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Anglers' Guide to the Lakes and Streams of the MARBLE MOUNTAINS

Siskiyou County, California
No. 4



U. S. Forest Service Photo



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Anglers' Guide to the MARBLE MOUNTAINS Siskiyou County, California No. 4

This map was prepared by the Department of Fish and Game to assist in guiding anglers and campers to the numerous trout waters of the Marble Mountains Wilderness Area. Situated in the northwest part of California in Siskiyou County, this area is within the boundaries of the Klamath National Forest.

LAKES AND STREAMS

Although the legal opening of trout season may vary slightly, Mother Nature usually does not open these waters to anglers until June. It may even be July before some trails are clear of snow, although most of the lakes are ice free by mid-June.

Some 80 lakes are described with trout populations as follows:

Eastern Brook	48
Rainbow	14
Eastern Brook and Rainbow	7
Brown	1
Rainbow and Brown	1
All three species	9

They vary in area from one-half acre to the largest, Ukonom Lake, 67 surface acres. Cliff Lake is the deepest with a maximum depth of 175 feet. Elevations range from 5,150 to 7,400 feet; most waters are 5,500 to 6,500 feet above sea level.

Angling is best in September and October, but is rated good early in the season. At times, during warm spells in late July and August, fly fishing is apt to be slow as the fish move to the deeper and cooler depths.

The Klamath River, along with the Salmon and Scott Rivers, provides both salmon and steelhead angling. Many of the tributary streams, such as Canyon, Elk, Shackleford and Wooley Creeks, and the North Fork and the Little North Fork of the

Salmon River have abundant pan-sized trout, mostly resident rainbows and juvenile steelheads. Browns and eastern brook trout are usually present in the upper sections of many streams. Wooley Creek is one of the few streams in the Klamath drainage that has a summer run of king salmon.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Marble Mountain Wilderness Area is bounded by moderately good roads. Several short spur roads terminate close to the Wilderness Area boundary where trails take off to the back country. On the accompanying map the main trails have been indicated by heavy broken lines, and the rest by lighter broken lines. Many of the trails have mile markers which begin at the starting points. The four classes of routes are: good trails, poor trails, cattle drives and "ways." A "way" means just that; one has to pick his way as he goes. Travel times given are for moderate rates of speed for saddle or pack horses. Many hikers can equal the traveling time.

It is advisable for those not familiar with the area to check with the U. S. Forest Service regarding trail conditions, licensed packers, good campsites and pastures. Hikers can either carry the necessary equipment on their backs, or hire a packer to transport food and camp gear into some camp spot.

Fire permits are required of all campers. Permits are available from Forest Service officers and ranger stations. Leave a clean camp. Burn all garbage, cans and refuse to dissipate all odor of food. Then bury them well away from camp to discourage bears from digging them up. Never leave a fire unattended.

TOWARD BETTER FISHING

The aim of the California Department of Fish and Game is to manage the State's trout fisheries to provide the best possible angling for the greatest number of sportsmen. To carry out proper management, accurate information about individual waters is required. This is obtained through special surveys of the lakes and streams. Such surveys are periodically made in the Marble Mountain Wilderness Area by Fish and Game personnel.

Anglers who fish this area can help the department greatly by reporting on the fishing they encountered. Send reports to Fisheries Management Supervisor, Department of Fish and Game, P. O. Box 1687, Redding, California. The information you provide will help to keep the department abreast of changing conditions and will help to improve fishing.

LAKES OF THE MARBLE MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS AREA

In the following descriptions "RT" refers to rainbow trout, "EB" refers to eastern brook trout, and "BN" refers to brown trout.

Abbotts Lake. 8 acres; elevation 5,650; 20 feet deep. This lake is a 45-minute hike from Abbott's Upper Cabin, which in turn is 10 miles by trail up the North Fork of the Salmon River. EB in excellent condition to 10 inches were reported in 1959.

