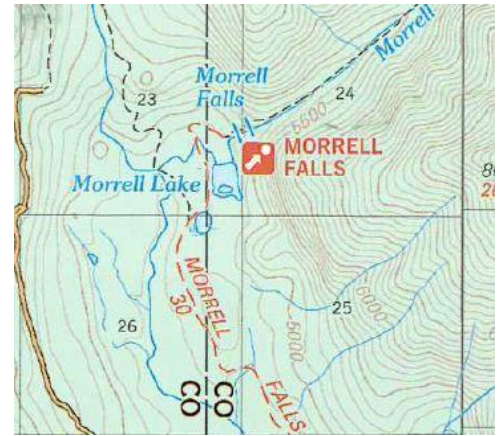


Morrell Lake



Description: Morrell Lake is a small (~ 9.1 acres), shallow (< 5 ft), instream glacial depression located just below Morrell Falls on Morrell Creek. The lake is located about 8 miles north of Seeley Lake, MT along the popular USFS National Recreation Trail (USFS Trail #30) to Morrell Falls. This mid-elevation lake is relatively easy to access and is surrounded by forested terrain on the Lolo Natural Forest at 5,021 ft elevation.

Location: T18N, R15W, Section 23; Latitude N47.29778°, Longitude W113.46452°

Nearest Town: Seeley Lake, MT; Surrounding land ownership: Lolo National Forest (Seeley Ranger District)

Access: Morrell Lake is relatively easy to access, but requires non-motorized travel on the Morrell Falls National Recreation Trail (USFS Trail #30). To reach the lake, turn east off MT Highway 83 onto Morrell Creek Rd (USFS Rd #4353) just north of the city of Seeley Lake. Follow Morrell Creek Rd for 6.8 miles, then turn right (east) on Upper Trail Creek Rd (USFS Road #4381). Stay on Upper Trail Creek Rd for 0.2 miles, then turn left (north) on Trailhead Rd (USFS Road #4364) for 0.6 miles to arrive at Morrell Falls Trailhead. Take Morrell Falls National Recreation Trail #30 for 2.1 miles and Morrell Lake lies on the southeast (right) side of the trail.

Campsites and Use: Morrell lake is relatively accessible, but recreational use is limited. There are no established campsites at the lake, but dispersed camping is allowed in the area. Motorized boats are prohibited on Morrell Lake and 'leave no trace' camping and recreating is encouraged along the shoreline.

Angling Opportunity: Morrell Lake is inhabited by wild westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout – fish species that naturally inhabit Morrell Creek. Given the shallow lake depth and stream influence, fish abundance likely varies seasonally. Shoreline topography and access allow for shoreline angling along most of the lake perimeter.

Stocking History: Stocking records indicate that Morrell Lake has been stocked several times with westslope cutthroat trout (1939-1951), and once with rainbow trout (1939). No stocking has occurred in recent decades or is planned in the future as Morrell Creek supports important, abundant native trout populations.

Angling Pressure: Given its shallow depth and location, estimated angling pressure is low on Morrell Lake. No records or actual angling pressure estimates are available through MFWP state-wide mail surveys.

Other Nearby Lakes: There is one small, unnamed fishless lake in the immediate vicinity of Morrell Lake located ~ 0.1 miles to the southwest. Nearby fish-bearing lakes include high elevation cirque lakes (e.g., Crescent and Trail Creek Lakes) along the ridge line above and large, main stem Clearwater Valley waters including Seeley, Salmon, and Inez Lakes.



