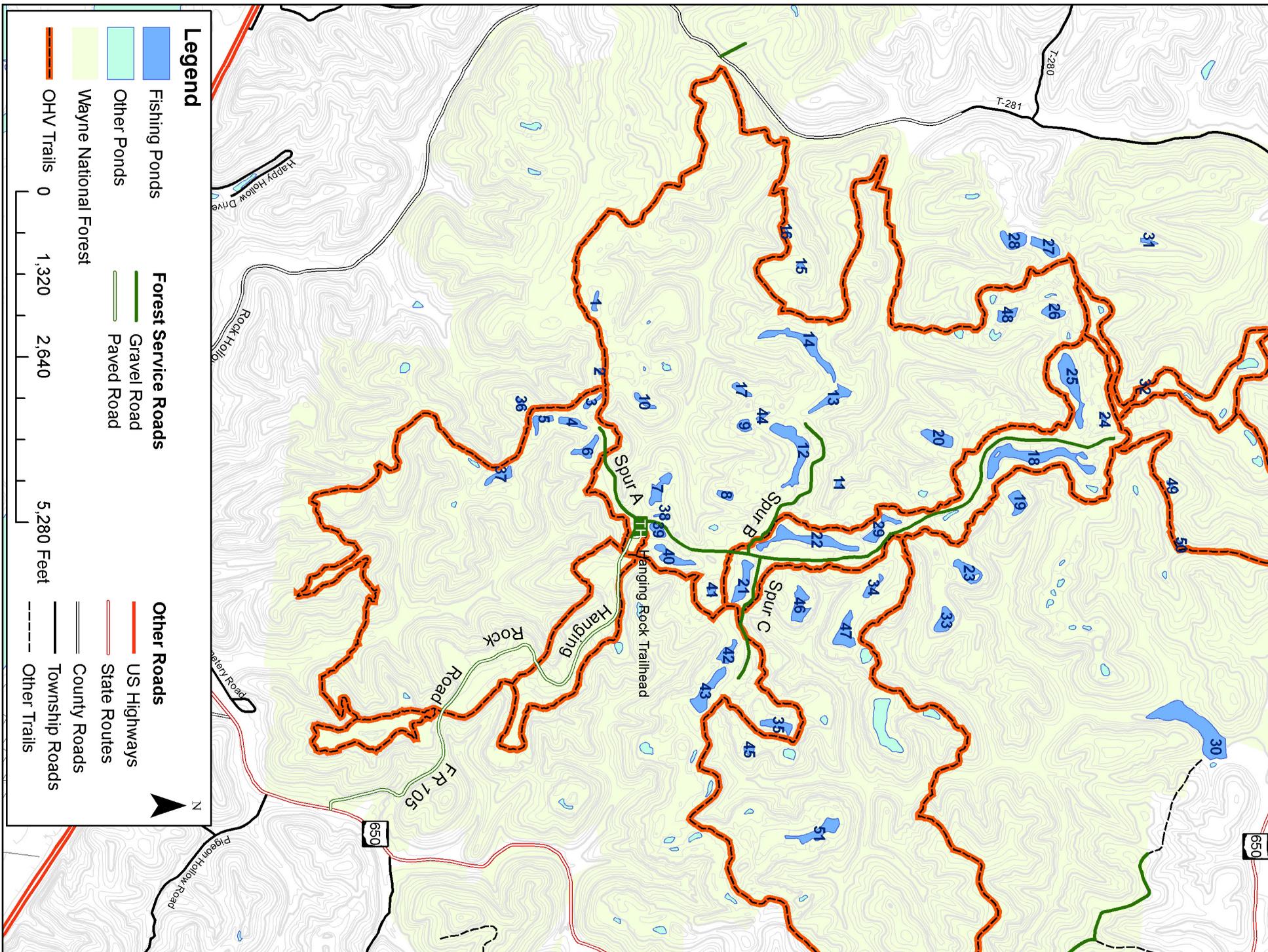


Wayne National Forest *Hanging Rock Ponds*



Forest Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FS-R9-024
05/2015

Welcome to Hanging Rock

The Hanging Rock Area fishing ponds are the result of strip-mining that occurred in the 1960's and 1970's. Much of the upland area was badly scarred. Some areas were left with very steep, almost vertical slopes. Now these areas form the 51 ponds in the Hanging Rock Area.