Angel Lake. 1 acre; elevation 6,500 feet; 9 feet deep. Located at the head of Shackleford Creek and about a 10-minute hike from the lower end of Cliff Lake. EB to 7 inches were fairly plentiful in 1957.

Aspen Lake. 5.5 acres; elevation 7,100 feet; 58 feet deep. No trail. Situated directly above and 750 feet higher than Deep Lake. EB to 10 inches were abundant in 1957.

Babs Lake. 2 acres; elevation 6,500 feet; 14 feet deep. Located at the head of the Babs Fork of Kidder Creek. Take the trail up Mill Creek (Etna Creek) for five miles to the top of the ridge. Then make your way northeasterly for 10 or 15 minutes down to the lake. This lightly fished lake is populated with EB.

Bear Lake. 2 acres; elevation 5,950 feet; 8 feet deep. Accessible by trail either up Elk Creek via Bear Creek or Kelsey Creek, a good 4 to 6 hour trip. Fat EB to 10 inches reported in 1960.

Blueberry Lake. 1.5 acres; elevation 6,050 feet; 10 feet deep. No definite trail. Located just below Wooley Lake. This seldom-visited lake is stocked with EB.

Buckthorn Lake. 2 acres; elevation 7,100 feet; 25 feet deep. Buckthorn Lake is the second of the chain of four lakes above Deep Lake. EB to 10 inches were abundant in 1957.

Burney Lake. 15 acres; elevation 5,650 feet; 25 feet deep. A trail goes down to the lake from the Marble Valley-Cuddihy Valley trail. About a 1½-hour ride from Cuddihy Valley. Limits of fat EB to 12 inches were easily taken in 1958. Good natural reproduction.

Buzzard Lake. 1.3 acres; elevation 6,700 feet; 10 feet deep. No trail. From the Kidder Creek trail it's a rough one hour climb up the outlet stream. Brush will be encountered. Had a good population of EB in 1957.

Calf Lake. 3 acres; elevation 7,000 feet; 30 feet deep. Just below Log Lake on the Shackleford Creek trail (4.5 hours), a trail turns to the right and goes near Reynolds Cabin. It then follows up the first small creek to the lake. Fishing was excellent in 1957 for EB to 16 inches.

Campbell Lake. 33 acres; elevation 5,800 feet; 30 feet deep. At the upper end of the meadow above Log Lake on the Shackleford Creek trail a trail turns to the left to the lake. A five-hour trip. A popular lake with a variety of fishing for EB, RT and BN. At times fly fishing is excellent.

Charmaine Lake. .5 acre; elevation 6,300 feet; 9 feet deep. This small lake can be reached in about 25 minutes by climbing the rock slide at the lower end of Lower English Lake and going around the point. EB present.

Chickaree Lake. .8 acre; elevation 6,100 feet; 9 feet deep. The largest of several ponds located on a bench between Campbell and Summit Lakes. A ten-minute walk from Summit Lake. EB to 7 inches were plentiful in 1957.

Chimney Rock Lake. 5.5 acres; elevation 6,100 feet, 22 feet deep. Go up the Little North Fork of the Salmon River trail to Hamilton Camp. Take left fork of trail above Hamilton Camp to Chimney Rock. Take right fork trail (west) at Chimney Rock to large sandy flat; turn right again and follow a faint trail to the lake. Excellent fishing for both RT and EB to 15 inches reported in 1958.

Chinquapin Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 7,150 feet; 25 feet deep. No trail. The third of the chain of four lakes just above Deep Lake. Had both EB and RT to 10 inches in 1957.

Clear Lake. 6.5 acres; elevation 5,400 feet; 62 feet deep. From Hamilton Camp take the Sauerkraut Peak trail to the south. Before reaching the top of the ridge a trail forks to the right. Both Lily and Clear Lakes can be seen from the top of the ridge and a trail goes directly down to the lake. All three species, EB, RT and BN, have been caught. Clear Lake may well have the largest fish in the area. Fat RT to 16 inches were the most abundant in 1958.

