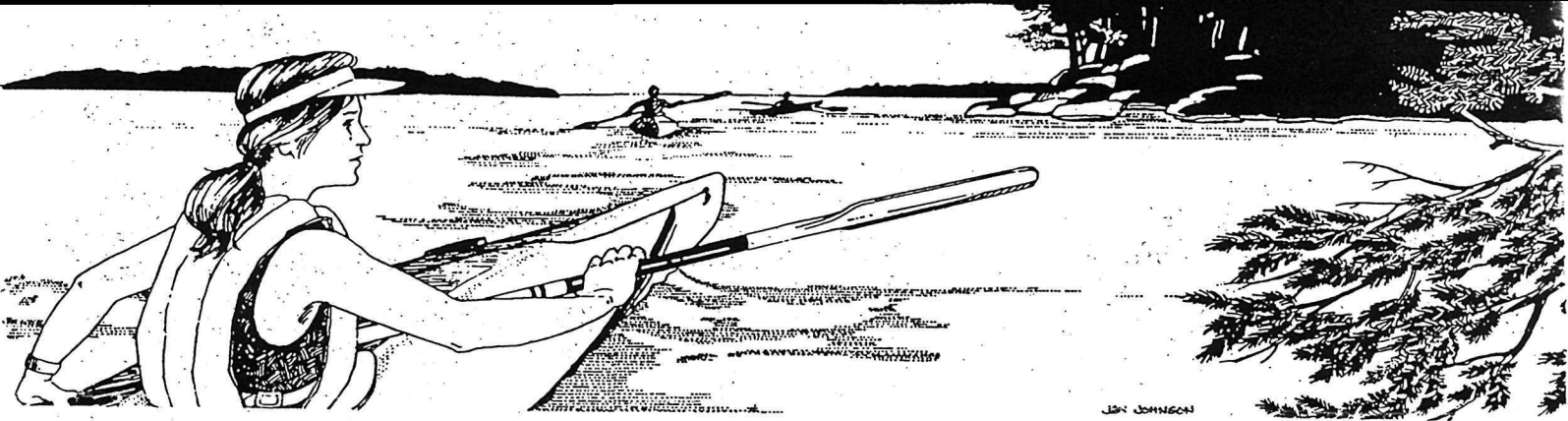


Ross Lake

National Recreation Area

North Cascades National Park Service Complex
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Getting There

By Vehicle

The only vehicle access to Ross Lake is at Hozomeen, reached by a 39 mile dirt and gravel road from Hope, British Columbia. This narrow gravel road is not recommended for low clearance vehicles.

By Boat

A graded-cement ramp at Hozomeen is normally usable from mid-June through September. Canoes, kayaks, and small craft can be launched at Colonial Creek Campground and boated five miles to the end of Diablo Lake. Boats and gear must be portaged around Ross Dam over a mile long gravel road with 600 foot elevation gain. For a fee, Ross Lake Resort will haul canoes or motorboats under 14-feet over the portage. This should be arranged by telephoning the Resort at (206 386-4437).

By Foot

Three trails along the North Cascades Highway provide easy to moderate day hikes to Ross Lake: Ross Dam Trail, Diablo Lake Trail, and Eastbank Trail.

Hiking

Seven major trails branch off Ross Lake: Hozomeen Lake, Lightning Creek, Desolation, Devil's Dome, Eastbank, Little Beaver, and Big Beaver. These trails offer a variety of experiences from easy dayhikes to rugged backpacking and an opportunity to experience high alpine meadows, unspoiled rivers and lakes, ancient stands of oldgrowth forest, historic fire lookouts, and some of the most spectacular and unspoiled wilderness in North America. Stop in a ranger station for details or consult one of the following sources:



Popular Trails: North Cascades NP and Ross Lake NRA
Northwest Interpretive Association
100 Hikes in Washington's North Cascades National Park Region
Ira Spring & Harvey Manning
North Cascades National Park Complex Trails Illustrated Map

Arrangements can be made with Ross Lake Resort (206 386-4437) for a water taxi drop-off or pick-up at any of the trailheads on Ross Lake.

Camping



Boat-in Campgrounds: There are 17 boat-access camping areas on Ross Lake. **A backcountry permit is required for any overnight camping.** Permits can be obtained at Marblemount, Hozomeen, or any ranger station. All Ross Lake campsites are equipped with fire-rings, picnic tables, and vault toilets. Consult the map and distance/facility chart in this brochure for help in selecting campsites and planning your itinerary. The most popular campsites are often fully booked from July 15—August 15, especially on weekends.

