



Snowy Range Area

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest

in the

FISHING

For Additional Information, Please Contact:

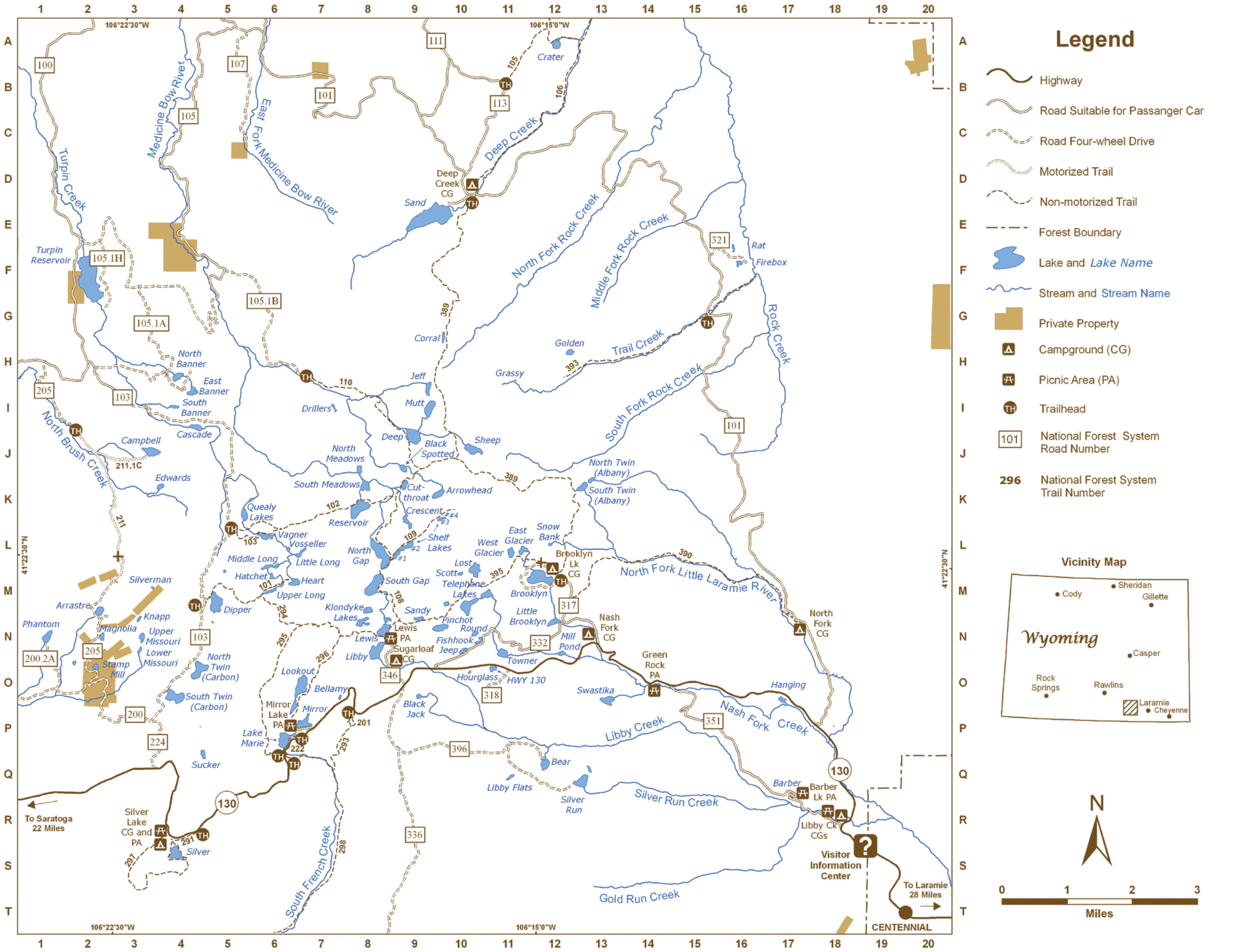
Supervisor's Office
Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest
Thunder Basin National Grassland
2468 Jackson Street
Laramie, WY 82070-6535
(307) 745-2300

Laramie Ranger District
2468 Jackson Street
Laramie, WY 82070-6535
(307) 745-2300

Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District
South Hwy 130
PO Box 249
Saratoga, WY 82331
(307) 326-5258

Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Laramie Regional Office
528 S. Adams
Laramie, WY 82070
(307) 745-4046

