Farmers Lake #1





Description: Farmers Lake #1 is a small (7.0 acres), very remote glacial cirque lake located within designated Wilderness in the Rattlesnake Creek drainage near Missoula at $\sim 6,249$ ft elevation. Although this lake is likely capable of supporting a trout fishery, there is no record of fish ever being present.

Location: T14N, R18W, Section 3; Latitude N47.0008°, Longitude W113.8636°; Nearest Town: Missoula, MT Surrounding land ownership: Lolo National Forest (Missoula Ranger District). Farmers Lake #1 lies near the southern end of the Rattlesnake Wilderness Area in the High Falls Creek drainage.

Access: Although this lake is geographically close to the city of Missoula, access is very difficult. There are several USFS routes from which to choose. Route distance and difficulty vary, 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. Regardless of the route, travel to the lake from the trail system will require strenuous hiking over steep, difficult terrain. Total travel distance from trailheads to lake ranges from 7-19 miles.

Camp Sites and Use: Farmers Lake #1 lies in a remote setting that receives very light use. There are no established trails to the lake and no campsites. 'Leave no trace' camping and recreating is essential here, as the lake lies within designated Wilderness.

Angling Opportunity: None. No fish were observed or captured at the time of sampling in 2010.

Stocking History: There are no records of stocking in Farmers Lake #1.

Other nearby Lakes: There are several other small fishless lakes near Farmers Lake #1. Farmers Lake #2 lies ~ 0.3 miles to the southwest and a smaller unnamed lake lies about the same distance to the west. Farmers Lake #3 is located ~ 1.5 miles to the southwest. These lakes lie at similar elevations and can be reached via off-trail hiking through moderately steep terrain.



