

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Fishing Regulations



6 March 2025

This handout provides basic information and Camp Pendleton specific regulation(s). It is the angler's responsibility to know and abide by all applicable regulations. Consult the 'State of California' Fishing Regulations for seasons, size, bag and possession limits. Violation of Camp Pendleton and/or California State regulations may result in a State, and/or Federal Citation, and/or suspension/revocation of fishing privileges.

These regulations provide guidance for freshwater and saltwater fishing aboard Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. Questions may be directed to the **Conservation Law Enforcement Office** at 760-725-3360.

Authorized Patrons.

- The following authorized patrons can be issued fishing permits:
 - a. Active-Duty Military
 - b. Military Retirees
 - c. Department of Defense (DOD) Civilians
 - d. Dependents of Active-Duty Military and Military retirees (with an active CAC card)
 - e. Members of the Active Reserve or Drilling Reserve
 - f. Veterans in possession of a 'Disabled Veterans Identification Card (DAV)'
 - g. Guest(s)

Veteran's/DAV patrons are only authorized to fish at the **Delmar Jetties, Delmar Boat basin, Delmar Beach, San Onofre Beach and Lake O'Neill.**

Guests (civilians) may fish if sponsored by those patrons in categories A-F named above. **The Sponsor** must be physically with the civilian fisherman when acquiring the Camp Pendleton fishing permit, and while fishing.

Violation of these conditions will result in revocation of fishing privileges for the Sponsor and the Sponsored (Member).

Fishing Licenses and Permits.

- All anglers, age **16** and above, must possess a current 'California State Fishing License' and a Camp Pendleton 'Fishing Permit' from iSportsman.
- An 'Ocean Enhancement Stamp' is required to fish in ocean waters (Del Mar Beach and San Onofre Beach).
- California Fishing License and Camp Pendleton Permit must be in your 'immediate possession' while fishing. (Not in the truck or back at the camper).

Number of Fishing Poles.

-Fresh water.

- Limited to 1 rod unless the angler possesses a '2nd-Rod' stamp.

-Ocean fishing.

- Any number rods may be used.

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Authorized Fishing Hours.

- Beach and Lakes: 0600-2200 hours
- Camp Del Mar Boat Basin: 24 Hours
- Jetties: Sunrise–Sunset
- White Beach (Cockleburr/MCTSSA): Sunrise to Sunset **when authorized**, (check iSportsman for availability).

Authorized Fishing Hours continued:

- Pulgas Lake/Case Springs: Sunrise-Sunset **when authorized**, (check iSportsman for availability).

ALL RIVERS AND CREEKS: **Closed** to Fishing all year

Boats/Motors.

- Trailered boats. Only authorized at Lake O'Neill and Del Mar Harbor.
- -Row Boats or electric motors (able to be loaded/unloaded by no more than 2 people). Authorized at all Camp Pendleton fishing locations.
- **-The use of spears, bows & arrows, and throw nets is not permitted anywhere on Camp Pendleton.**
- -Diving, snorkeling, swimming, etc. in the 'pursuit/taking' of any fish, clam, lobster, crab, etc. is strictly forbidden at all Camp Pendleton locations. Violations will result in a minimum one-year suspension.

Freshwater Fishing.

- See State regulations for size and bag limits except as follows:
- -Lake O'Neill: 7 days a week. **Bass** are 'catch & release' only.
- -Lake Pulgas is 'catch & release' for all fish.

Ocean Fishing.

- See State regulations for size and bag limits.

Bait.

- Legally acquired and possessed invertebrates, mollusks, crustaceans, dead ocean fish, and treated and processed foods may be used for bait. **No fishing is allowed with live bait fish or amphibians while fishing from the beaches.**
- Live or dead freshwater finfish will not be used or possessed for use as bait, except dead threadfin shad, and dead golden shiner/red shiner.

You can purchase a CA Fishing License at the Star counter, main exchange (MCX), next to the front gate