Cliff Lake. 52 acres; elevation 6,100 feet; 175 feet deep. Cliff Lake is just above Campbell Lake. A five and one-quarter hour trip up the Shackleford Creek trail. A popular lake populated with EB, RT and BN.

Cuddihy Lakes.

No. 1—3.5 acres; elevation 5,650 feet; 18 feet deep.

No. 2—1 acre; elevation 5,650 feet; 5 feet deep.

No. 3—7 acres; elevation 5,700 feet; 20 feet deep.

No. 4—2.5 acres; elevation 5,700 feet; 20 feet deep.

Accessible by trail from three directions: (1) Up Canyon Creek and across, (2) via the Elk Creek—Granite Creek trails, or (3) from Camp Three via Haypress Meadows. Traveling time 9, 7, and 5 hours, respectively. Good fishing for EB 6 to 8 inches. RT in No. 4.

Deadman Lake. 9 acres; elevation 5,700 feet; 25 feet deep. About a 50-minute hike by trail from Cuddihy Cabin. EB to 11 inches in good condition were caught in 1959.

Deep Lake. 16 acres; elevation 6,350 feet; 68 feet deep. The best but longest route to Deep Lake is up the Canyon Creek trail, then up the Red Rock trail to just below Little Elk Lake where a trail turns to the left to Deep Lake Creek and up to the lake. A good 12-mile trip, taking about six hours. Also reached by the steep Boulder Creek-Second Valley trails. All three species reported. Both EB and RT to 12 inches were caught in 1958. Five other lakes near by.

Dogwood Lake. 4 acres; elevation 7,250 feet; 25 feet deep. The uppermost of the chain of four lakes lying above Deep Lake. No trail. A 45-minute hike over rough terrain from Calf Lake. EB were plentiful in 1958.

Big Elk Lake. 4.5 acres; elevation 6,050 feet; 10 feet deep. Take the Canyon Creek trail up through Marble Valley and then the Cuddihy trail which goes right by it. Has some of the fattest and largest EB in the area. RT also present. Aquatic vegetation encroaches during the summer.

Little Elk Lake. 6 acres; elevation 5,400 feet; 5 feet deep. Take the Red Rock trail which leaves the Canyon Creek trail just above Lover's Camp. About one mile up this trail, a trail doubles back to the left to Little Elk Creek and up to the lake. Both RT and BN. Excellent natural reproduction in live inlet stream; 20-inch brown trout are not unusual.

Lower English Lake. 6.5 acres; elevation 5,750 feet; 28 feet deep. The North Fork of the Salmon River originates at the English Lakes. Twelve miles by good trail up the North Fork from the end of the road. EB to 8 inches are abundant.



U. S. Forest Service Photo

Upper English Lake. 1 acre; elevation 5,800 feet; 5 feet deep. This lake is only a short distance above the Lower Lake. Large population of small EB.

Ethel Lake. 9 acres; elevation 5,700 feet; 22 feet deep. From Abbott's upper cabin on the North Fork of the Salmon River it is about a two and one-half hour trip by taking the Cold Springs trail from the Big Meadows trail. EB were abundant in 1958.

Fisher Lake. 1 acre; elevation 6,200 feet; 15 feet deep. No trail to lake. Go up the Kidder Creek trail and take the fork to the Lewis Cabin. Follow up the outlet to the lake; a rough, steep, brushy one-hour plus climb from the cabin. EB to 8 inches were numerous in 1960.

Gate Lake. 5 acres; elevation 5,550 feet; 12 feet deep. This small lake is just off the trail near the stock gate at entrance to the Skyhigh Valley Recreation Area. A three-hour trip from Lovers Camp. Stocked with EB.

Blue Granite Lake. 12 acres; elevation 5,250 feet; 28 feet deep. From Sulphur Springs public camp it is a five-hour trip via Elk and Granite Creeks. Take left hand fork of trail at old cabin ruins, then up outlet to lake. RT do very well. Good EB fishing in stream below lake.

