

BUTLER RESERVOIR FISHING TOURNAMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

RULES AND RESTRICTIONS:

1. Five bass per boat limit. Legal minimum length is 12 inches. Any Bass shorter than 12 inches will be returned to Butler Reservoir. There will be no more than five bass in a boat at weigh in (no culling at the ramp). Limits on crappie will be 50 fish per individual. Fort Gordon (FG) rules state that there is a maximum of 50 fish per individual. If there are two people in a boat they may have 100 crappie or 95 crappie and 5 bass if there is a combination crappie and bass tournament.
2. Bass over 2.5 pounds will be returned alive to Butler reservoir; 5 bass longer than 12" and less than 2.5 pounds may be kept per boat by participants. Each fisherman may keep one trophy bass (10 lbs. or over) and will be counted in the total 5 bass per boat. Any bass (alive or dead) that does not meet these requirements will be returned to Butler Reservoir.
3. All State and Fort Gordon fishing and safety regulations will be in effect. All fishermen must have a State Fishing license and a FG fishing permit or a guest pass purchased through iSportsman. Tournament director must ensure that all tournament participants are checked in to TA 2 for fishing.
4. Live bait may be used.
5. There must be a minimum of seven fishermen in order to hold a tournament. Tournament must be terminated when number of participants drops below five fishermen.
6. No gasoline motors will be allowed in the water. All gasoline motors must be raised to an upright position, and a plastic bag will be used to cover the foot of the motor.
7. Aerated live wells are encouraged to help reduce stress on bass.
8. Tournaments may begin at "safe" light, approximately 30 minutes before sunrise and run to a designated end time, no later than sunset. The hours of the tournament must be submitted at time of tournament request.
9. The tournament director will be required to inspect all boats for aquatic weeds and remove them prior to entering Butler Reservoir.
10. All fishing tournaments will be coordinated through the Fort Gordon Directorate of Public Works (DPW), Natural Resources Branch 30 days prior to the scheduled event. Tournament director will be responsible for coordinating with Fort Gordon DES-CLEO and DPW for access into Butler Reservoir.

The point of contact is the Fort Gordon Natural Resources Branch at 706-832-7661 or 706-791-9983 or email at usarmy.gordon.imcom-atlantic.mbx.isportsman@army.mil

Figure 10. Butler Reservoir Tournament Regulations