to [edmondok.com](http://edmondok.com).

- No camping allowed.

- Closed to all nonhunting and nonfishing activities Oct. 1 - Jan. 15.

- For additional information, contact Daniel Griffith, (405) 990-9753.

### Lower Illinois River Public Fishing and Hunting Area – Simp and Helen Watts Management Unit

No camping permitted. All hunting is restricted to shotguns with pellets or archery equipment only. See "Oklahoma Hunting" guide for open hunting seasons.

## Public Fishing Areas & ODFW Fisheries Offices

The Sooner State offers plenty of opportunities for fishing from border to border. This map depicts the locations of popular fishing spots, listed in alphabetical order, as well as ODFW fisheries offices. Many other places to fish can be found in Oklahoma but are not shown here, such as "Close to Home" fishing waters that exist in some of the state's urban areas (see page 16). The lake names in **blue type** are Wildlife Department fishing areas (see page 27). The region the area is located in the state can be found in parentheses.

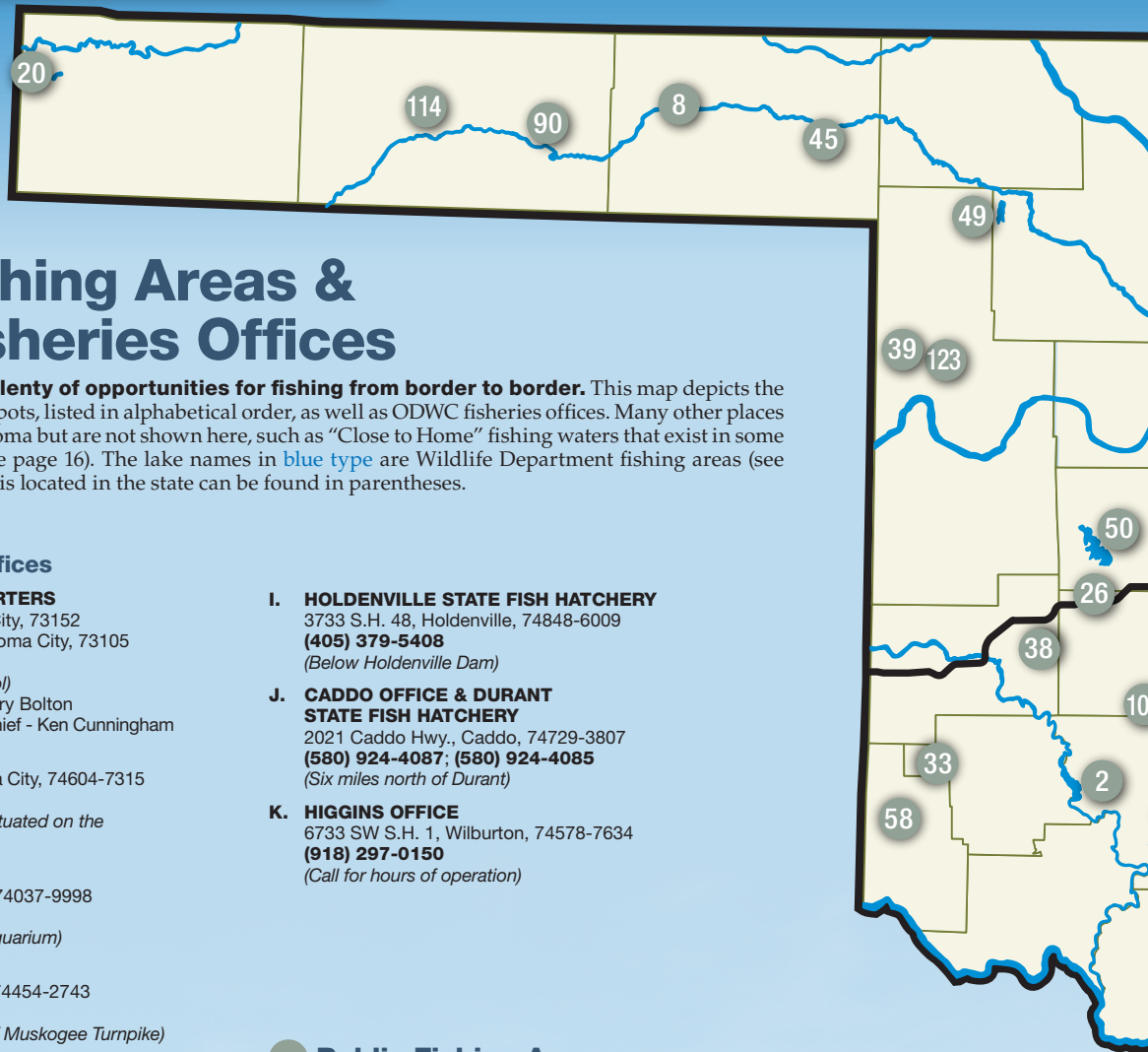
### ODFW Fisheries Offices

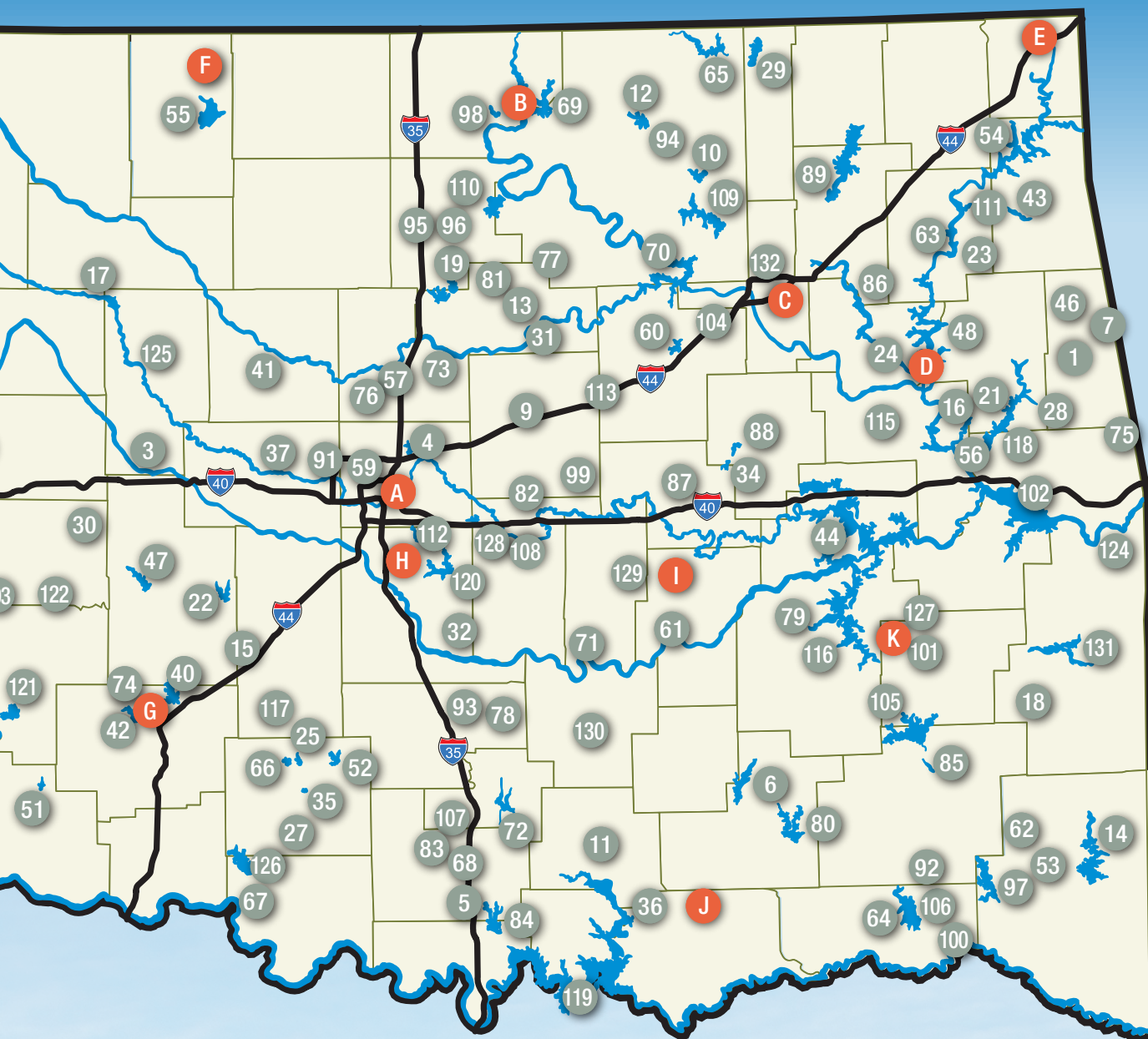
- A. DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS**  
P.O. Box 53465, Oklahoma City, 73152  