Gold Granite Lake. 2 acres; elevation 5,600 feet; 14 feet deep. A five-hour trip up the Elk Creek and Granite Creek trails from Sulphur Creek Public Camp. The trail to the lake leaves Granite Creek at the south end of the meadow just above the old cabin ruins. EB present.

Green Granite Lake. 4 acres; elevation 5,600 feet; 11 feet deep. Just below Gold Granite Lake. A good EB lake.

Hancock Lake. 44 acres; elevation 6,350 feet; 56 feet deep. The third largest lake in the Marble Mountains. Accessible by trails either up the North Fork, or the Little North Fork of the Salmon River. EB, RT and BN present, some of considerable size. Good campsites. EB plentiful in 1959.

Little Hancock Lake. 1 acre; elevation 6,700 feet; 12 feet deep. Located up in the rocks, just off the trail at the south end of Hancock Lake. EB present.

Heather Lake. .5 acres; elevation 7,400 feet; 20 feet deep. A 30-minute climb just over the ridge back of Grants Meadow. No trail. Grants Meadow is accessible by trail up the North Fork of the Salmon River-Right Hand Creek-Bug Gulch trails. This gem-like tarn has a population of small EB.

Hooligan Lake. 5 acres; elevation 5,150 feet; 17 feet deep. There is no distinct trail to the lake and considerable brush will be encountered. Best approach is either from the head of the Bridge Creek trail, or from Pleasant Lake. RT up to 13 inches were reported in 1957.

Horse Range Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 6,000 feet; 8 feet deep. About one mile up the trail to Big Meadows from Abbott's Upper Cabin on the North Fork of the Salmon River, a cattle drive goes very close to this shallow lake. EB present.

Independence Lake. 1.5 acres; elevation 5,950 feet; 10 feet deep. No trail; 30-minute hike from Ukonom Lake. The lake lies just over the first saddle to the left after leaving Ukonom Lake on the trail to Cuddihy Valley. EB to 15 inches were reported in 1958.

Lake of the Island. 13 acres; elevation 5,650 feet; 25 feet deep. The trail to this lake leaves the North Fork of the Salmon River trail just below Boulder Creek. Both EB and RT were abundant in 1957.

Katherine Lake. 5 acres; elevation 5,800 feet; 13 feet deep. About a 20-minute walk over the ridge to the west of Ethel Lake. This lightly fished lake provided excellent fishing for both EB and RT to 12 inches in 1958.

Kidder Lake. 2 acres; elevation 5,900 feet; 15 feet deep. From Greenview take the Kidder Creek logging road past Kindig Camp, staying on the north side of the creek. The trail takes off from the end of the road above and across from the Shelly Fork. Traveling time about 2½ hours. This lake had RT to 15 inches in 1959.



Onemile Lake



Kidder Lake

Kleaver Lake. 2.5 acres; elevation 6,450 feet; 17 feet deep. Accessible from Grants Meadows. No trail, and steep rocky terrain en route via Wooley Lake. Stocked with EB.

Lily Lake. 2.5 acres; elevation 6,000 feet; 7 feet deep. Located in the same basin and just above Clear Lake. A few large BN have been reported. Lily pads cover the lake in the summer.

Log Lake. 1 acre; elevation 5,400 feet; 15 feet deep. About a four and one-half hour trip and adjacent to the Shackelford Creek trail. Had a good population of EB to 9 inches in 1958.

Lost Lake. 8 acres; elevation 5,650 feet; 30 feet deep. From Hamilton Camp at the head of the Little North Fork of the Salmon River take the Sauerkraut Peak trail west to just below the top of the ridge where a trail forks to the right overlooking Lily and Clear Lakes. Just past Clear Lake take right fork of trail to top of ridge and follow down draw to lake. A lightly fished lake which produced excellent angling for EB, RT and BN in 1958.

Long High Lake. 1.5 acres; elevation 7,150; 6 feet deep. About four and one-half hours up the Shackelford Creek trail, a trail forks to the right just below Log Lake. Take this trail past Reynold's Cabin and follow the next little stream drainage up to the lake. In 1957, fat, red-fleshed EB to 12 inches were plentiful.

