

Seeley Lake Historical Museum and Visitor Center

Recreation Opportunity Guide

Harper-Elbow Lake Trail

Trail Beginning: 3845 ft. elevation. Waypoint 47.0221N 113.3902W

Trail Ending: 3850 ft. elevation. Waypoint 47.0349N 113.3907W

Trail Length: Approximately 1.25 miles (One Way)

Season of Use: Yearlong

Usage Rate: Low

Difficulty: Easy

Reference Maps: Lolo National Forest Visitor Map – Seeley Lake Ranger District
U.S.G.S. topographic quadrangle. -- Salmon Lake

Map Location: Section 25, T.15N., R.14W.

Directions: Access from State Highway 83 at milepost 1.4 north of Clearwater Junction.

NARRATIVE

This is an unmarked, unmaintained trail along the Clearwater River between Harpers Lake and Elbow Lake on State lands. Access is from the north end of the campground.

Most of the trail is through meadowland along the river. The northern segment traverses through trees.

A long ago abandoned irrigation is crossed. Large trees now grow in the ditch.

Except for a couple short, steep pitches climbing the flood plain, the trail is practically level.

Attractions: The open grassland adds nice variety to the wooded, mountainous terrain common farther north. The river and Blanchard Lake is suitable for canoeing. The flat gradient makes upstream paddling possible. This could be a take out point for floaters from Salmon Lake.

A Geocache is located along the trail.

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