

# Iron Canyon Reservoir

Shasta Lake Unit • Shasta-Trinity National Forest



Iron Canyon Reservoir is a beautiful 500 acre lake located in a mountainous area of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest at an elevation of 2,665 feet. With 15 miles of forested shoreline and surrounding natural environment, the reservoir is a pleasant destination for anglers, campers, and hunters.

There are two developed campgrounds, many undeveloped camping spots, a boat ramp for small boats, and a network of primitive roads and trails surrounding the reservoir. Nearby is the Pacific Crest Trail and the Pit River Canyon. Solitude is not uncommon, despite the lake's popularity.

Groceries, bait, tackle and gasoline are available in Big Bend. The National Forest guard station, located on the north side of Big Bend, is not open on a regular schedule.

**Camping:** Camping is also permitted outside of developed campgrounds. A California campfire permit is required to build a campfire or use any open flame device (gas stove, barbecue, gas lantern). During fire restrictions, the shoreline of Iron Canyon is exempt from fire restrictions as long as the campfire is at least 50 feet from any vegetation and within 10 feet of the waters edge.

**Fishing:** There are some big trout in the lake, and fishing can be good. Almost all of the shoreline is easily accessible from the road that goes around the lake. The lake level varies greatly during the year depending on weather and the demands for electrical power at the PG&E power plant which the reservoir serves.

Trolling is also popular. Large boats with deep draft are not recommended due to shallow lake levels. Tree stumps, rocks and landforms may become

exposed or may lie just below the water surface when the lake level drops, but owners of smaller, low-speed boats find Iron Canyon ideal.

Powerboats, rowboats, canoes, sailboats and inflatable boats are allowed on the lake. A launch ramp is available near Hawkins Landing Campground (PG&E). ***It is a violation of state law to swim, fish, dive from or sunbathe on any courtesy dock or within 200 feet of a boat launching ramp. No vessels shall be operated within 200 feet of the intake portal.***

**Hiking:** Primitive, unimproved trails skirt the lake providing fishing and lake access. The Pacific Crest Trail follows the ridge which forms the north rim of the Iron Canyon Basin. It can be reached by following the road to McCloud (38N12). The trail crosses the road at Ash Creek, about six miles from Iron Canyon Reservoir.

**Backcountry driving:** Primitive roads and “jeep” trails radiate from Iron Canyon Reservoir. Many are suited only for high clearance and/or 4 wheel drive vehicles and offer numerous opportunities for challenging extended loop trips. Off road driving is permitted, however, please be alert for local closures and remember to respect the right of private property owners.

Site	Managed by	# Sites	Water	Toilets	Max Trailer size	Reservations available	Unit Fee	Seasons
Deadlun	Forest Service	25	No	Vault	24'	No	Free	Open all year
Hawkins Landing	PG&E	10	No	Vault	20'	No	Yes	Late-April to Mid-September