Hozomeen: This primitive 75 site campground, located at the north end of the Lake, is open from mid-May—October. The Hozomeen campground has pit toilets, potable water, picnic tables, and fire grates. Litter and garbage must be packed out. There is no camping fee.

Fishing

Native Rainbow, cutthroat, and eastern brook trout are the most commonly caught fish in Ross Lake. **A Washington State fishing license is required.** All Washington Game Fish regulations, seasons, and catch limits apply. Bait is prohibited and only artificial flies or lures with barbless hooks are allowed.

Hazards



Even in the summer, the water temperature in Ross Lake seldom gets above 50°. Falling in the lake or getting caught in a sudden storm can rapidly bring on hypothermia, the lowering of body temperature beyond the point at which the body can maintain its own heat. Always carry raingear, extra food, and be prepared for sudden weather changes or an unexpected bivouac.

Water taken from the lake and nearby streams may contain micro-organisms such as giardia which can cause serious intestinal disorders. Always boil or treat water before drinking.

Although most people never see them, grizzly and black bears, mountain lions, and wolves can be encountered along Ross Lake. Store food out of the reach of bears; use the 4-10 rule: 4 feet from the trunk of trees and at least 10 feet off the ground. Keep all wildlife healthy and self-reliant by not feeding them.

Protecting Your Park

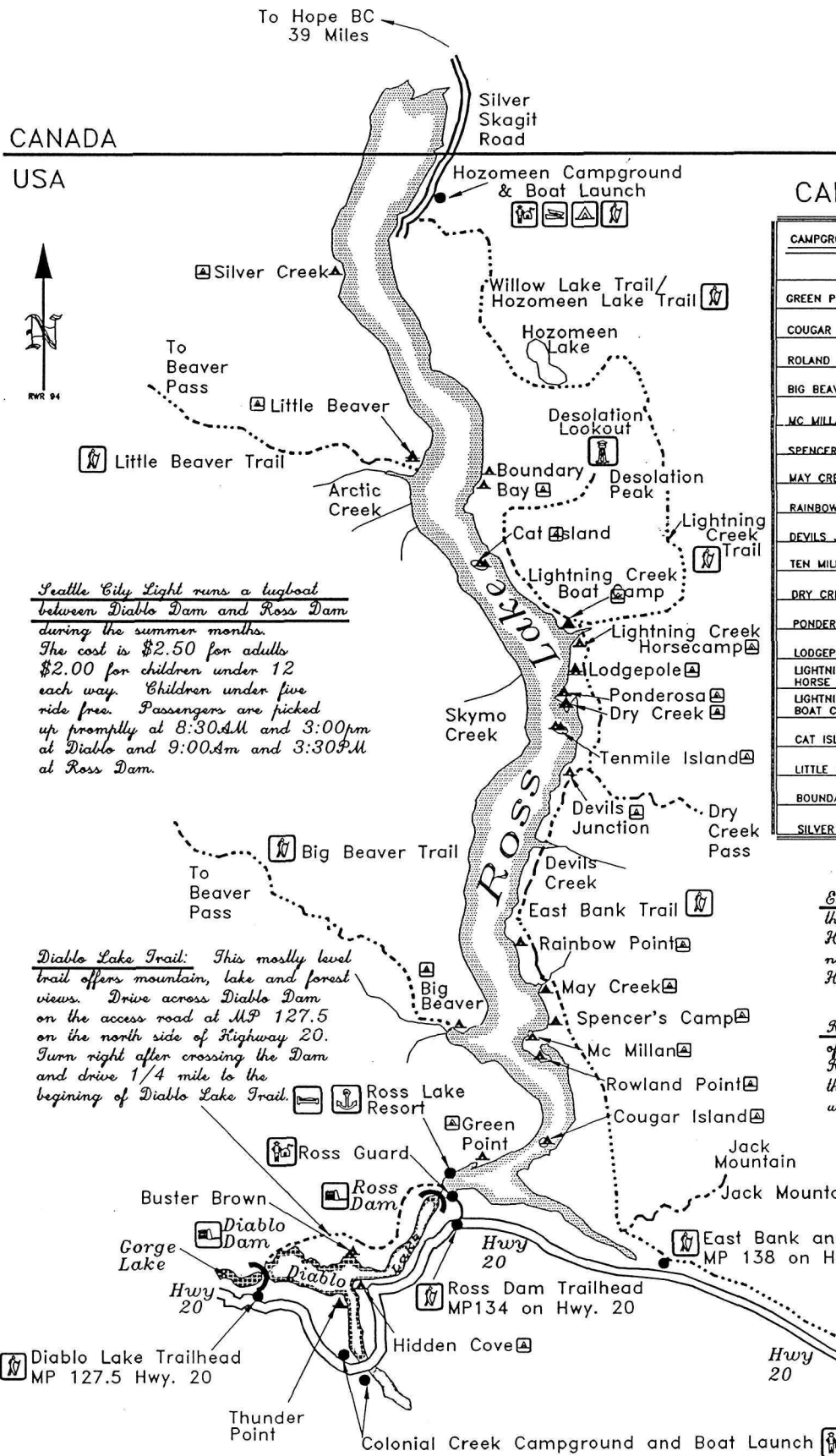


Help protect the natural beauty and primitive camping experience of Ross Lake:

- Camp only in designated sites. Please walk on established trails and take care not to trample or uproot plants.
- Build fires only in fire grates. Remember glass, cans, and aluminum foil do not burn.
- Use driftwood for firewood. The cutting of standing trees (living or dead) is prohibited.
- Carry out all trash.
- Incinerate fish entrails in your campfire or drop them into deep water. This will keep them from attracting wildlife or spoiling water quality.
