



Fish Species
Brown Trout; Rainbow Trout

Species Description

Bear Lake is annually stocked with approximately 16,000 brown trout and 5,000 rainbow trout. The stocked trout are 5-7 inches in length when stocked in the spring, but they grow rapidly. Many reach 10 inches by mid-summer. Trout of both species in the upper teens and even more than 20 inches are commonly caught from this lake.

Geographic Coordinates

Lat:44.724265 / Long:-84.936639

Noteworthy

Most anglers fishing this 316 acre lake do so by trolling. The lake stratifies, so in the summer anglers need to fish in and below the thermocline. Anglers typically troll with body baits, spoons, cowbells, and sewn minnows. Some anglers use leadcore line or three-way sinker rigs to get lures deep enough. Some anglers fish with lanterns and bait at night and are also successful. Ice fishing for the stocked trout is also very popular on this lake. Minnows and small jigging spoons are the preferred ice fishing baits. The Bear Lake public access site is administered by the Department of Natural Resources. The site has a paved boat launch with parking for seventeen vehicles. It also offers pit toilets.

Fishing Regulations

Bear Lake is designated a Type B trout lake. Please refer to the Inland Trout and Salmon Lake Regulations in the current Michigan Fishing Guide.

Directions to Site

Between Kalkaska and Grayling, from M-72 turn north on to East Bear Lake Road and proceed one mile to the access site.

Regional Visitor Information (URL)

grayling-mi.com