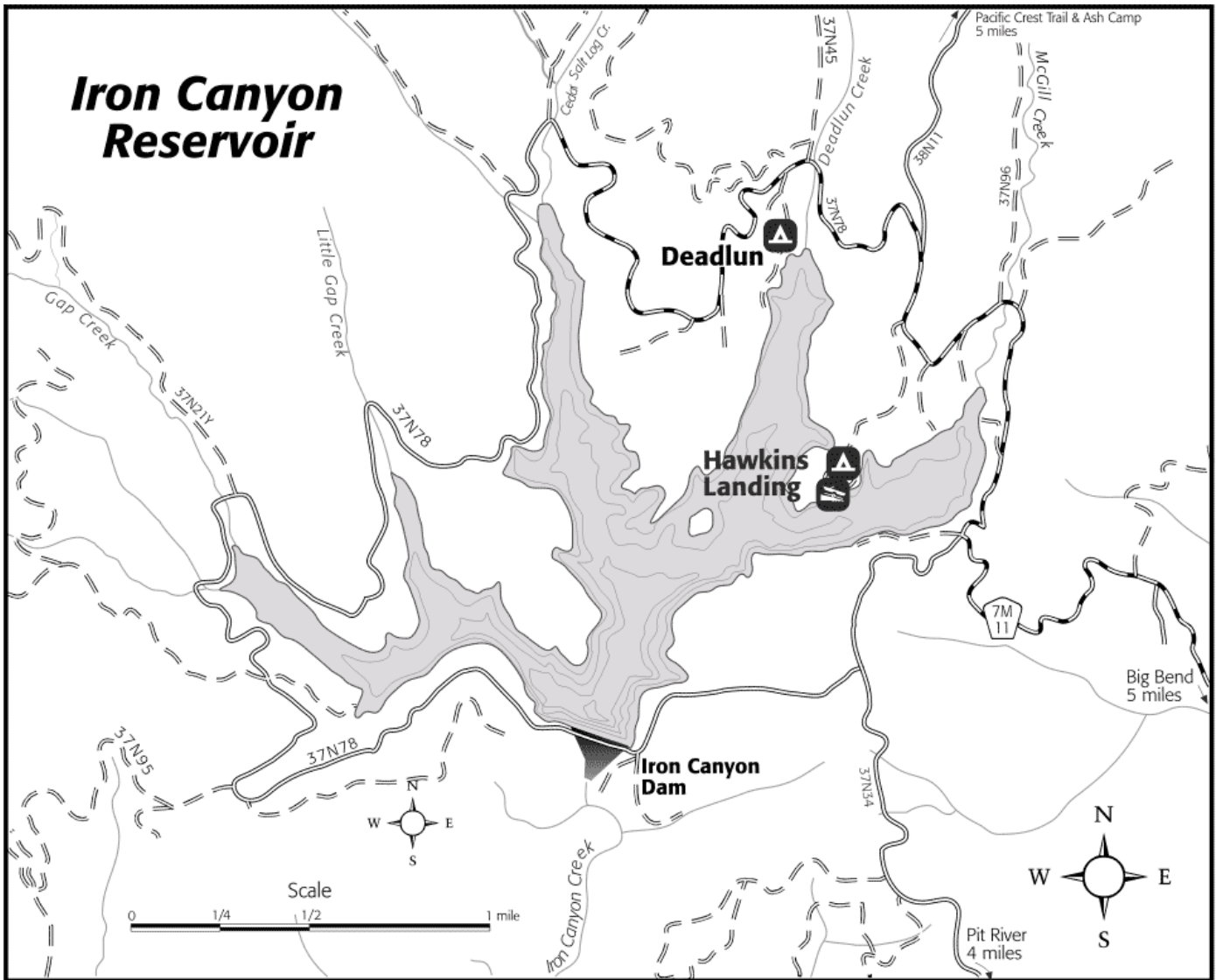
United States Department of Agriculture



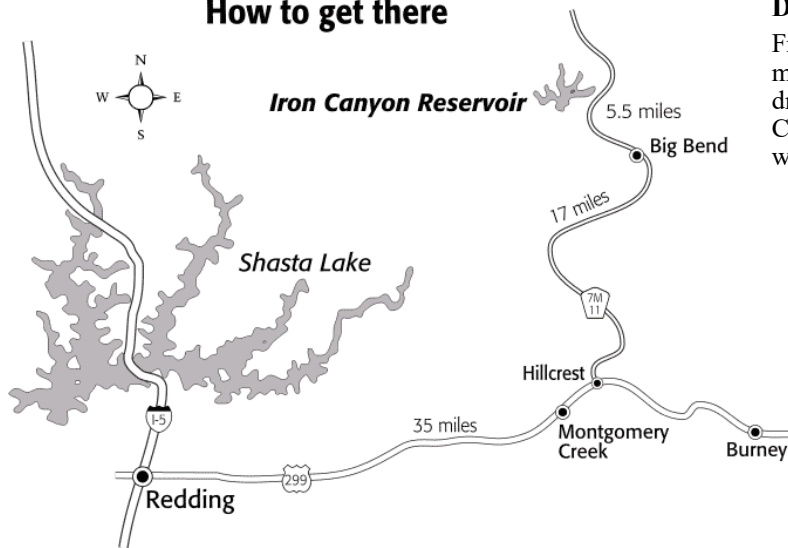
Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region [www.fs.usda.gov/r5](http://www.fs.usda.gov/r5)

Shasta-Trinity National Forest [www.fs.usda.gov/stnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/stnf)

Revised: 4/20



**How to get there**



**DIRECTIONS**

From Interstate 5 (exit #680) take Highway 299 East 35 miles to Big Bend Road (Co. 7M01). On Big Bend Road, drive 17 miles to the town of Big Bend then 5.5 miles to Iron Canyon. Caution is advised for all drivers once leaving Highway 299E due to intermittent heavy logging truck traffic.

**For More Information**

Shasta Lake Ranger Station  
 14225 Holiday Road  
 Redding, Ca 96003  
 530-275-1587

[www.fs.usda.gov/main/stnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/stnf)

**PG&E**

Hawkins Landing  
[www.recreation.pge.com](http://www.recreation.pge.com)

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