Fishing

The Hanging Rock fishing ponds are managed to provide largemouth bass, bluegill, sunfish, and some channel catfish fishing opportunities. Fish populations are surveyed and ponds are stocked in cooperation with the Ohio Division of Wildlife. The Forest Service monitors and manages the ponds to improve water quality, fisheries habitat and angler access.

Some ponds have been stocked with grass carp to control aquatic vegetation and improve the quality of fishing. All grass carp (white amur) must be immediately returned to the pond unharmed. The Wayne encourages catch-and-release fishing.

Do not dump your left over bait in the ponds, many of the species may be invasive or carry disease. Dispose of bait in the trash. Bait and non-native plants and animals hitchhiking in bait buckets can harm our lakes and rivers.

All Ohio fishing regulations apply.

Boating

Boats may be used on the ponds that are large enough to accommodate watercraft.



OHVs and Mountain Bikes

In addition to the fishing ponds in this 5,000 acre area, there are 26 miles of Off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails. These trails are also open to mountain biking. Vehicle parking is available at the trailheads and at designated pull-offs along the road.

Hunting

White-tailed deer, wild turkey, squirrels, rabbits, waterfowl, and other game animals are found in the area. You may hunt anywhere on national forest land outside of developed recreation areas. Ohio hunting regulations apply.

Hiking

A road system also provides access to some of the ponds. Other ponds are accessible only by walking in. For anglers who prefer a more solitary experience you may wish to choose a pond not accessible by trail or road.

Bring your binoculars and camera; the woods come alive with color in the spring and fall. If you walk softly you can also often see some of southeastern Ohio's wildlife around the ponds.



Camping

Primitive camping is permitted anywhere on national forest land. Camping is limited to a 14-day stay in one location.

We request that you camp at least 20 yards back from the water line to prevent shoreline erosion and that campers avoid using the same sites repeatedly to reduce soil compaction. Please pack in your own water supply and pack out everything you pack in.

Swimming

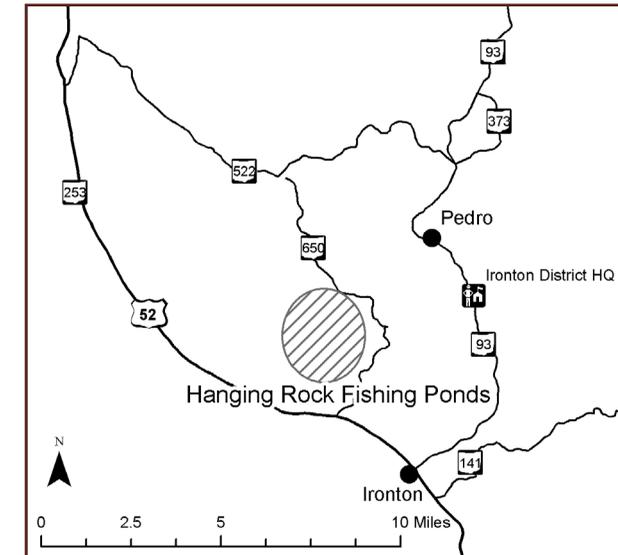
Swimming is allowed at your own risk.

Regulations

The area is periodically patrolled by the Forest Service, the Lawrence County Sheriff's Department and Ohio DNR Wildlife Officer.

Alcohol possession is prohibited at the Hanging Rock OHV Trailhead and 100 feet from cleared edge. It is also prohibited 100 feet from the centerline of Forest Road 105 and spurs A, B, and C.

Vicinity Map



For More Information:

Hanging Rock Lakes are managed out of the Ironton District Office. The office is open from 8 - 4:30 Monday through Friday.

Ironton Ranger District

6518 State Route 93

Pedro, OH 45659

Phone: 740-534-6500

Federal relay system for the deaf and hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339

website: www.fs.usda.gov/wayne

To help slow the spread of emerald ash borer and other invasive pests, no firewood may be transported onto Wayne National Forest lands, except commercially packaged wood with the USDA inspection label. You may collect a small amount (what can be carried by hand) of down and dead firewood to be used at your recreation site.

