

# LAKE ACCESS

## Bigfork Fishing Access (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** dock and concrete boat ramp  
**Notes:** Seasonal closures during winter. No boat launch when lake elevation drops below 2890 feet. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Big Arm State Park (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, camping (available from 5/1 to 9/30), picnicking, bicycling, group use, hiking (2.5 mile hiking trail), wildlife viewing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, camp host, campground, group site, tent site, RV site, yurt rentals, boat trailer parking, extra vehicle parking, firewood, ice, drinking water, garbage bins, showers, toilets  
**Notes:** Floating docks may be pulled from the water from mid-Dec. through Jan. Check Regional MFWP Office for status (call: 406-752-5501).

## Blue Bay Campground (CSKT)

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, bicycling, group use  
**Facilities:** boat ramp, dock, camp host, campground, RV/trailer site, tent site, toilet, drinking water, showers  
**Notes:** For information on fees and seasons, contact the Tribes (call: 406-253-3813 or 406-883-2888)

## Ducharme Fishing Access (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** Undeveloped site with no restroom. This site can be used for launching smaller boats at high water.  
**Notes:** Seasonal site. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Elmo Fishing Access Site (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp  
**Notes:** Seasonal site with winter closures. No boat launch when the lake elevation drops below 2890 feet. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Finley Point State Park (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, bicycling  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, hookup, marina, pumpout, picnic site, camp host, campground, RV/trailer site, tent site, drinking water, toilets, disabled accessible  
**Notes:** Seasonal. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Salish Point (CSKT) and Riverside Public Parks

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming  
**Facilities:** public parks with dock, boat ramp, restrooms, and park/picnic areas.

## Somers Fishing Access (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, toilet, drinking water  
**Notes:** Seasonal site with closures during winter. No boat launch when lake elevation below 2890 feet. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Walstad Fishing Access (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, toilet  
**Notes:** Seasonal site with closures during winter. No boat launch when lake elevation below 2890 feet. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Wayfarers State Park (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, bicycling, group use, wildlife viewing, hiking  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, pumpout, dump station, toilet, camp host, campground, RV/trailer site, tent site, drinking water, showers, hiking trail  
**Notes:** Camping from 5/1 to 9/30. Contact the regional MFWP office for further information (call: 406-752-5501).

## West Shore State Park (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, bicycling, hiking  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, pumpout, dump station, toilet, camp host, campground, tent/RV site, drinking water, showers, hiking trail  
**Notes:** Camping from 5/1 to 9/30. Contact the regional MFWP office for further information (call: 406-752-5501).

## Wild Horse Island State Park

**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, hiking, wildlife viewing, photography  
**Facilities:** six public boat landing sites (no public docks), hiking trails, toilet  
**Notes:** Access to the island is via boat only. Camping not allowed on the island. Fires and barbeques prohibited. Contact the regional MFWP office for further information (call: 406-752-5501).

## Woods Bay Fishing Access (MFWP)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, toilet  
**Notes:** This is a seasonal site with closures during winter. No boat launch when the lake elevation drops below 2890 feet. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## Yellow Bay State Park

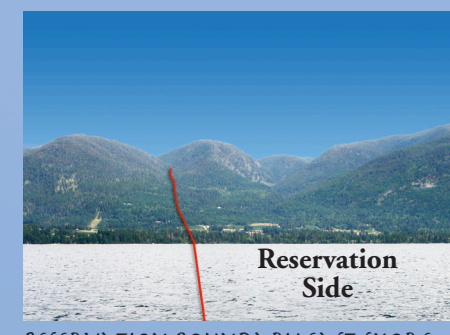
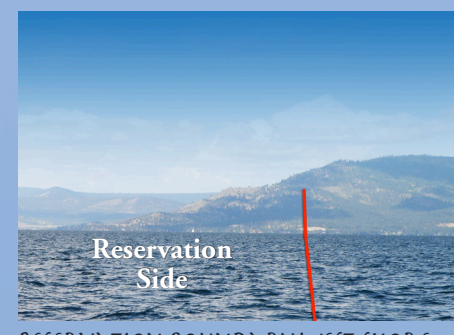
**Activities:** boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, bicycling, wildlife viewing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, camp host, tent site, toilet, drinking water, sheltered picnic table  
**Notes:** Floating docks may be pulled from the water from mid-December through January to prevent damage from ice. Contact the regional MFWP office for status (call: 406-752-5501).

## Tribal Parks (CSKT)

**Activities:** boating and fishing  
**Facilities:** dock, concrete boat ramp, toilet  
**Notes:** This is a seasonal site with closures during winter. No boat launch when the lake elevation drops below 2890 feet. Contact the regional MFWP office for open and closure dates (call: 406-752-5501).

