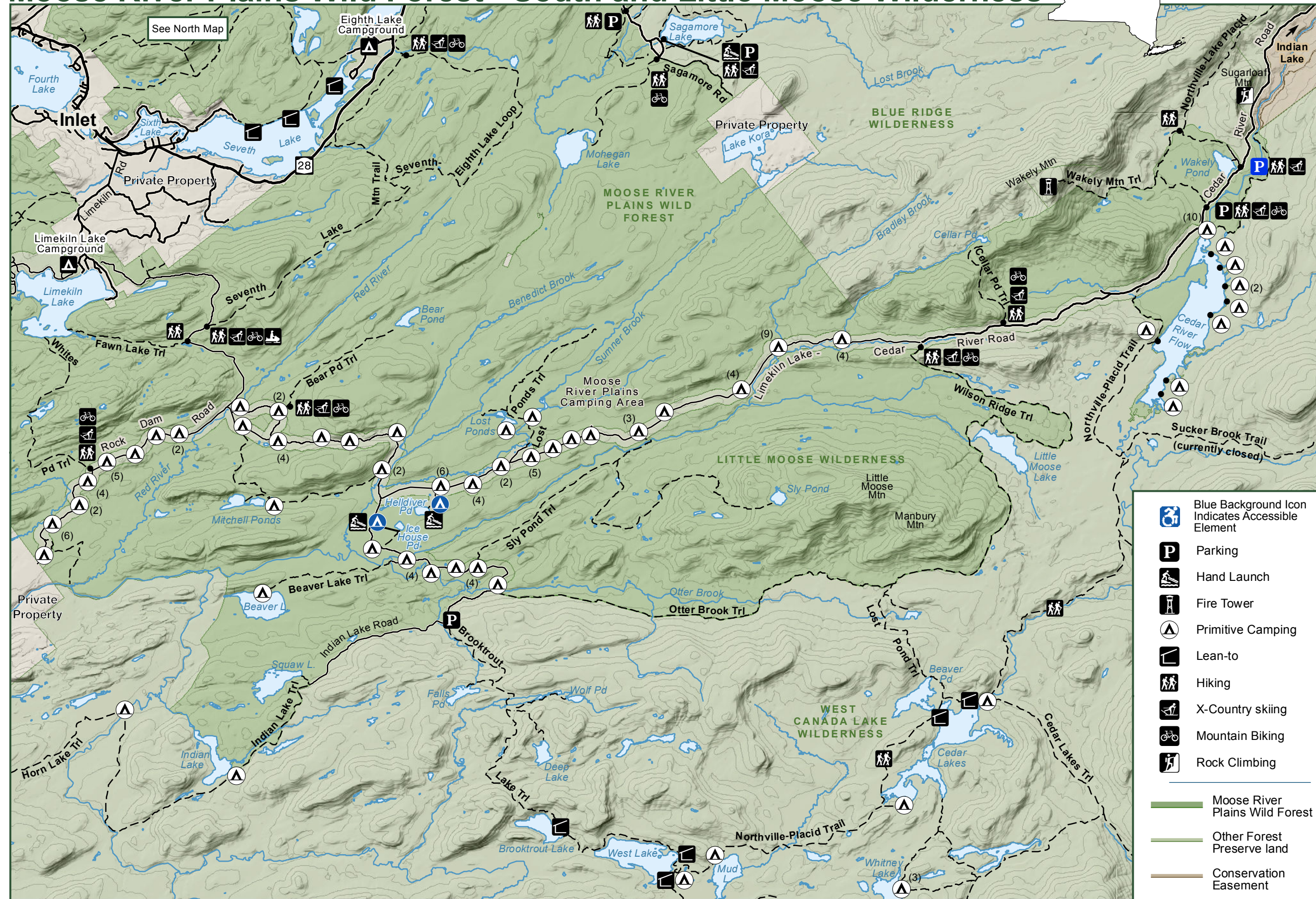
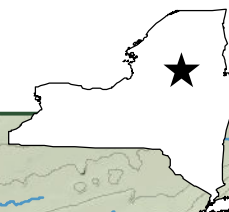


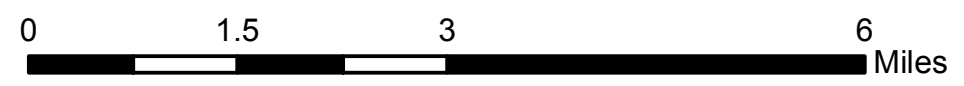
Moose River Plains Wild Forest - South and Little Moose Wilderness



	Blue Background Icon Indicates Accessible Element
	Parking
	Hand Launch
	Fire Tower
	Primitive Camping
	Lean-to
	Hiking
	X-Country skiing
	Mountain Biking
	Rock Climbing
	Moose River Plains Wild Forest
	Other Forest Preserve land
	Conservation Easement

