



Date	October 15, 2005	Time	Late afternoon
Location	Hidden & Lost Lakes	Weather	Calm, sunny
Fish Species	Cutthroat	Size Range	10"-15"
Fish Caught	A half dozen Cutthroat		
Flies Used	Royal Wulff		
Techniques	Float Dry Flies		
Comments	Hidden Lake is a well kept secret!		

Hidden and Lost Lakes are located on West Mountain southwest of Cascade Lake. They are accessed from a good forest road (#446) that leaves Cabarton Road. It leads to Snow Bank Mountain where the road ends at a radar station. You can also access **Blue Lake**, which is heavily fished due to its short, easy trail. You can see it from the road as you reach the top of the mountain. I fished this lake last fall and caught small Rainbows and wasn't that impressed due its heavy use but it is beautiful. **Shirts Lake** is another lake on the ridge that you can access from the end of the road. Walk north along the ridge less than a mile and it will be down the east side. It contains Brook Trout.



A view of Blue Lake from a turnout on the road

Hidden Lake is well named because it's just down the hill from the radar station but you can't see it because of a knoll. Lost Lake, on the other hand, can be spotted from the radar station and I can guarantee you won't get lost because you can see the radar station from the lake. Its name doesn't make much sense.



A view of Lost Lake from the radar station

Lost Lake is a steep 1000' drop from the radar station. I would advise parking on the side of the road in the little valley half-way between the two radar stations on top. Walk north down the valley until you come to the lower ridge and then walk down to Lost Lake. I wouldn't walk straight down from the radar station like I did because you can get yourself into trouble, especially with slippery snow on the ground. It will take a half hour to walk down but plan on a longer walk on the way back out. Lost Lake is plumb full of small Cutthroat but you can't fish the lake without a float tube. It is surrounded by water plants. I caught a few in one little area and they are easy pickings.

You can access **Hidden Lake** by walking to Lost Lake and walking a short distance down the canyon on a trail on the southwest side of Lost Lake. There are some good camping spots on the north end of Hidden Lake. I caught a couple of 15" Cutthroat as well as a few smaller Cutthroat in the hour I fished the lake. I fished off the logs at the outlet. There are only a few areas to fish off the bank where the fishing is good. I won't go back to this lake without a float tube. I saw larger fish jumping just out of reach. The fish weren't as numerous as in Lost Lake but there were plenty of larger fish. A Cutthroat

larger than 20” was caught last fall and he’s still in there! From my experience, a 20” Cutthroat is rare. I’ll definitely make a trip back to this lake in a float tube.



One of the 15” Cutthroat from Hidden Lake

Hidden Lake





Lost Lake



Another 15" Cutthroat from Hidden Lake