## FLATHEAD RESERVATION BOUNDARY

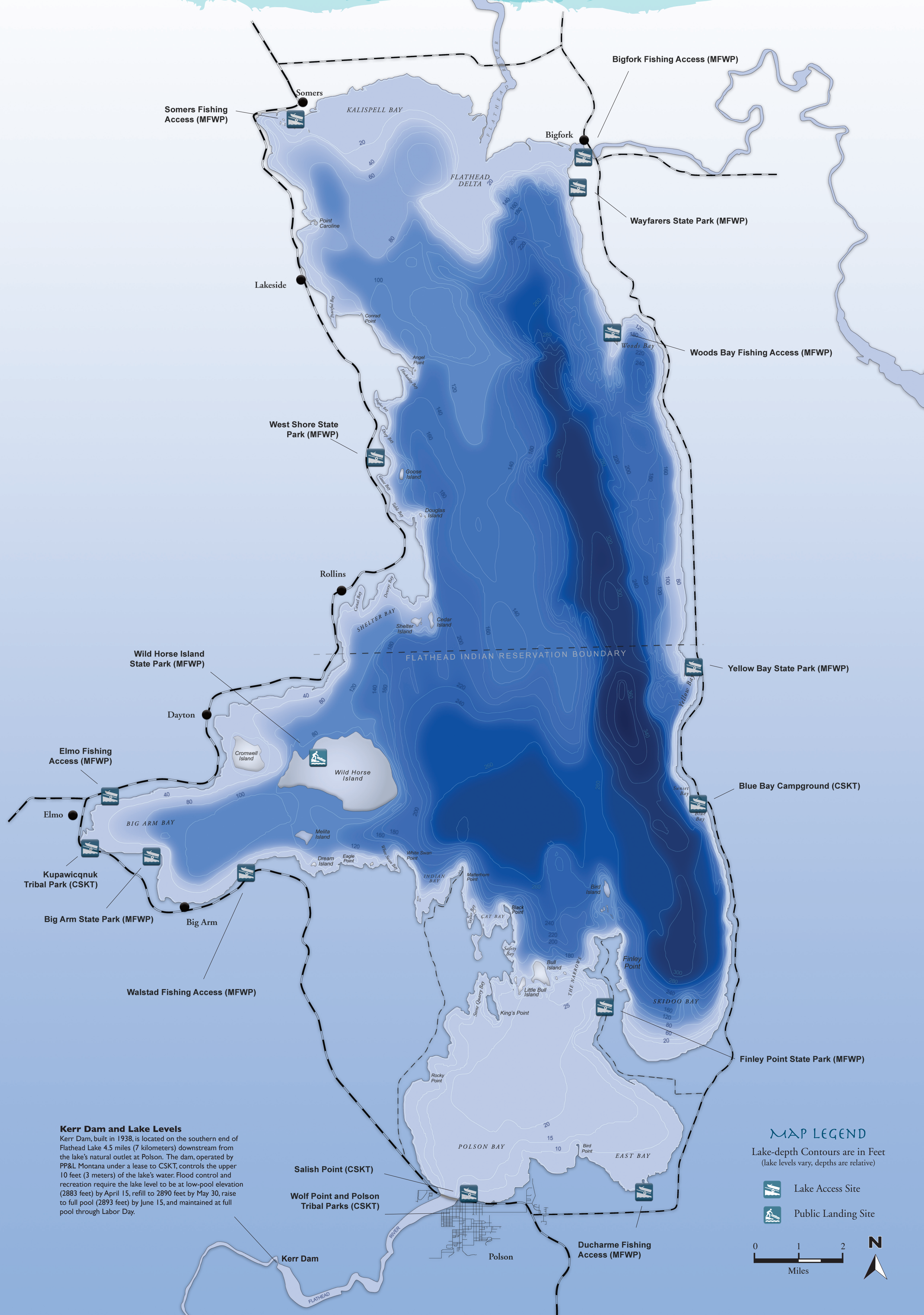
The south half of Flathead Lake is within the Flathead Indian Reservation, and Flathead Reservation Use Permits are required. The photos below show how the Reservation boundary lines up with the horizon on the west and east shores.



## Kerr Dam and Lake Levels

Kerr Dam, built in 1938, is located on the southern end of Flathead Lake 4.5 miles (7 kilometers) downstream from the lake's natural outlet at Polson. The dam, operated by PP&L Montana under a lease to CSKT, controls the upper 10 feet (3 meters) of the lake's water. Flood control and recreation require the lake level to be at low-pool elevation (2883 feet) by April 15, refill to 2890 feet by May 30, raise to full pool (2893 feet) by June 15, and maintained at full pool through Labor Day.