Cover: Lookout Lake, Photo by Carol Tolbert



RECREATION USE SITES					
Campgrounds					
Recreation Site	# of Sites	Fee**	Trail Access	Fishing Access	Boating Access***
Brooklyn Lake	19	Yes	Sheep Lake Trail #389 North Fork Trail #390	Brooklyn Lake	Brooklyn Lake
Libby Creek Complex	38	Yes	None	Libby Creek	None
Nash Fork	27	Yes	None	Nash Fork Creek	None
North Fork	60	Yes	North Fork Trail #390	North Fork, Little Laramie River	None
Silver Lake*	17	N/A	Silver lake Trail #291 Meadow Falls Trail #295	Silver Lake	Silver Lake
Sugarloaf	16	Yes	Lost Lake Trail #395 North Gap Lake Trail #108 Medicine Bow Peak Trail #295	Libby Lake Lewis Lake	Libby Lake Lewis Lake
Picnic Areas					
Barber Lake	10	Yes	None	Barber Lake Libby Creek	Barber Lake
Green Rock	9	Yes	None	Nash Fork Creek	None
Lewis Lake (and Libby Lake)	7	Yes	Lost Lake Trail #395 North Gap Lake Trail #108 Medicine Box Peak Trail #295	Lewis Lake Libby Lake	Lewis Lake Libby Lake
Mirror Lake****	9	N/A****	Lakes Trail #296	Mirror Lake	Mirror Lake

All campgrounds and picnic areas listed in the table above are equipped with toilets, fire grills, drinking water, and picnic tables. Most campgrounds are attended by campground hosts. Also, the Lake Marie trailhead leads to a handicapped-accessible trail that traverses the lake's southern shore.

* Silver Lake campground is closed until further notice. Please contact the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District in Saratoga, WY for the latest campground status: (307) 326-5258.

** Contact Supervisor's Office for applicable fees: (307) 745-2300.

*** No boat ramp is available. Watercraft must be carried to waterbody.

**** Mirror Lake Picnic Area may charge a day-use fee in the future. Please contact the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District in Saratoga, WY for the latest information on its fee status: (307) 326-5258

HIKING TRAILS IN THE SNOWY RANGE					
Trail No. & Name	Trail Length (mi.)	Trail Use	Difficulty Rating	Elevation Change (ft.)	Trailhead Locations
101 Hart Lake	0.8	me-dium	moderate	200	Dipper Lake at NFSR 103
102 Quealy Lake	4.1	low	moderate	500	Quealy Lake at NFSR 103
103 Vagner Lake	0.5	me-dium	moderate	100	Quealy Lake at NFSR 103
105 Crater Lake	1.3	high	more dif-ficult	700	Near junction NFSR 113 and NFSR 105
106 Rock Creek	3.5 to Cra-ter Lake	me-dium	more dif-ficult	400 loss	West of the intersection of Deep Creek and NFSR 101 (Sand Lake Rd.)
108 North Gap Lake	2.5	high	more dif-ficult	700	Lewis Lake
109 Shelf Lake	1.1	me-dium	moderate	120	Lewis Lake
110 Deep Lake	0.5	me-dium	moderate	200	Either Sand Lake, Sheep Lake, or Lewis lake
201 Miners Cabin	0.7	high	moderate	200	Medicine Bow Peak overlook off Hwy. 130
211 Campbell Lake*	3.0	high	more dif-ficult	900	At NFSR 205/211 via NFSR 100 (North Brush Creek Rd.)
211.1C* Campbell Lake	0.9	high	moderate	200	NFS 211/ NFSR 211.1C Junction
222 Lake Marie	0.4	high	easy		West & east side of Lake Marie
291 Silver Lake	1.6	me-dium	moderate	280	Silver Lake
293 Tipple	2.1	me-dium	more dif-ficult	400	Tipple or Miners Cabin Trailheads
294 Dipper Lake	3.4	low	more dif-ficult	1,400	Dipper Lake adjacent to NFSR 103
295 Medicine Bow Peak	4.5	high	more dif-ficult	1,600	Lake Marie – west parking area or Lewis Lake

