

# Campgrounds and Lodging

Beckwourth Ranger District

Plumas National Forest



## Choose Your Experience

This overview describes camping and lodging opportunities within the Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest. Four distinct accommodation types are available within the district.

1. **Lodges** are operated by private party under special use permit
2. **Cabins** are rustic Forest Service or vendor operated Forest Service structures available to rent by reservation
3. **Vendor Operated Campgrounds** are campgrounds operated under special use permit by a third party vendor with both reservation and first come sites. The company managing Plumas National Forest Campgrounds is Outdoors in Plumas. They can be contacted via web at <https://www.outdoorsinplumas.com/>. All campsite reservations are available at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).
4. **Dispersed Camping** is camping in undeveloped or underdeveloped areas of the forest. It is available with specific restrictions to protect forest resources. Dispersed camping is a wonderful way to enjoy your forest. We want to help. **Call 530-836-2575 for more information.** (Maps do not designate dispersed camping locations)

## Lake Davis Recreation Area

Located seven miles north of Portola on County Road 126, Lake Davis is surrounded by a mixed conifer forest with beautiful mountain views. At 5,800 feet elevation, the lake is well known for its great fishing opportunities. Noise is reduced at the lake because water skiing and jet skis are not allowed here. Hikers will appreciate the wildlife watching along the Lake Davis Trail. The recreation area has three boat launches. Docks are available during peak season, when water levels are high enough. Around the lake there are several fishing access areas. A levee at the Camp 5 launching facility provides wheelchair accessibility for fishing. Some day use and fishing accesses have fees. There is a fee dump station located at Grizzly Campground. All campers may use the coin operated showers at Grasshopper Flat.

Campground	Units	Fee	Reservations	Toilets	Drinking Water	Showers	Trash, Tables, Fire Rings	Accommodation Type
Grizzly	55	Yes	<a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>	Flush	Yes	No	Y, Y, Y	3
Grasshopper Flat	70	Yes	<a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>	Flush	Yes	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3
Grasshopper Flat Group	1	Yes	<a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>	Flush	Yes	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3
Lightning Tree	40	Yes	<a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>	Vault	Yes	No	Y, Y, Y	3

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Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region  
Plumas National Forest  
[www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas)

Beckwourth Ranger District  
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## Frenchman Lake Recreation Area

Located eight miles north of Chilcoot on Forest Road 176, Frenchman Lake is a high desert lake (5,800') nestled in the pines. Camping, fishing and boating are popular attractions. Enjoy the beautiful Little Last Chance Scenic Area on the drive in. The canyon here was made by the erosion of ancient lava flows by Little Last Chance Creek. The recreation area has two boat launch facilities. However, Lunker Point closes when water levels drop. Docks are available when the water level is high enough. Many fishing access points dot the shore, some have fees. There is a fee dump station near Frenchman Campground. All campers may use coin operated showers at Big Cove or Cottonwood Springs Campgrounds.

Campground	Units	Fee	Reservations	Toilets	Drinking Water	Showers	Trash, Tables, Fire Rings	Accommodation Type
Chilcoot	40	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Flush	Yes	No	Y, Y, Y	3
Frenchman	38	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Vault	Yes	No	Y, Y, Y	3
Big Cove	38	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Flush	Yes	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3
Spring Creek	35	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Vault	Yes	No	Y, Y, Y	3
Cottonwood Springs	22	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Flush	Yes	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3

## Lodges, Cabins and Campgrounds outside Recreation Areas

There are many places throughout Beckwourth Ranger District that offer a more remote quieter place to stay.

Location	Units	Fee	Reservations	Toilets	Water	Showers	Trash, Tables, Fire Rings	Accommodation Type
Camp Leyman			contactus@camplayman.com					1
Crocker Guard Station	1	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Vault	No	No	N, Y, N	2 Vendor Operated
Crocker Campground	10	Yes	No	Vault	No	No	N, N, Y	5
Black Mountain Lookout	1	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Vault	No	No	N, Y, N	2 Forest Service Operated
Conklin Campground	9	Yes	No	Vault	No	No	N, Y, Y	5
Meadow View Horse Camp	6	Yes	No	Vault	No	No	N, Y, Y	5
Ross Campground	3	Yes	No	Vault	No	No	N, N, Y	5
Lauffman Campground	6	Yes	No	Vault	No	No	N, N, Y	5

*Pack Out All Trash*

## Lakes Basin Recreation Area

Many crystal clear alpine lakes set in glacially carved granite are ready to be explored via more than 30 miles of trails. Campgrounds open soon after snow melt allows access. They remain open until closed by snowfall. Soon after Labor Day all campgrounds have reduced amenities and no fee. The area is rich in recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, nature viewing and water sports. Gold Lake Boat Launch Facility has a two lane ramp, seasonal boat dock, day-use area, large parking area, vault toilets, seasonal trash bins and solar lighting. There is also a gravel hand launch for small water craft near the dam. Beginning in 2020, both boat launch facilities will become fee areas. **Directions** 1.5 miles south of Graeagle go west on the Gold Lake Highway. From California State Highway 49 turn onto Gold Lake Highway at Bassett's Station.

Campground	Units	Fee	Reservations	Toilets	Drinking Water	Trash Bins	Bear Lockers, Tables, Fire Rings	Accommodation Type and other information
<b>Elwell Lakes Lodge</b>			elwellodge@aol.com					1
<b>Gold Lake Lodge</b>			reservations@goldlakelodge.com					1
<b>Gray Eagle Lodge</b>			1-800-635-8778					1
<b>Lakes Basin Campground</b> Elevation 6,300'	24	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Vault	Yes	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3 30' max. trailer
<b>Lakes Basin Group</b> Elevation 6,300'	1	Yes	www.recreation.gov	Vault	Yes	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3 Tent camping only
<b>Gold Lake</b> Elevation 6,400'	37	Yes	No	Vault	No	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3 Narrow turnarounds
<b>Gold Lake 4x4</b> Elevation 6,400'	16	Yes	No	None	No	No	Y, N, Y	3 4X4 vehicle required
<b>Goose Lake</b> Elevation 6,400'	10	Yes	No	Vault	No	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3 High clearance
<b>Haven Lake Campground</b> Elevation 6,400'	4	Yes	No	Vault	No	Yes	Y, Y, Y	3 High clearance

## Dispersed Camping

Dispersed campers include backpackers, equestrian campers, car campers, RV campers, hunters, and back country enthusiasts. Dispersed campers should be aware of forest and other restrictions placed to help prevent resource damage. Some examples of restrictions include;

- Restriction of camping in recreation areas
- Requirement to have a state campfire permit <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>
- Campfire restrictions imposed by county, state or Plumas National Forest
- 14 day stay limit.
- All campers should use "Leave no Trace" ethics. For more information <https://lnt.org/>

There is a small Forest Service operated campground at McCrea Meadow. This three campsite campground is underdeveloped with one fire ring, one picnic table and no toilet. Camping is free at this remote location.

Campground	Units	Fee	Reservations	Toilets	Drinking Water	Trash Bins	Bear Lockers, Tables, Fire Rings	Accommodation Type and other information
<b>McCrea Meadow</b>	3	No	No	No	No	No	N,Y	4