

Knapp Lakes

Stanley, ID - July 2010

A few leaders and I took the 14-18 year old young men from our church to Knapp Lakes for a 3-day high adventure. There were 14 of us all together. We backpacked 8 miles (1200' gain) to the first and largest of the Knapp Lakes, the last mile following a faint trail. There are fish in only a couple lakes in the basin. The largest lake where we camped contained lots of small Rainbow. We all caught fish and ate very well. There was another lake with Cutthroat and a third lake that reportedly had Grayling which we did not hike too.

Some of us also hiked over a 600' steep ridge above the highest Knapp Lake into Crimson Lake for reportedly large Cutthroat. We didn't have any luck fishing in the middle of the day but the scenery was spectacular and well worth the 10 mile roundtrip hike.

We had some good laughs. One young man packed in a queen sized air mattress after missing our pack check. His buddy brought the larger tent for it to fit in. There was also a shoe with a hole burnt in it after trying to dry it in the fire. We survived but we have our work cut out for us to get them ready for a week long 40 miler next year! Everyone had a great time in this seldom visited area of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness.





The view of the peaks from the cutoff trail

Fishing near our campsite





The view from camp at sunrise

The leaders

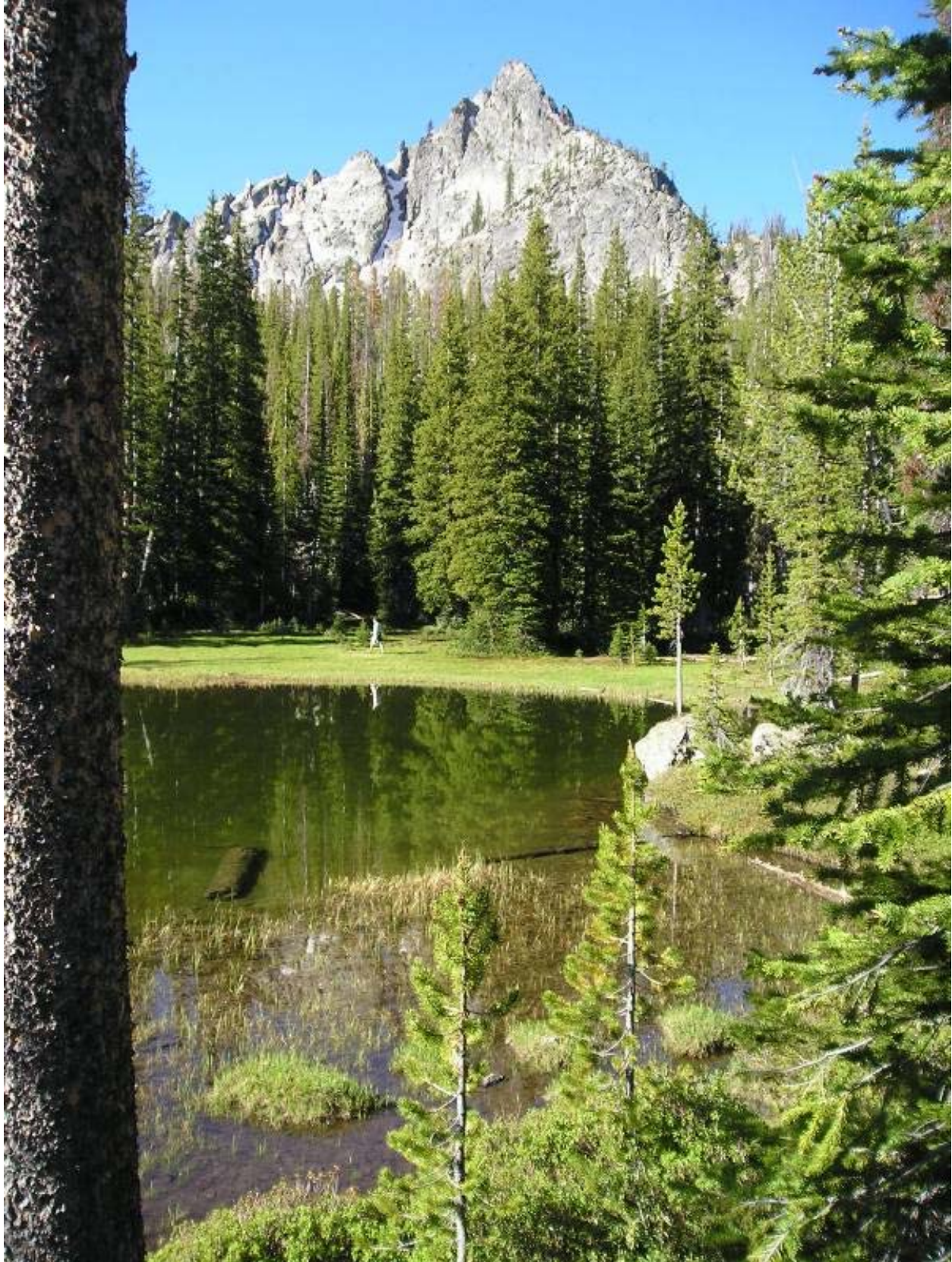




The view from the ridge looking down at Crimson Lake

Beautiful Crimson Lake





One of the Knapp Lakes we passed on the way to Crimson Lake