Trail No. & Name	Trail Length (mi.)	Trail Use	Difficulty Rating	Elevation Change (ft.)	Trailhead Locations
296 Lakes	1.8	me-dium	moderate	900	Mirror Lake picnic area
297 Meadow Falls	2.7	me-dium	moderate	350	Silver Lake
298 French Creek Canyon	5.3	low	more dif-ficult	1,600	Tipple or Miners Cabin Trailheads or Lake Marie-west parking area
389 Sheep Lake	8.2	low	more dif-ficult	1,300	Sand Lake or Sheep Lake at NFSR 317
390 North Fork	4.4	me-dium	more dif-ficult	1,300	North Fork Trailhead adjacent to NFSR 317 or North Fork campground near campsite #12
393 Trail Creek	3.0	low	more dif-ficult	700	Near the intersection of NFSR 101 (Sand Lake Rd.) and Trail Creek
395 Lost Lake	3.5	high	more dif-ficult	180	Lewis Lake or at Brooklyn Lake campground

*This trail is open to All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) use.

SUBALPINE LAKES AND STREAMS

Name of Lake or Stream	Location on Map	Acres or Miles	Maximum Depth (ft.)	Elevation (ft.)	Brook Trout	Brown Trout	Cutthroat Troat	Golden Trout	Grayling	Rainbow Trout	Splake	No Fish
Arrastre Lake	M2	12	25	10,180	x		x					
Arrowhead Lake	K9	10	12	10,770	x							
East Banner Lake	H4	8	14	10,050					x			
North Banner Lake	H4	9	22	9,930	x							
South Banner Lake	I4	4	19	9,950					x			
Barber Lake	Q17	2	19	8,760						x		
Bear Lake	Q12	17	41	10,100	x			x	x			
Bellamy Lake	O7	1	5	10,660	x							
Blackjack Lake	O9	4	4	10,580					x			
Brooklyn Lake	M11	36	38	10,526	x		x				x	
Little Brooklyn Lake	N12	8	6	10,353	x						x	
Campbell Lake	J3	14	35	10,020	x							
Cascade Lake	I4	8	45	10,090	x							
Crater Lake	A12	10	65	9,560	x							
Crescent Lake	K9	8	8	10,770	x							
Cutthroat Lake	K9	6	19	10,670	x							
Deep Lake	J9	25	29	10,500	x							
Dipper Lake	M5	28	32	10,692					x			
Drillers Lake	I7	2	3	10,090	x							
Edwards Lake	K3	4	28	10,270	x							
Fire Box Lake	F16	4	4	9,590	x							
North Gap Lake	L8	32	67	10,880	x							
South Gap Lake	M8	44	70	10,950			x			x		
Black Spotted Lake	J9	6	3	10,650	x							
East Glacier Lake	L11	7	25	10,790	x		x					
West Glacier Lake	L11	8	28	10,780	x							
Golden Lake	H12	5	16	10,470	x		x					
Grassy Lake	H11	3	3	10,670	x							
Hanging Lake	O17	4	5	9,060						x		
Hatchet Lake	M6	3	3	10,660	x							
Heart Lake	M6	12	45	10,740	x							
Highway 130 Lake	O11	5	4	10,470								x
Hourglass Lake	O10	8	4	10,500								x
Jeff Lake	I9	7	5	10,630								x
Klondyke Lakes	M8	1/7	12/20	10,785	x						x	
Lewis Lake	N8	19	33	10,730	x							
Libby Flats Lake	Q11	3	4	10,225	x							
Libby Lake	N8	26	40	10,750	x						x	
Little Long Lake	L6	5	6	10,590	x							
Middle Long Lake	L6	6	10	10,620	x							
Upper Long Lake	M6	4	15	10,780								x
Lookout Lake	O6	35	87	10,630	x							
Lost Lake	L10	17	82	10,950	x							
Magnolia Lake	N2	4	15	10,185								x
Lake Marie	P6	26	40	10,500	x		x			x	x	
North Meadows Lake	J8	5	13	10,570	x							
South Meadows Lake	K8	11	10	10,610	x							
Mill Pond Lake	N12	3	3	10,300	x							
Mirror Lake	P6	26	50	10,600	x		x			x	x	
Lower Missouri lake	N3	3	5	10,150	x							
Upper Missouri Lake	N3	6	11	10,180								x
Mutt Lake	I9	16	7	10,630								x

Fishing the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest

Anglers can experience a variety of challenging recreational-fishing opportunities in Snowy Range lakes and streams. The Snowy Range comprises alpine and subalpine ecosystems located in the higher-elevations of the Medicine Bow Mountains in Wyoming, and the area’s lakes and streams support an abundance of salmonids in beautiful subalpine settings. Although none of the trout that thrive in Snowy Range lakes and streams are native species, trout were stocked in the area many decades ago to provide recreational-fishing opportunities for anglers, where prior to stocking, none existed. Today, only a portion of the lakes in the Snowy Range are periodically stocked with trout because most of the lakes and all of the fish-bearing streams there support naturally-reproducing, self-sustaining trout populations.