1801 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, 73105  
**(405) 521-3721**  
*(A block south of State Capitol)*  
Fisheries Division Chief - Barry Bolton  
Fisheries Division Assistant Chief - Ken Cunningham
- B. PONCA CITY OFFICE**  
417 S. Silverdale Lane, Ponca City, 74604-7315  
**(580) 762-2248**  
*(Call for hours of operation; situated on the west end of Kaw Dam)*
- C. JENKS OFFICE**  
300 Aquarium Drive, Jenks, 74037-9998  
**(918) 299-2334**  
*(Adjacent to the Oklahoma Aquarium)*
- D. PORTER OFFICE**  
9097 N. 34th St. W., Porter, 74454-2743  
**(918) 683-1031**  
*(On U.S. 69 1.5 miles north of Muskogee Turnpike)*
- E. PADDLEFISH RESEARCH CENTER**  
61091 E. 120 Road, Miami, 74354  
**(918) 542-9422**  
*(Four miles north of Twin Bridges State Park)*  
Open March 1 to April 30, 2016;  
Closed Mondays and Fridays.
- F. BYRON STATE FISH HATCHERY**  
71082 Jefferson Road, Burlington, 73722-4625  
**(580) 474-2663**  
*(Two miles north, 1 mile west of S.H. 38 & 11)*
- G. LAWTON OFFICE & J.A. MANNING STATE FISH HATCHERY**  
19333 S.H. 49, Lawton, 73507-6015  
**(580) 529-2795**  
*(West of I-44 on S.H. 49 in Medicine Park)*
- H. OKLAHOMA FISHERY RESEARCH LABORATORY**  
500 E. Constellation, Norman, 73072-7900  
**(405) 325-7288**