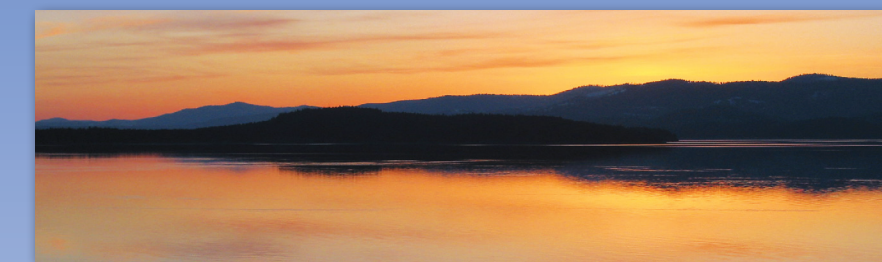
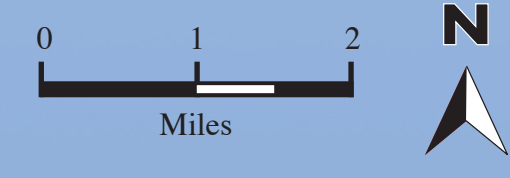
# FLATHEAD LAKE



## MAP LEGEND

Lake-depth Contours are in Feet (lake levels vary, depths are relative)

- Lake Access Site
- Public Landing Site



## FLATHEAD RESERVATION

# FLATHEAD LAKE MAP & USE REGULATIONS



## VISITING FLATHEAD LAKE

The south half of Flathead Lake is within the Flathead Indian Reservation, and Flathead Reservation Use Permits are required. An overview of Tribal regulations governing recreational use follows. For more complete information, please consult the Tribal fishing, hunting, and recreation regulations, available from the Tribes and vendors selling Tribal permits.

The Flathead Lake and River System is uniquely important to people of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. As you visit the lake, please keep in mind that the land and water and the native fish and wildlife they support are vital to the survival of the Salish, Pend O'rieille, Kalispell, and Kootenai people and are an integral part of our cultures and spiritualities. We ask that you treat the lake and its community of life with respect.

## Recreation License

All non-members 12 years and older fishing on the south half of Flathead Lake must have a valid Flathead Reservation Combined Use/Fishing Permit (valid only for individuals engaged in fishing on the south half of the lake). Non-members engaged in bird hunting are required to have a valid Reservation Use Permit and the appropriate activity stamp.

## Fishing

Refer to the annual fishing regulations before fishing.

## Camping

Camping is allowed in established campgrounds or semi-developed use sites as evidenced by tables, toilets, fire rings, hitch racks, or other improvements associated with camper/recreation use. Camping is allowed more than 100 feet of a lakeshore or stream bank. Certain Tribal campgrounds may charge a separate fee without the requirements to possess a valid Permit and/or Flathead Reservation camping stamp (notices posted on site).

## Restricted Areas

Access and use of the Flathead River and shoreline within 560 feet upriver from Kerr Dam and within 250 feet downstream from Kerr Dam powerhouse is prohibited. In addition, the following areas are closed to entry to non-members of the Tribes, except that a non-member spouse and non-member children of a member of the Tribes may accompany that member for purposes other than hunting and fishing if they possess a valid recreation permit:

- ☞ The Wolf Point Tribal Park near Polson, Montana
- ☞ Kupawicquuk Tribal Park near Elmo, Montana
- ☞ Polson Tribal Park in Polson, Montana

## Prohibited Activities

- ☞ It is prohibited to boat on Flathead Lake without Coast Guard approved life jackets.
- ☞ Discharging any firearm in a negligent manner or in any campground area is prohibited.
- ☞ Guiding, outfitting, or any form of commercial activity not permitted by the Tribes is prohibited.
- ☞ Leaving campfires unattended is prohibited.
- ☞ Using or cutting live vegetation (including trees) for campfires is prohibited.
- ☞ Leaving a camp unattended for twenty-four hours or longer is prohibited.
- ☞ Allowing pets or livestock to run unattended is prohibited.
- ☞ Destroying, defacing, injuring, removing, or otherwise damaging any natural or improved property is prohibited.
- ☞ Leaving refuse, litter, or waste materials or disposing of any refuse (other than human waste) in sanitation units is prohibited.

## Flathead Lake Marine Milage Chart (Distances Rounded to the Nearest Mile)

	Angel Point	Big Arm	Bigfork	Bird Island	Cedar Island	Finley Point State Park	Lakeside	Polson	Somers	Wayfarers	West Shore	Wildhorse Island	Woods Bay	Yellow Bay
Angel Point	0	17	7	13	6	16	4	21	7	6	3	10	5	10
Big Arm	17	0	22	11	9	13	20	18	24	20	13	3	16	14
Bigfork	7	22	0	18	13	21	7	26	8	1	9	16	8	15
Bird Island	13	11	18	0	8	3	17	8	21	17	12	6	14	6
Cedar Island	6	9	13	8	0	10	11	14	14	12	4	3	9	7
Finley Point	16	13	21	3	10	0	20	6	23	20	14	7	17	9
Lakeside	4	20	7	17	11	20	0	25	4	7	6	14	9	14
Polson	21	18	26	8	14	6	25	0	28	25	18	11	22	14
Somers	7	24	8	21	14	23	4	28	0	8	10	17	12	18
Wayfarers	6	20	1	17	12	20	7	25	8	0	8	15	6	13
West Shore	3	13	9	12	4	14	6	18	10	8	0	8	7	9
Wildhorse Island	10	3	16	6	3	7	14	11	17	15	8	0	12	8
Woods Bay	5	18	8	14	9	17	9	22	12	6	7	12	0	10
Yellow Bay	10	14	15	6	7	9	14	14	18	13	9	8	10	0