A variety of non-native salmonids are available to anglers who fish Snowy Range lakes and streams. While brook trout are the most abundant and widely distributed salmonid in the area, other salmonids such as brown trout, cutthroat trout, golden trout, grayling, rainbow trout, and splake (brook trout-lake trout hybrid) are available to anglers. Despite the short growing season in the area’s subalpine aquatic environments, the fishing is generally outstanding and the salmonids are often in superb condition. Excellent recreational fishing awaits anglers who are willing and able to venture into the Snowy Range.

The Snowy Range is located approximately thirty miles west of Laramie and about twenty miles east of Saratoga. Anglers can access the Snowy Range via Wyoming Highway 130 (Snowy Range Highway/Scenic Byway); the highway is generally open to vehicle travel from Memorial Day to October, depending on weather conditions.

Snowy Range Highway/Scenic Byway Ecosystems

The Snowy Range Highway/Scenic Byway traverses a beautiful and complex subalpine landscape formed by some of the Earth’s most dynamic forces and by pervasive

biological and chemical processes that alter mountainous landscapes over time. Tectonic forces caused the mountains to form (orogeny) while Pleistocene glaciation and biological and chemical weathering sculpted them during millennia of erosion and weathering. Throughout the most recent period of glaciation (Quaternary), glacial processes such as scour, erosion, transport, and deposition by moving ice and rock formed interesting topographic features in the Snowies such as broad, U-shaped valleys, lakes, moraines, and drumlins (Pine Butte). In addition, during episodes of glacial retreat caused by periods of warming, large chunks of ice often broke off from the glacier’s leading edge forming water-saturated depressions in the landscape called kettle ponds and tarns (small, mountain lakes). Other factors such as weather have affected and continue to affect the abundance and distribution of subalpine and alpine ecosystems and their associated native flora and fauna.

Most of the Snowy Range comprises high-elevation (above 9,000 feet) subalpine ecosystems that support cold-adapted plants and animals. The highest elevations (above 11,000 feet) in the Snowy Range are considered “true” alpine ecosystems (no trees) that support a variety of shrubs, flowering plants, and lichens. At the transition zone between subalpine and alpine ecosystems one can find Krummholtz - stunted and wind-formed (flag shaped) stands of Englemann spruce. At slightly lower elevations (between 10,000 and 9,000 feet) mature stands of subalpine fir and Englemann spruce abound while lodgepole pine was once fairly abundant below 9,000 feet elevation until infestations of mountain pine beetles killed many of them. An abundance of mountain wildflowers and other plants can be found throughout the Snowy Range and they provide sustenance for insects and wildlife in addition to enhancing the mountain scenery.

Snowy Range ecosystems provide habitats for a variety of aquatic and terrestrial vertebrates and invertebrates. As mentioned earlier, non-native trout are abundant in many Snowy Range lakes and streams. In lower-elevations kettle ponds - although fish may be absent - a variety

of aquatic insects (i.e. diving beetles) and aquatic plants (i.e. pond lilies) can be found. Boreal chorus frogs, wood frogs, and boreal toads (rarely) inhabit kettle ponds and beaver ponds in the area, primarily below 9,000 feet. Mule deer, elk, and moose are the representative wild ungulates in the Snowy range. And if one is very lucky, mountain lions and black bears can be seen in the area. Last but not least, an assortment of smaller animals such as beavers, picas, and marmots can be seen in addition to a variety of birds, butterflies, beetles, bees, and to be sure, mosquitoes.

Travel Restrictions

Alpine and subalpine ecosystems are fragile and require protection, to some extent, from both motorized and non-motorized travel. Vegetation is easily damaged or destroyed in the harsh Snowy Range environments and the soils that support them are often shallow and vulnerable to erosion or they are water saturated and vulnerable to rutting. Anglers should remain on designated trails as they travel the Snowy Range to avoid damaging plants unnecessarily and to avoid creating redundant trails. Motorized travel in the Snowy Range is restricted to designated, open roads (see free district Travel Management maps); most of the Snowy Range is closed to motorized travel, except in winter.