Maneaten Lake. 14 acres, elevation 6,200 feet; 112 feet deep. No trail. Best access is from the Summit Lake-Kidder Lake trail from a point just before the trail cuts across the ridge to go through the rock slide above Cliff Lake. A deep blue-water lake which produced scrappy red-meated RT to 16 inches in 1959.

Marten Lake. .8 acre; elevation 6,350 feet; 10 feet deep. About 150 yards to the west and 150 feet higher than Fisher Lake. Both EB and RT were abundant in 1960.

McCash Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 5,400 feet; 3 feet deep. A shallow lake in which a few RT manage to winter through. On the ridge trail out of Camp Three a faint trail goes to the lake about two miles east of Haypress Meadows.

Meteor Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 5,700 feet; 11 feet deep. Approximately 11 miles by trail from Camp Three. Stocked with RT.

Mill Creek Lakes.

Mill Creek Lake (West). 4.5 acres; elevation 6,450 feet; 3 feet deep.

Mill Creek Lake (East). 1.5 acres; elevation 6,350 feet; 15 feet deep.

A steep ridge trail leaves the logging road up Mill Creek and goes to the westerly lake. The last half mile of trail past a cattle camp is somewhat faint. The other lake lies just over a small ridge to the east. The lakes were stocked in 1958, RT in the westerly lake and EB in the easterly lake.

Milne Lake. 2.5 acres; elevation 6,750 feet; 39 feet deep. One of the chain of rarely visited lakes at the head of the South Fork of Wooley Creek. No trail. Accessible from Grants Meadows. Situated just over a rocky ridge to the north of Wooley Lake. Stocked with EB.

Monument Lake. 3 acres; elevation 5,900 feet; 13 feet deep. About 10 miles by trail from Camp Three. Both RT and EB present.

Onemile Lake. 22 acres; elevation 5,750 feet; 32 feet deep. Reached by trail from either Camp Three (the closest—11 miles), Elk Creek or Marble Valley. Catches of both EB and RT to 12 inches were reported in 1957. A popular lake.

Paradise Lake. 5 acres; elevation 6,200 feet; 15 feet deep. A four-hour trip up the Kelsey Creek trail. EB to two pounds have been caught from this lake. Considerable algae growth during the summer.

Pine Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 6,300 feet; 20 feet deep. From Tom Taylor Cabin on the English Peak trail take trail past fenced spring, angling north around point of ridge and dropping down to lake. In 1958 it had many EB to 9 inches in good condition.



Maneaten Lake



Burney Lake

Pleasant Lake. 9 acres; elevation 5,550 feet; 37 feet deep. About 12 miles by trail from Camp Three. A good EB lake.

Rainy Lake. 5.5 acres; elevation 5,400 feet; 18 feet deep. A trail goes down to the lake slightly over one mile past Whisky Camp on the Marble Valley-Cuddihy Valley trail. Plump EB 8 to 14 inches were easily caught in 1958.

Secret Lake. 8.5 acres; elevation 5,250 feet; 43 feet deep. On the west side of the narrow neck of Onemile Lake a trail goes over the ridge to the lake. Both EB and RT to 12 inches were reported in 1958.

Shadow Lake. 2.5 acres; elevation 6,450 feet; 14 feet deep. Located near the top of the ridge just above Lower Skyhigh Lake. On the Shackleford Creek-Marble Valley trail a steep, faint trail goes over the gap at a spring. Fish kill occasionally occurs following severe winters. EB present.

Shelly Lake. 5.5 acres; elevation 6,700 feet; 43 feet deep. Take logging road up Kidder Creek to old landing near mouth of Shelly Fork trail. About 500 feet over the ridge on the Salmon River side a faint trail turns to the left and goes directly to the lake. A lightly fished lake with an abundant population of EB.

Lower Skyhigh Lake. 12.5 acres; elevation 6,000 feet; 56 feet deep. A three-hour trip from Lovers Camp. RT, EB and BN in lake. Fish more than 12 inches long are not unusual.