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

Morrell Lake: Biological & Physical Information

Date Sampled: 7/31/2018

Fish Species Present: Westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout

Size Range Captured: 6.1–15.8 in (155–401 mm)

Trout Condition (Wr): 99 (range 85–114) Good

Trout Diet Composition (8/13/08): Aquatic & Terrestrial Insects

Sampling Methods: Sinking Gill Net

Gill Net Catch Rate: 1.72 trout/net/hr (moderate)

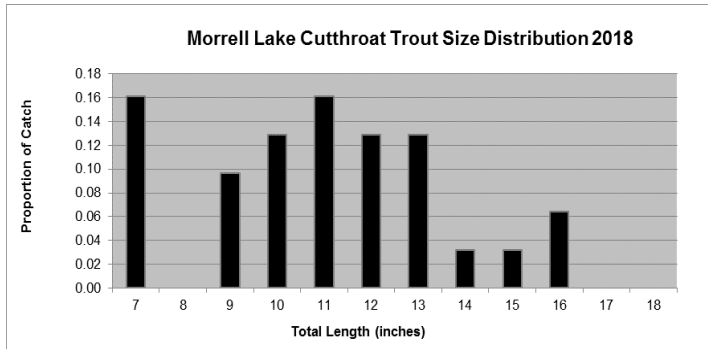
Natural Recruitment: Present (moderate)

Currently Stocked: No **Last Stocked:** 1951 **Species:** WCT

Amphibians Observed: Columbia spotted frogs

Recommended Frequency: None

Stocking History



Year	Species	#
1939	RBT	8,000
1939	WCT	12,000
1949	WCT	16,000
1950	WCT	7,500
1951	WCT	15,000

Elevation: 5,021 ft

Surface Area: 9.1 acres

Volume: 65.24 acre-ft

Max Depth: 4.2 ft

Secchi Depth: Est 20–25 ft

PH: No Data

Conductivity: 130.1 μ S

TDS: No Data

Aspect: West

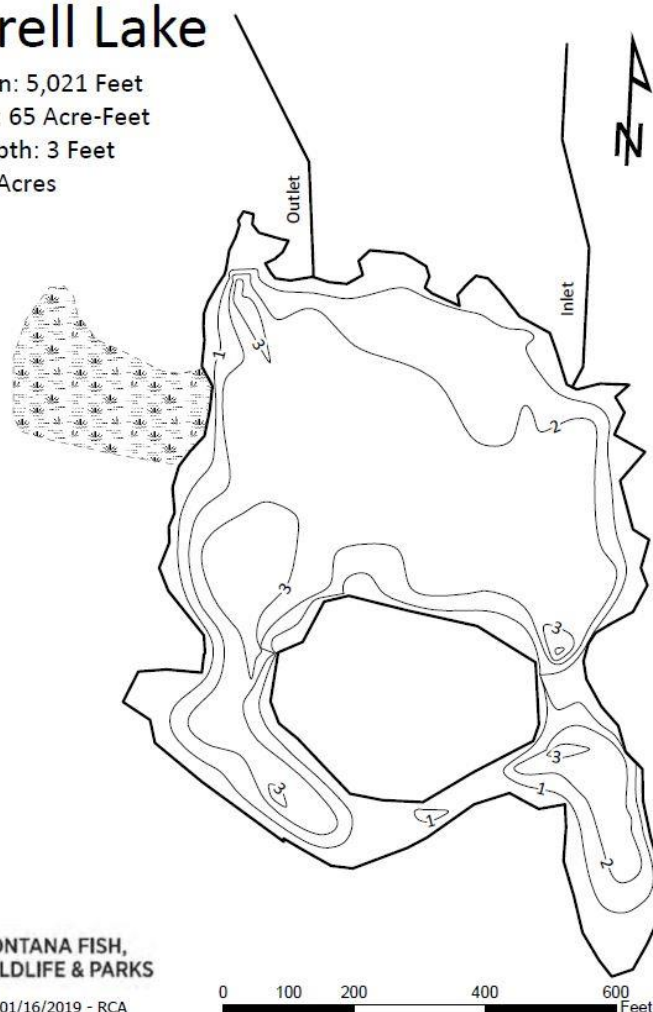
Morell Lake

Elevation: 5,021 Feet

Volume: 65 Acre-Feet

Max Depth: 3 Feet

Area: 9 Acres



MONTANA FISH,
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