Boating and Fishing Regulations

In Wyoming, all boating and fishing regulations are promulgated by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WG&FD) which apply on private and public lands (fishing regulations); boating regulations apply in public lands. The following regulations apply in the Snowy Range: 1.) all watercraft will contain at least one U.S. Coast Guard-approved flotation device (e.g. life jacket) for each occupant; 2.) no person shall operate a watercraft underway with any child aboard 12 years old or under unless each child is either wearing a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) or is riding in an enclosed cabin; and 3.) the watercraft Certificate of Number must onboard when in use. Also, all watercraft – inflatables

Name of Lake or Stream	Location on Map	Acres or Miles	Maximum Depth (ft.)	Elevation (ft.)	Brook Trout	Brown Trout	Cutthroat Troat	Golden Trout	Grayling	Rainbow Trout	Splake	No Fish
Phantom Lake	N1	12	16	10,040	x							
Quealy Lakes	K5	9/2	4/5	10,330	x							
Rat Lake	E16	2	4	9,590								x
Reservoir Lake	K8	29	82	10,770	x							
Sand Lake	E9	92	15	10,131	x					x	x	
Scott Lake	M10	2	21	11,030								x
Sheep Lake	J10	19	4	10,770	x							
Shelf Lake #1	L9	3	29	10,970				x				
Shelf Lake #2	L9	6	18	10,970				x				
Shelf Lake #4	K9	3	11	10,870	x							
Shelf Lake #5	K9	1	6	10,870	x							
Silver Lake	S4	17	25	10,250	x							
Silver Run Lake	Q12	14	14	10,050	x							
Snowbank Lake	L12	2	8	10,610								x
Stamp Mill Lake-private land	O2	5	13	9,900								x
Sucker Lake	Q4	13	8	10,350	x		x					
Swastika lake	O13	12	3	10,060								x
Telephone Lakes	M10	25/8	10/12	10,700	x							
Towner Lake	N11	9	6	10,705	x							
Turpin Reservoir	F2	99	22	9,397	x						x	
North Twin Lake (Albany Co.)	K13	4	4	10,690								x
South Twin Lake (Albany Co.)	K13	15	14	10,690			x					
North Twin Lake (Carbon Co.)	O4	8	44	10,360	x							
South Twin Lake (Carbon Co.)	O4	27	68	10,282							x	
Vagner Lake	L6	11	6	10,450	x							
Vosseller Lake	L6	2	5	10,590	x							
Corral Lake	H9	3	2	10,590	x							
Silverman Lake	M3	Not surveyed										x
Knapp Lake	N3	2	2	10,310								x
Sandy Lake	N9	Not surveyed										x
Pinchot Lake	N9	Not surveyed										x
Round Lake	N10	4	9	10,580	x							
Fishhook Lake	N10	5	5	10,585	x							
Jeep Lake	N10	4	5	10,620	x							
Class Lake	N8	4	15	10,735	x						x	x

Deep Creek					x						x	
Gold Run Creek					x							
Libby Creek					x	x					x	
Medicine Bow River					x	x					x	
East Fk., Medicine Bow River					x	x					x	
Nash Fork Creek					x	x						
North Brush Creek					x	x					x	
N. Fk. Little Laramie River					x	x					x	
Rock Creek					x	x					x	
Middle Fk. Rock Creek					x							
N. Fk. Rock Creek					x							
S. Fk. Rock Creek					x							
Silver Run Creek					x							
Trail Creek					x						x	
Turpin Creek					x							

less than or equal to 10 feet in length are exempt – using Wyoming waters are required to display an Aquatic Invasive Species decal. Decals may be obtained from the WG&FD website or from license dealers. For additional information about boating and fishing regulations, please contact the WG&FD either at their headquarters in Cheyenne or at their district, regional offices. Some boating regulations are specific to national forests.

In the Snowy Range and in other areas of the national forest, special boating restrictions apply. Motorized watercraft are allowed in the following area reservoirs: Sand Lake; Lake Owen; Rob Roy; and Turpin. Internal-combustion motors rated in excess of 15 horsepower are prohibited in Turpin Reservoir. Electric motors are permitted in all area lakes and reservoirs. Because of concerns about introductions of non-native, aquatic organisms, the use of live-bait fish is prohibited in Snowy Range lakes and streams. Collecting fish by seining and by trapping is prohibited. Forestwide. All anglers older than 10 years of age must have in their possession a valid resident or non-resident fishing license and a valid conservation stamp to legally fish in Wyoming. Anglers are encouraged to carefully read and understand the current Wyoming Fishing Regulations, which are available free of charge at license vendors and at all department offices.

