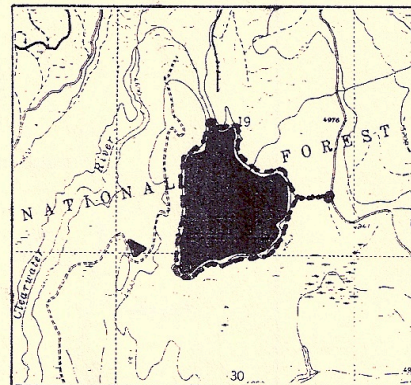


Recreation Opportunity Guide

CLEARWATER LAKE TRAIL #18

- Trail Beginning: 4865 ft. elevation
Along Forest Rd. #4370
- Trail Ending: 4790 ft. elevation
Clearwater Lake
- - - Trail Length: Approximately 2.4 miles - Loop Trail Around Lake
Approximately .3 miles from parking to lake shore
- Season of Use: Late Spring/Summer/Fall
- Usage Rate: Moderate
- Difficulty: Easy
- Reference Maps: Lolo National Forest Visitors Map - Seeley Lake
USGS Topographic Quadrangle - Holland Lake
- Map Location: Section 19 T19N R15W
- Lake Size: Clearwater Lake - 120 acres - 4790 ft. elevation



NARRATIVE

Clearwater Lake (loop) Trail heads west from Forest Road #4370 and gradually descends to the Clearwater Lake shore. Canoes could be portaged this short 1/3 mile distance to the shoreline. A boat or raft would be handy for those planning to do some fishing, since the shoreline depth is relatively shallow. The lake supports average to large cutthroat trout.

There are several dispersed camping sites which provide an opportunity for overnight camping. Remember to pitch tents at least 200 feet from the lake shore to avoid any pollution problems.

Grand views of the Swan Mountain Range to the east are afforded the hiker, especially from the west side of the lake. Glimpses of the Mission Mountain Range to the west can be seen from the south shore of the lake too. Autumn hiking can be quite colorful as the western larch, alder, mountain maple and other shrubs change color.

ATTRACTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS

Hikers seeking a short dayhike may want to take advantage of the length & relatively level terrain encountered on the Clearwater Lake Loop Trail. Hikers circling the lakes perimeter may get an opportunity to view diving ducks and possibly loons on the lake. This area also plays host to a variety of wildlife including: bobcat, bear, elk, deer, mountain lion and moose.

REMINDERS

➤ Visitors are reminded to practice **Leave No Trace Camping** techniques in this fragile country.

We hope you enjoy your experience in the wild! If you would like further information, contact the Seeley Lake Ranger District at (406)677-2233, located three miles north of the town of Seeley Lake on Montana Highway 83.

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