- I. HOLDENVILLE STATE FISH HATCHERY**  
3733 S.H. 48, Holdenville, 74848-6009  
**(405) 379-5408**  
*(Below Holdenville Dam)*
- J. CADDO OFFICE & DURANT STATE FISH HATCHERY**  
2021 Caddo Hwy., Caddo, 74729-3807  
**(580) 924-4087; (580) 924-4085**  
*(Six miles north of Durant)*
- K. HIGGINS OFFICE**  
6733 SW S.H. 1, Wilburton, 74578-7634  
**(918) 297-0150**  
*(Call for hours of operation)*

### Public Fishing Areas

- |                               |                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Adair Recreation Area (NE) | 19. Carl Blackwell (NE)             | 37. El Reno (NW)              |
| 2. Altus-Lugert (SW)          | 20. <b>Carl Etling (NW)</b>         | 38. Elk City (SW)             |
| 3. <b>American Horse (NW)</b> | 21. Cherokee GMA (NE)               | 39. Ellis County WMA (NW)     |
| 4. Arcadia (NE)               | 22. Chickasha (SW)                  | 40. Ellsworth (SW)            |
| 5. Ardmore City (SW)          | 23. Chimney Rock / W.R. Holway (NE) | 41. <b>Elmer (NW)</b>         |
| 6. Atoka (Atoka) (SE)         | 24. Chouteau (NE)                   | 42. Elmer Thomas (SW)         |
| 7. Baron Fork Creek (NE)      | 25. Clear Creek (SW)                | 43. Eucha (NE)                |
| 8. Beaver River WMA (NW)      | 26. Clinton (SW)                    | 44. Eufaula (SE)              |
| 9. Bell Cow (NE)              | 27. Comanche (SW)                   | 45. <b>Evans Chamber (NW)</b> |
| 10. Birch (NE)                | 28. Cookson WMA (NE)                | 46. Flint Creek (NE)          |
| 11. Blue River PF & HA (SE)   | 29. Copan (NE)                      | 47. Fort Cobb (SW)            |
| 12. Bluestem (NE)             | 30. Crowder (SW)                    | 48. Fort Gibson (NE)          |
| 13. Boomer (NE)               | 31. Cushing (NE)                    | 49. Fort Supply (NW)          |
| 14. Broken Bow (SE)           | 32. <b>Dahlgren (SE)</b>            | 50. Foss (NW)                 |
| 15. <b>Burtschi (SW)</b>      | 33. <b>Doc Hollis (SW)</b>          | 51. Frederick (SW)            |
| 16. Camp Gruber (CGTC) (NE)   | 34. Dripping Springs (NE)           | 52. Fuqua (SW)                |
| 17. Canton (NW)               | 35. Duncan (SW)                     | 53. Glover River (SE)         |
| 18. Carl Albert (SE)          | 36. Durant (SE)                     | 54. Grand (NE)                |
|                               |                                     | 55. Great Salt Plains (NW)    |