Aquatic Invasive Species

Only you can stop the spread of invasive species like the quagga and zebra mussels. These mussels can ruin fisheries, clog cooling systems in motorboats, foul hulls and ruin equipment. They have not yet been found in Wyoming but are present in some bordering states. Before you launch or move your boat to another body of water, please help protect your waters by following these simple steps:

- Drain: All water must be drained from your boat.
- Clean: Remove all plants, mud and debris from equipment and boat.
- Dry: Dry your boat or equipment 5 days in summer, 18 days in spring/fall, or 3 days of freezing.

Tourist Information and Recreational Use

Visitor Information – The Forest operates two Visitor Information Centers (VIC) located adjacent to the Snowy Range Highway/Scenic Byway (Hwy 130). The VICs are available to assists tourists and other recreational users. One VIC is located a few miles west of the town of Centennial and the other is located about twenty miles east of Saratoga. Both centers are operated by hosts who can provide a variety of information about recreation opportunities in the Forest. In addition, the centers contain history and nature books, maps, and other information and literature, some of which is available to the public, cost free.

Campgrounds and Cabins – The Forest maintains several developed campgrounds and cabins that are located within or proximate to the Snowy Range. Because most of the area’s campgrounds and cabins are located at high elevations, they aren’t generally available for use until early July. However, campsite and cabin reservations can be made anytime by calling 1- (877) 444-6777 or by accessing the following website: www.recreation.gov. Campsite and cabin reservations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, some trailhead-parking areas, picnic areas, and boat ramps require payment of a day-use fee; check with the host at the nearest VIC or visit the nearest Forest Service office for information about the current day-use fee amount.

Dispersed Camping – Dispersed camping – camping in undeveloped campsites – is permitted in the Snowy Range and in other areas located within the Forest. Dispersed campsites cannot be reserved and are available to users on a first-come, first-serve basis. Dispersed camping at a particular site is limited to 21 consecutive days, after which, campers must relocate to another site. Also, dispersed camping, and starting and maintaining open campfires are prohibited within 500 feet of the Snowy Range Highway/Scenic Byway. To protect riparian and lakeside vegetation and soils, camping within 100 feet of streams and lakes is prohibited. Check with the nearest VIC or Forest Service office for the most up-to-date information about dispersed camping.

Picnic Areas – Developed picnic areas are available for visitor use at several locations within the Snowy Range. For visitor convenience and safety, developed picnic areas offer the following amenities: toilets; drinking-water wells; picnic tables; fire grills; and parking. At a few picnic sites, access to boating, fishing, and hiking trails is available. Overnight camping at designated picnic areas is prohibited and day-use fees are required at these sites.

Hiking Trails – The Snowy Range contains a network of hiking trails suitable for day hiking and for extended, backcountry trips. Some portions of these trails, especially the ones located at lower elevations, have been affected by the mountain pine beetle epidemic; dead lodgepole pine, both fallen trees and leaning ones could pose a hazard to trail users until they have been cleared. For the most up-to-date information about trail conditions, please contact the pertinent district ranger office or contact the Supervisor’s Office in Laramie.

Environmental Ethics

To experience a safe and enjoyable visit to the Snowy Range and to help other visitors share a similar experience, please be aware of and obey all laws, rules, and regulations that apply to recreational activities. In addition, please learn and apply recreational techniques that leave a “light” environmental footprint on the land. For example, place all trash in appropriate containers that are provided in developed campgrounds and picnic areas or pack it out if you’re camping in dispersed sites or in the backcountry. When using dispersed campsites, build small fire rings and campfires rather than large ones; small campfires produce fewer sparks and smoke and are much easier to extinguish than large campfires. Your compliance with all pertinent laws, rules, and regulations will help preserve the land and ensure quality recreational opportunities for you, for others, and for future generations. Thank you for using this brochure and enjoy your visit to the Snowy Range.



View from Medicine Bow Peak Trail #295 overlooking South Gap, Klondyke, Lewis and Libby Lakes, Photo by Carol Tolbert



Lake Marie, Photo by Carol Tolbert