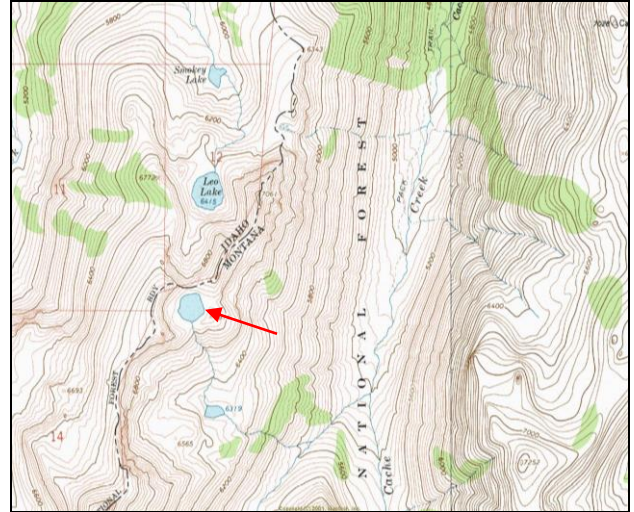


# North Cache Lake



**Description:** North Cache Lake is a small (6.5 acres), remote glacial cirque lake located near the Idaho border in the Cache Creek (South Fork Fish Creek) drainage at 6,898 ft elevation. The lake lies on the Lolo National Forest (Ninemile Ranger District) in the proposed Great Burn Wilderness Area.

**Location:** T11N, R25W, Section 8; Latitude N46.7302°, Longitude W 114.7750°; Nearest Town: Alberton, MT

**Access:** There is no easy access to North Cache Lake. Perhaps the easiest is to take USFS Road #343 (Fish Creek Road) to USFS Road #4218, then take the left fork of the road to the head of USFS Trail #317 (Cache Creek Trail). Hike Trail #317 approximately 9 miles to its end. Continue off-trail up the drainage for another ~1.5 miles over steep terrain to reach the lake. There are several other off-trail options for accessing North Cache Lake. Carefully examine USFS maps and topographic maps to find the route that best suits your hiking preferences and skills.

**Campsites and Use:** North Cache Lake lies in a remote setting that receives very light use. There are no campsites or trails. 'Leave no trace' camping and recreating is essential in this area as it is proposed wilderness.

**Angling Opportunity:** North Cache Lake supports a westslope cutthroat trout population that has limited or no natural reproduction, and has been sustained with periodic stocking in the past. This lake will no longer be stocked. Shoreline topography and access lends well to shoreline angling from the entire perimeter if fish persist.

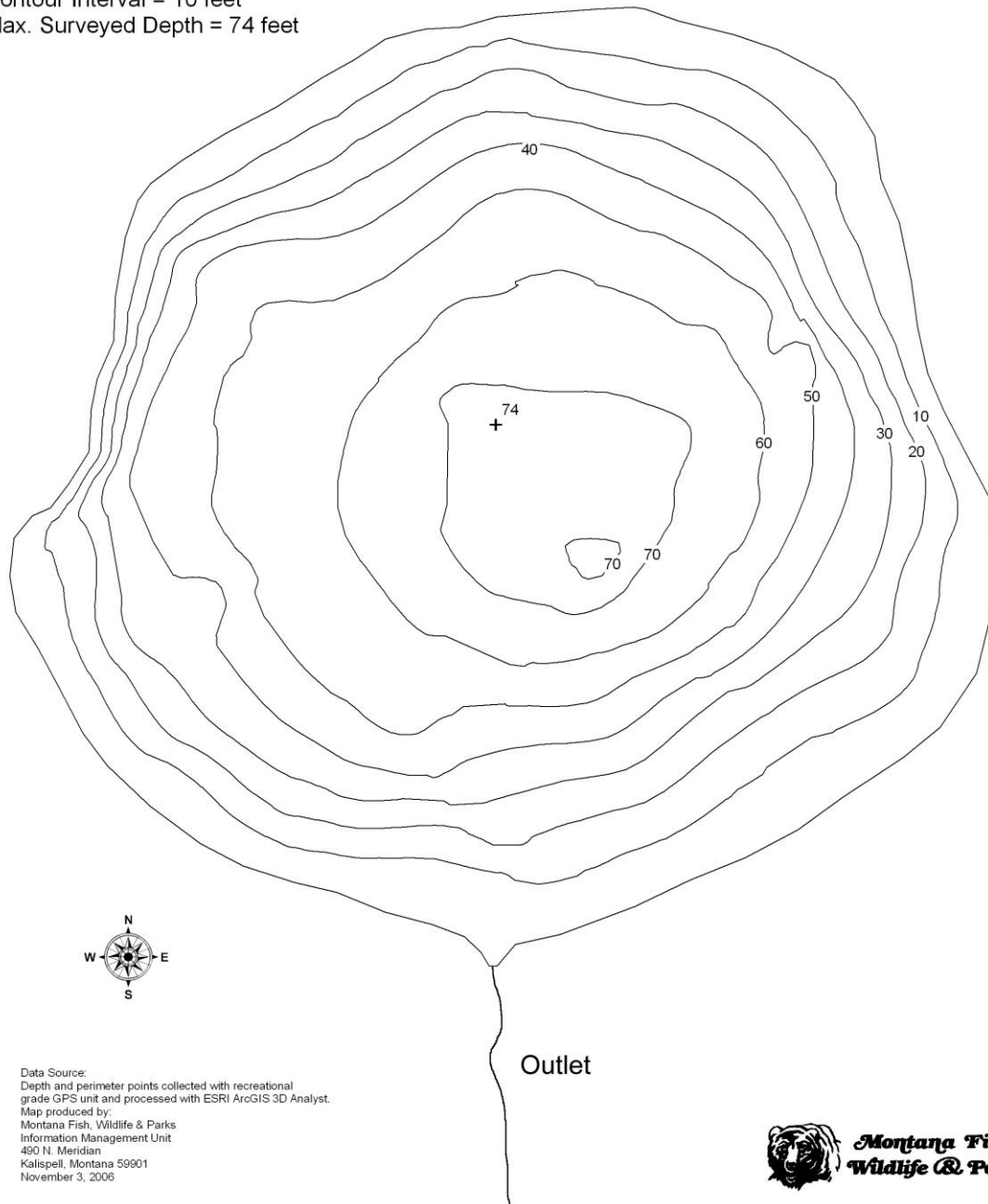
**Stocking History:** North Cache Lake has been stocked only with westslope cutthroat trout. Since 1977, the lake has been planted three times (1993, 1982, 1977). Due to its remoteness and apparent lack of use, the lake will not likely be stocked in the future.

**Angling Pressure:** Estimated angling pressure from Montana state-wide mail surveys in 1995-2000 was zero. Although individuals have reported visiting the lake during this period, there were no contacts in the random mail survey.

**Other Nearby Lakes:** The only other nearby lake in Montana is South Cache Lake, which is ~0.3 mile south-southeast of North Cache Lake. It is shallow and fishless. In Idaho, Leo Lake and Smokey Lake are a short distance (< 1 mile) due north of North Cache Lake in the Kelly Creek drainage.

## North Cache Lake

Watercode: 05-9323  
LLID: 1147750467302  
Survey Date:  
Area = 6.5 acres  
Volume = 234.3 acre-feet  
Contour Interval = 10 feet  
Max. Surveyed Depth = 74 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 3, 2006



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**