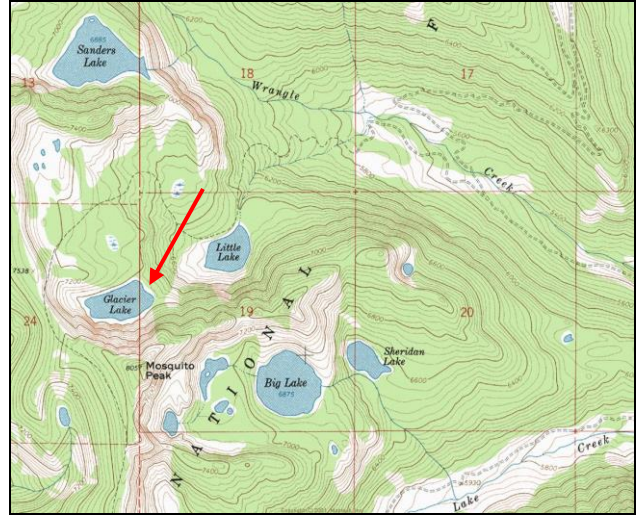
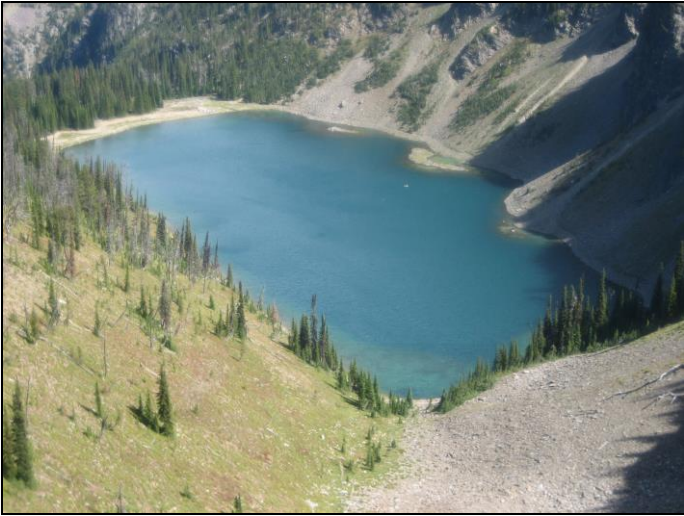


Glacier Lake



Description: Glacier Lake is a relatively large (18.4 acres) glacial cirque lake located at the head of the Wrangle Creek drainage (Rattlesnake Creek tributary) at ~ 6,980 ft elevation. To increase storage volume, the lake was artificially impounded by a dam at the outlet in 1911. This structure elevates the normal surface water elevation, but may also contribute to greater annual water level fluctuations. Glacier Lake is capable of supporting fish, but none are currently present.

Location: T15N, R19W, Section 24; Latitude N47.0448°, Longitude W113.9350°; Nearest Town: Missoula, MT
Surrounding land ownership: Lolo National Forest (Missoula Ranger District). Glacier Lake lies within the Rattlesnake Wilderness Area.

Access: Although this lake is geographically very close to the city of Missoula, access is difficult. There are several USFS routes from which to choose. Route distance and difficulty varies, but all require non-motorized travel. Common starting points are the trailheads at West Fork Gold Creek (Trail # 52), Ravine Creek in lower Grant Creek (Trail # 34), or in lower Rattlesnake Creek at the main Rattlesnake National Recreation Area trailhead (Gated Road #99). Please refer to USFS maps for specific travel routes and connecting trail numbers. Total travel distance from trailheads to lake ranges from 9-17 miles.

Camp Sites and Use: Glacier Lake lies in a remote setting that receives light use. There is an established trail to the lake, but no campsites or fire rings. 'Leave no trace' camping and recreating is essential, as the lake lies within the Rattlesnake Wilderness.

Angling Opportunity: At the time of the most recent sampling (August 2007), no fish were present in Glacier Lake.

Stocking History: Stocking records indicate that Glacier Lake was historically planted with westslope cutthroat trout. Stocking was discontinued in the 1980s and the trout population did not persist, likely due to the lack of suitable spawning habitat. No future stocking is planned for this lake.

Other Nearby Lakes: There are two other lakes in the immediate vicinity of Glacier Lake. Little Lake lies less than 0.5 mi to the east and Sanders Lake lies ~0.9 mi to the north. Both lakes are easily accessible via established trails from Glacier Lake (USFS Trails #502 & #517). Big Lake and Sheridan Lake are also less than one mile southeast of Glacier Lake, but accessing them directly from Glacier Lake would be difficult as they lie on the opposite side of a steep ridge.



Glacier Lake

Surface Area: 18.4 acres

Max Depth: 71 ft

Volume: 517.3 acre-feet

LLID: 1139350470448



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

0 250 500 Feet

Five foot contours and volume calculations produced in ArcMAP
using field measurements collected August 25, 2007.
IS Request 8035 - R2 Mountain Lake Bath Maps
Strategic Planning and Data Services
Helena, MT
July 8, 2010