- |                                      |                                |                            |                              |                            |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 56. Greenleaf (NE)                   | 71. Konawa (SE)                | 86. Newt Graham (NE)       | 102. Robert S. Kerr (SE)     | 118. Tenkiller (NE)        |
| 57. Guthrie (NW)                     | 72. Lake of the Arbuckles (SE) | 87. Okemah (NE)            | 103. Rocky (SW)              | 119. Texoma (SE)           |
| 58. Hall (SW)                        | 73. Langston (NE)              | 88. Okmulgee (NE)          | 104. Sahoma (NE)             | 120. Thunderbird (SE)      |
| 59. Hefner (NW)                      | 74. Lawtonka (SW)              | 89. Oologah (NE)           | 105. Sardis (SE)             | 121. Tom Steed (SW)        |
| 60. Heyburn (NE)                     | 75. Lee's Creek (NE)           | 90. Optima (NW)            | 106. Schooler (SE)           | 122. Vanderwork (SW)       |
| 61. Holdenville (SE)                 | 76. Liberty (NW)               | 91. Overholser (NW)        | 107. Scott King (SW)         | 123. Vincent (NW)          |
| 62. Honobia & Three Rivers WMAs (SE) | 77. Lone Chimney (NE)          | 92. Ozzie Cobb (SE)        | 108. Shawnee Twin 1 & 2 (SE) | 124. W.D. Mayo (SE)        |
| 63. Hudson (NE)                      | 78. Longmire (SE)              | 93. Pauls Valley (SE)      | 109. Skiatook (NE)           | 125. Watonga (NW)          |
| 64. Hugo (SE)                        | 79. McAlester (SE)             | 94. Pawhuska (NE)          | 110. Sooner (NE)             | 126. Waurika (SW)          |
| 65. Hulah (NE)                       | 80. McGee Creek (SE)           | 95. Perry (NW)             | 111. Spavinaw (NE)           | 127. Wayne Wallace (SE)    |
| 66. Humphreys (SW)                   | 81. McMurtry (NE)              | 96. Perry CCC (NE)         | 112. Stanley Draper (SE)     | 128. Wes Watkins (SE)      |
| 67. Jap Beaver (SW)                  | 82. Meeker (NE)                | 97. Pine Creek (SE)        | 113. Stroud (NE)             | 129. Wewoka (SE)           |
| 68. Jean Neustadt (SW)               | 83. Mountain Lake (SW)         | 98. Ponca (NE)             | 114. Sunset (NW)             | 130. Wintersmith Park (SE) |
| 69. Kaw (NE)                         | 84. Murray (SE)                | 99. Prague (NE)            | 115. Taft (NE)               | 131. Wister (SE)           |
| 70. Keystone (NE)                    | 85. Nanih Waiya (SE)           | 100. Raymond Gary (SE)     | 116. Talawanda 1 & 2 (SE)    | 132. Yahola (NE)           |
|                                      |                                | 101. Robbers Cave WMA (SE) | 117. Taylor                  |                            |