- Pets are best left at home. All pets must be kept on a leash that is six feet or shorter and never left unattended.
- Quiet hours are enforced 10 pm to 6 am in order to insure the serenity of Ross Lake.
- Properly secure your food and don't feed the wildlife. Animals dependent upon human food often become sick, dangerous, and lose their natural instinct for survival. Keep a clean camp.



ROSS LAKE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMPLEX



CAMPGROUND INFORMATION

CAMPGROUND	DISTANCE FROM ROSS DAM	DISTANCE FROM HOZOMEEN	#SITES	GROUP CAMPS	HIKING TRAIL	BOAT DOCK
GREEN POINT	1	22	7	•		•
COUGAR ISLAND	2	21	2			•
ROLAND POINT	4	19	1			
BIG BEAVER	4	19	7		•	•
MC MILLAN	5.5	17.5	3	•		•
SPENCER'S CAMP	6	17	2			•
MAY CREEK	6.5	16.5	1			
RAINBOW POINT	7.5	15.5	3		•	•
DEVILS JUNCTION	10.5	12.5	1			•
TEN MILE ISLAND	11	12	3			
DRY CREEK	11.5	11.5	4			
PONDEROSA	12	11	2	•		
LOGDGEPOLE	12.5	10.5	3	•	•	
LIGHTNING CREEK HORSE CAMP	13	10	3		•	
LIGHTNING CREEK BOAT CAMP	13.5	9.5	6		•	•
CAT ISLAND	14.5	8.5	4			•
LITTLE BEAVER	17	6	6		•	•
BOUNDARY BAY	17.5	5.5	3	•		
SILVER CREEK	21	2	4	•		•

Seattle City Light runs a tugboat between Diablo Dam and Ross Dam during the summer months. The cost is \$2.50 for adults \$2.00 for children under 12 each way. Children under five ride free. Passengers are picked up promptly at 8:30 AM and 3:00 PM at Diablo and 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM at Ross Dam.

Diablo Lake Trail: This mostly level trail offers mountain, lake and forest views. Drive across Diablo Dam on the access road at MP 127.5 on the north side of Highway 20. Turn right after crossing the Dam and drive 1/4 mile to the beginning of Diablo Lake Trail.

East Bank Trail: Backpackers can follow the East Bank Trail for 28 miles to Hozomeen. The East Bank Trail begins near MP 138 on the north side of Highway 20.

Ruby Creek Trail: The first 2/10ths of a mile drops steeply to the bridge over Ruby Creek. The trail runs 2.4 miles through dense forest before intersecting with the East Bank Trail.

Diablo Lake Trailhead MP 127.5 Hwy. 20

East Bank and Ruby Creek Trailhead MP 138 on Hwy. 20

Ross Dam Trailhead MP 134 on Hwy. 20