- Protect Yourself**
- Hiking trails can be rough and rugged - they are not maintained as park walkways - wear boots or shoes designed for hiking.
 - Know the weather forecast; plan and prepare based on current and forecasted conditions.
 - Pack a day pack with items like water, flashlight, extra clothing, etc.
 - Sign in and out of all trail registers that you encounter.
- Respect Others**
- Be courteous of all other users regardless of their sport, speed or skill level.
 - Stay to the right and pass on the left when safe and appropriate.
 - Hikers going downhill should yield to hikers going uphill.
 - Keep pets under control.
 - Park in designated parking areas - do not block gates, entrances, exits or other vehicles.
- Protect the Land & Waters**
- Don't litter - Carry out what you carry in.
 - Do not remove or damage trail markers.
 - Stay on trails - don't trample vegetation, especially sensitive high elevation plants.
 - Walk through, not around, mud and puddles on trails to avoid further eroding and widening trails.
 - Stay off steep, high elevation trails during the spring mud season.

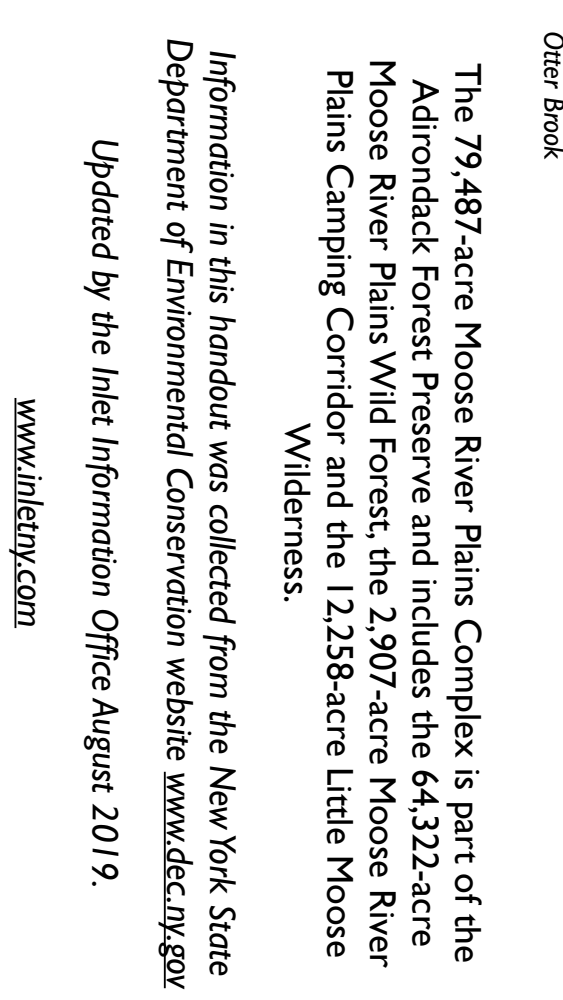
Trail to Helldiver Pond



Wildlife The Adirondacks contain large tracts of wildlife habitat with some boreal, bog, alpine and other unique habitats. Many species of birds and mammals are unique to the Adirondacks or are mainly found here. More than 50 species of mammals and hundreds of species of birds inhabit or pass through the Adirondacks at one time of the year or another so it is not unlikely to catch site of wildlife during your trip.

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Otter Brook

The 79,487-acre Moose River Plains Complex is part of the Adirondack Forest Preserve and includes the 64,322-acre Moose River Plains Wild Forest, the 2,907-acre Moose River Plains Camping Corridor and the 12,258-acre Little Moose Wilderness.

Information in this handout was collected from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation website www.dec.ny.gov

Updated by the Inlet Information Office August 2019.

www.inletny.com



Moose River Plains Wild Forest

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The **Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road** (a.k.a. the Moose River Plains Road) is a seasonal access road which extends 23 miles through the Moose River Plains from the Limekiln Gate in the west (near the community of Inlet) to the Wakely Dam Gate at the end of the Cedar River Road in the east (near the community of Indian Lake). The road serves as the main access to the lands and waters of this Complex and the intensive use Camping Corridor. The road is a primary snowmobile route in winter.

The area contains low-lying river valleys, hills and low mountains and a couple of 3,500-foot high mountain summits - Little Moose Mountain and Manbury Mountain in the Little Moose Wilderness. The lands are a transitional zone between the high mountain country to the east and north and the foothills to the west and south.

More than 65 ponds and lakes border or are located within the unit, totaling approximately 3,500 acres. About 100 miles of brooks, streams and rivers drain into three major watersheds - the Raquette River, the Hudson River and the South Branch Moose River. Sections of the South Branch Moose River, Otter Brook, Red River and Cedar River are designated scenic rivers.