Upper Skyhigh Lake. 4 acres; elevation 6,000 feet; 38 feet deep. Situated just a few feet above the lower lake. The Skyhigh Lakes are very popular with good campsites and feed for stock. Picturesque Marble Valley and Black Mountain are nearby.

Snyder Lake. 2.3 acres; elevation 5,800 feet; 47 feet deep. Named after the late John O. Snyder, former Chief of the Bureau of Fish Culture of the Division of Fish and Game. No trail to lake. Best route is from Tickner Hole on Elk-Granite-Tickner Creek trail. Situated just below Tickner Lake. A good RT lake.

Spirit Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 5,950 feet; 41 feet deep. The Marble-Cuddihy Valley trail goes right past the lake. Spirit Lake produced fat EB to 14 inches in 1958.

Steinacher Lake. 2.5 acres; elevation 5,800 feet; 5 feet deep. Accessible either from Chimney Rock Lake, or by continuing through the sandy flat on the main trail, and then turning right at the next fork. From this trail there are a couple of places from which one can reach the lake. A shallow lake with a live inlet stream providing good natural reproduction for RT. Light angling use.

Summit Lake. 5 acres; elevation 6,050 feet; 15 feet deep. Located at the head of Shackleford Creek and about a five and one-half hour trip up Shackleford Creek. Populated with EB.

Summit Meadow Lake. 1.3 acres; elevation 6,050 feet; 4 feet deep. This shallow lake is only a few yards above Summit Lake and has a small population of EB.

Tickner Lake. 1.3 acres; elevation 6,300 feet; 9 feet deep. Of the several shallow ponds in Tickner Hole, only one is capable of holding fish. Situated on a ledge just above Snyder Lake and just off the Tickner Creek Trail. Stocked with EB.

Tobacco Lake. 1 acre; elevation 6,200 feet; 9 feet deep. Go out low gap at southwest corner of Hancock Lake; angle in a southwesterly direction dropping elevation slightly to lake. EB average about 8 inches.

Toms Lake. 1 acre; elevation 6,750 feet; 15 feet deep. A small lake accessible either from the Little North Fork, or the North Fork of the Salmon River trails. Slightly over an hour's walk from Hancock or the English Lakes. A lightly fished lake stocked with RT.

Ukonom Lake. 67 acres; elevation 6,050 feet; 68 feet deep. Trails lead to this popular lake from Elk Creek, Camp Three and Marble Valley. A good producer of both RT and EB. There are 12 other lakes within a three-mile radius of Ukonom Lake.

Wild Lake. 3.5 acres; elevation 5,400 feet; 24 feet deep. From Abbott's Upper Cabin on the North Fork of the Salmon River take the Big Meadows trail. At the three-mile marker a trail turns to the right and goes up the draw to the lake. Both EB and RT averaging 11 inches were caught in 1958.

Wolverine Lake. 1.5 acres; elevation 7,000 feet; 11 feet deep. Although this little lake drains into Little Elk Creek, it is fairly accessible from Deep Lake. Situated just over the draw at the southwest end of Deep Lake. Has a small population of EB.

Wooley Lake. 6.3 acres; elevation 6,700 feet; 84 feet deep. A deep blue-water lake stocked with RT. No trail. About a one-hour hike over rough terrain via Heather Lake from Grant's Meadows. Very light angling use.

Lower Wright Lake. 26 acres; elevation 6,900 feet; 90 feet deep. Take logging road past the DeNure Ranch at the lower end of Quartz Valley to the end where the Big Meadows trail starts. At Big Meadows a trail forks to the right, goes over the ridge and down to the Wright Lakes. Also accessible by the steep Boulder Creek trail from the Scott River. Both EB and RT to 14 inches were caught in 1958. BN also reported.

Upper Wright Lake. 6.5 acres; elevation 7,400 feet; 50 feet deep. EB to 10 inches were plentiful in 1958.

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