

2 Lake Butte

■ 2-4 hours ■ 7.5 mile round trip ■ More Difficult

■ **Access to trailhead:** From 3 miles west of Prairie City, go north on County Road 18 to the junction of FR 3620. Follow this road to its junction with FR 3618. Go right on FR 3618, to its junction with FR 243.

■ **Nearest Food/Water Source:** Prairie City (food), Magone CG (water).

■ **Surfaces Encountered:** Dirt and gravel.

■ **Comments:** This trail follows a gentle grade along a closed road for the first 1.8 miles, then climbs along open forest roads to an abandoned lookout site. Lake Butte offers spectacular views of the surrounding countryside. Return trip is an exciting descent.

■ **USGS Maps:** Susanville SW.

■ **USFS Maps:** Long Creek Fire/District.

Mileage Log:

0.0-Begin at road barricade on FR 243, following the closed two-track road to the northeast.

0.7-Stay left on FR 243 following the bike markers.

1.15-Road narrows to a single track for 100 feet, skirting across top of a small slump, then turns sharply to the right beyond the slump.

1.5-Tinker Creek crossing.

1.8-Turn left onto improved gravel road. Ascend for 1.1 miles up County Road 18 to the junction of FR 279.

2.9-Turn left onto FR 279. Trail climbs steadily up this open two-track dirt road through dense timber.

3.2-Trail swings south and continues to climb steeply.

3.6-Trail breaks onto saddle with nice views to south.

3.7-Road forks just beyond saddle. Follow left track (FR 296) up slope.

3.75-Lake Butte, elevation 6227'.

7.5-Return to beginning point.

Lake Butte

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