The area features more than 100 primitive roadside campsites, miles of marked trails and numerous lakes and ponds. The Moose River Plains are an ideal destination for visitors with varied interests and abilities.

Moose River Plains Wild Forest

The bulk of this land classification lies south of NYS Route 28 and north of the West Canada Lakes Wilderness. The majority of foot trails leads to a pond or lake and begins at the end of short spur roads. Facilities include:

Sly Pond Trail (yellow) extends 8.1 miles into the Little Moose Mountain Wilderness from a trailhead on Otter Brook Road to Sly Pond, climbing 590 feet in the last mile before dropping to the western shore of the pond.

Lost Ponds Trail (yellow) extends 1.2 miles from the end of a short access road off the Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road to the western shore of Lost Ponds. A designated tent site is located on the shore and two other tent sites are located along the trail.

Helldiver Pond Trail (yellow) extends 0.2 mile from the trailhead at the end of Helldiver Pond Road to an accessible hand launch on the shore of the pond. An accessible campsite is located near the trailhead.

Mitchell Ponds Trail (yellow) extends 3.8 miles from Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road and bows back to Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road. At the halfway point, there is a spur trail that extends 0.8 mile to the west side of Mitchell Pond.

Rock Dam Road (From the Red River Bridge intersection to the barrier at the end of the Rock Dam Road. - 4.3 miles). This road may be temporarily closed early in the season.

Whites Pond Trail (yellow) extends 3.2 miles from Rock Dam Road to the southeastern shore of Limekiln Lake. At mile 1.7, the trail passes White Pond.

Rock Dam Trail (yellow) extends 1.4 miles from the end of Rock Dam Road to the confluence of the South Branch of the Moose River and the Red River.

Otter Brook Road (From main T-road intersection to Otter Brook barrier - 3.3 miles)

Icehouse Pond Trail (yellow) is an accessible trail that extends 0.4 mile from Otter Brook Road to the southeastern shore of Icehouse Pond where an accessible campsite and accessible hand launch are located.

Hiking There are approximately 130 miles of marked, maintained trails within the Moose River Complex. This map includes trails in the Moose River Plains Wild Forest - South and Little Moose section of the Moose River Complex.

Camping All designated primitive tents sites, campsites and lean-tos are available on a first come - first served basis and cannot be reserved. Designated campsites are marked with a yellow "Camp Here" disc. Designated tent sites are for tents only. Tents or small campers can use designated campsites. There are no hook-ups for water or electricity at campsites.

There are 116 primitive roadside campsites located along the Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road, Otter Brook Road, Rock Dam Road and short spur roads off of them. Roadside campsites are numbered and most have a picnic table, fireplace and privy.

Eight of the roadside campsites are accessible with accessible designed picnic tables, fireplaces and privies. Campers without disabilities are encouraged to use other campsites to ensure the accessible campsites are available to people who require them.

Numerous designated interior primitive tent sites are located in the Moose River Plains, most of them on the shores of various water bodies. The location of these campsites can be identified by the presence of a yellow "Camp Here" disc. Most these campsites are accessed via hiking trails and have only a fire ring and a pit privy.

Padding Padding is allowed on all the waters in the area, however some are more easily accessed than others.

Biking Biking is allowed on all roads and trails except for those in the Little Moose Mountain Wilderness where biking is prohibited. The extensive network of seasonal access roads and snowmobile trails coupled with the lack of steep terrain makes this a popular location for biking.

Electric bicycles (E-bikes) of any class are not allowed on trails and roadways where public motorized access is prohibited.

The annual Black Fly Challenge bike race between the communities of Inlet and Indian Lake is held the second Saturday in June. More than half of the 40-mile course is on roads in the Moose River Plains Complex.

Horseback Riding The Moose River Plains Complex features six designated horse trails totaling nearly 35 miles: Seventh Lake Mountain Trail - 13.1 miles, Lost Ponds Trail - 2.0 miles, Mitchell Ponds Trail - 1.8 miles, Beaver Lake Trail - 2.3 miles, Sly Pond Loop Trail - 5.4 miles, Otter Brook Trail - 10.1 miles between Otter Brook Road and Wakely Dam.

All motor vehicle roads and snowmobile trails, when not covered with ice or snow, are also open for public equestrian use. Proof of current negative Coggins certificate is required for all horses and out-of-state horse owners are required to produce a 30-day health certificate.

Riding is prohibited in the Limekiln Lake Campground and other trails specifically marked as foot travel only.

There are no parking areas designated for parking horse trailers, however many parking areas can accommodate such use.

Fishing All waters within the Moose River Plains Complex are open to fishing. Anglers may use the same trailheads and trails as hikers, the same hand launches as paddlers, the same boat launches as boaters and the same camp sites as campers to access and fish these waters.

