



## McPhee Recreation Area



---

**McPhee Reservoir** offers a wide variety of experiences, from shoreline fishing to water skiing to flat-water canoeing. And speaking of fishing, bring your boat, because there is 50 miles of shoreline and the lake is stocked with both warm and cold water species, including trout, bass, crappie, bluegill, and catfish.

**McPhee Recreation Site**—The McPhee Campground is located on the south shore and overlooks McPhee Reservoir. This is reached off Highway 184 about eight miles west of Dolores. Elevation is 7,400 ft.

There are 76 sites on two loops that have paved access and parking, picnic sites, barrier-free flush toilets, and sanitary dumping, and 16 sites with electric hook ups. Maximum RV length is 50 feet. Each site is \$12 per night with an additional charge of \$3 per day for electricity. Camping fees may vary during off-season months.

Two sites have tables and toilets to accommodate wheelchairs. In addition, there are 12 walk-in sites with tent pads near scenic overlooks. Only the Piñon Loop sites may be reserved through the National Recreation Reservation System. Piñon and juniper trees offer some shade, but the area gets very warm in summer.

There are two group camping sites that will accommodate 30 people each in the adjacent McPhee Group area. These sites are available through the National Reservation Service. There are tables, grills, water, toilets, play areas, horseshoe pits, volleyball stands, and softball areas available. Bring your own equipment. Other services available at McPhee Campground area include a laundry, showers, and a dump station.

**McPhee Boat Ramp** is a six-lane concrete structure with parking that can accommodate 150 cars and boat trailers. There is no marina at this time.

**Ridge Picnic Area** is north of the campground.

It has 13 day-use sites with views of McPhee Reservoir. **The Ridge Point Overlook** offers a panoramic view with signs identifying prominent landmarks. The short Ridge Point Trail connects the overlook and picnic area to McPhee Campground (1/2 mile north).

**House Creek Recreation Site**– This site allows direct access to the shoreline of McPhee Reservoir. It is reached by turning off Highway 145 on 11th Street in Dolores, then traveling six miles north to House Creek Road. The access road into and throughout the House Creek Recreation site is paved. Elevation is 7,000 feet. There are an open play area, sanitary dumping station, group picnic area, and four-lane boat ramp. Adjacent to this is parking for 86 vehicles with or without boat trailers. The family campground has 60 units in three loops: two are designed for wheelchairs. There are 17 sites with electrical hookups. Maximum RV length is 50 feet.

Loop B campsites can be reserved through the Reservation Center. There is a dump station and pressurized water. The camping fee is \$12 per night and some sites with electricity are available for an extra \$3 per night fee.

**National Recreation Reservation Service** toll free: (877) 444-6777 or [www.ReserveUSA.com](http://www.ReserveUSA.com).

*Don't attract unwanted visitors to your campsite. Skunks, marmots, porcupines, raccoons, squirrels, and chipmunks all have an acute sense of smell. If lured into your campsite by the aroma of goodies or trash, they can cause a lot of damage. (Some rodents have a taste for leather and anything sweaty or salty. Store these items carefully.) Never feed wild animals or encourage them to become unafraid of humans. This behavior is as dangerous to them as it is to you.*

*Rattlesnakes are seldom seen at high elevations but may be found in some lower areas. Their bites are serious, but less than 2% are fatal. Don't put your hands and feet in places without looking first. Snakes fill an important niche in the animal community, including eating rodents. If you see a snake, please treat it like any other forest animal- as a subject to observe, but not to disturb or injure.*