

# Fly Lake



**Description:** Fly Lake is a moderate-sized (11.9 acres), semi-remote glacial cirque lake located within designated Wilderness in the Gold Creek drainage near Missoula at ~ 6,381 ft elevation.

**Location:** T15N, R18W, Section 1; Latitude N47.0880°, Longitude W113.8210°; Nearest Town: Missoula, MT Surrounding land ownership: Lolo National Forest (Missoula Ranger District) Fly Lake lies on the east edge of the Rattlesnake Wilderness Area.

**Access:** Access to Fly Lake can most easily be obtained by taking USFS Road #126 (Gold Creek Road) off U.S. Highway 200 east of Missoula. Travel on Road #126 for ~ 9 miles, then on USFS Road #2121 for ~ 6 miles. This will take you to the head of USFS Trail #518 at the Gold Creek Trailhead. Travel on Trail #518 for ~ 1.8 miles to the junction with USFS Trail #336. Fly Lake lies ~ 1.5 miles further, at the end of Trail #336.

**Camp Sites and Use:** Fly Lake lies in a remote setting that receives moderate use. There is an established trail around the lake with multiple campsites and fire rings. 'Leave no trace' camping and recreating is essential, as the lake lies within designated Wilderness.

**Angling Opportunity:** Fly Lake supports a westslope cutthroat trout population that has moderate natural reproduction. Shoreline topography and access lend well to shoreline angling along most of the lake perimeter.

**Stocking History:** Fly Lake has been stocked numerous times with westslope cutthroat trout. The most recent plant was in 2007. In the future, westslope cutthroat trout stocking will likely occur every 5-7 years.

**Angling Pressure:** Estimated angling pressure from Montana state-wide mail surveys in 2005-2009 was low and averaged < 75 angler-days per year.

**Other Nearby Lakes:** There are two other lakes near Fly Lake. Both Boulder Lake and Gold Creek Lake lie within 1 mile, but accessing them will require strenuous off-trail hiking through steep terrain unless an alternative trail route is followed. See USFS maps to plan routes on the established trail system from either the main Gold Creek or West Fork Gold Creek trailheads.



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

## Fly Lake

Watercode: 04-6596

LLID: 1138210470880

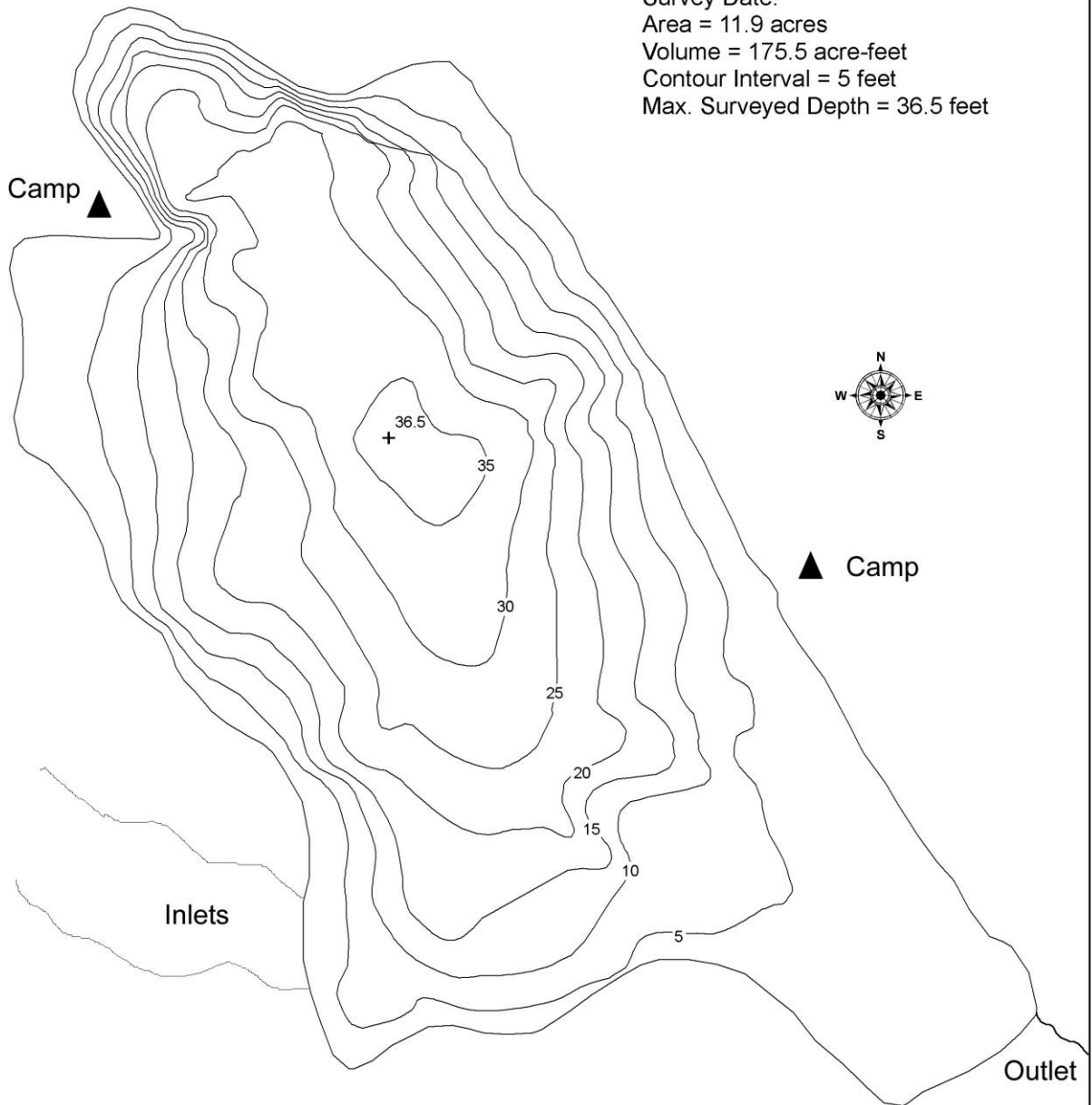
Survey Date:

Area = 11.9 acres

Volume = 175.5 acre-feet

Contour Interval = 5 feet

Max. Surveyed Depth = 36.5 feet



Data Source:  
Depth and perimeter points collected with recreational  
grade GPS unit and processed with ESRI ArcGIS 3D Analyst.  
Map produced by:  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Information Management Unit  
490 N. Meridian  
Kalispell, Montana 59901  
November 13, 2006