Hunting & Trapping Hunters and trappers may use the parking areas, roads, seasonal access roads, trailheads, and trails used by hikers, and the boat launches and hand launches used by boaters and paddlers to access the lands and waters in this area. Hunters can park on the shoulders of seasonal access roads provided vehicles are out of the travel lane.

The area is popular with big game hunters who can camp in roadside campsites while pursuing white-tailed deer and black bear.

Furbearers found on the property include beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, otter.

Snowmobiling The Moose River Plains Complex features a nearly 73-mile network of snowmobile routes divided almost equally between seasonal access roads and trails. The network connects to snowmobile trails outside the complex linking the communities of Indian Lake, Inlet and Raquette Lake.

Cross-country skiers and snowhoors may also use snowmobile trails. Snowmobilers should slow down when approaching and passing skiers or snowshoers.

The 22-mile Limekiln Lake-Cedar River Road is open to snowmobiles once enough snow has fallen. It is the main route between Inlet and Indian Lake.

Cross-country Skiing & Snowshoeing Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are permitted on all hiking trails, and nearly 16 miles of trails within the Moose River Plains Complex have been designated for skiing only.

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Beaver Lake Trail (yellow) extends 2.1 miles from Otter Brook Road to the northern shore of the northern shore of Beaver Lake. The trail follows an old road to the northern shore of the lake.

Otter Brook Pond Trail (orange) extends 10 miles, following the boundary between the Little Moose Mountain Wilderness and the West Canada Lake Wilderness, from Otter Brook Road to Little Moose Lake. At mile 6.3 the trail connects to the Lost Pond Trail, which leads to the West Canada Lake Wilderness. At Little Moose Lake the end of the Otter Brook Trail connects to the Wilson Ridge Trail.

Indian Lake Road (From the Otter Brook Road intersection to barrier near Squaw Lake) - 3.1 miles. This road may be temporarily closed early in the season at the Otter Brook Barrier. These short trails provide easy access to each respective body of water.

Squaw Lake Trail (yellow) extends 0.4 mile from Indian Lake Road to the eastern shore of Squaw Lake.

Indian Lake Trail (yellow) extends 2.4 miles from the end of Indian Lake Road to Indian Lake. The trail follows the section of former Indian Lake Road that is now closed to motor vehicles. A short spur trail, leading to the shore of Indian Lake and a campsite, leaves the trail just before it becomes the Indian River Trail.

Wakely Mountain Trail (3,744 feet) ascends 1,600 feet and 3.0 miles from the trailhead to the summit. The trailhead is located in the Moose River Plains but most of the trail and the summit of the mountain are located in the Blue Ridge Wilderness. The beginning portion of this trail follows an old road northwesterly for approximately 1.0 mile passing by the site of an old camp. This part of the foot trail to Wakely Mountain is in very poor condition. The last 0.5-mile section to the summit is steep. At the summit is the Wakely Mountain Fire Tower.

West Canada Wilderness

The remote area is noted for its numerous lakes, ponds and streams. The terrain varies from swamp flats to mountains. Facilities include:

Northville-Placid Trail More than 23 miles of the famed 135-mile Northville-Placid Trail passes along and through the wilderness in a north-south direction. This section of the long trail may most easily be accessed from three trailheads: the Northville-Placid Haskell Road Trailhead at the southern end of the wilderness, the Spruce Lake Trailhead in the Perkins Clearing Easement Tract, and the Northville-Placid Wakely Dam Trailhead in the Moose River Plains Wild Forest at the northern end.

Spruce Lake Trail climbs 190 feet and 0.7 mile from the trailhead to the intersection with the Northville-Placid Trail. The trail climbs another 450 feet in 1.3 miles before dropping 160 feet in 0.7 mile to the southeast shore of Spruce Lake for a total distance of 2.7 miles.

Brooktrout Lake Trail extends nearly 8.0 miles between the Northville-Placid Trail at the eastern end and the Indian Lake Road in the Moose River Plains Wild Forest. Most of the trail gently rises and falls with two moderate changes in elevation between 100 feet and 200 feet in 0.25-0.5 mile. However there is a 490-foot change in elevation in the 1.5-mile section between Falls Pond and Indian Lake Road.e.

Indian River Trail extends 7.7 miles from the trailhead at the end of Indian Lake Road. The first 2.0 miles of the trail is actually the old Indian Lake Road which climbs 160 feet in the first 0.6 mile and drops 70 feet in the last 0.25 mile to the start of the old trail - in between are gentle rises and descents. The trail drops 350 feet from the pass on the shoulder of Indian Lake Mountain to Indian River and then climbs 100 feet in 0.75 mile before leveling and continuing another 0.9 mile. The trail provides access to Horn Lake, Balsam Lake and Strink Lake.