Johnson Lake

SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST
LACROIX RANGER DISTRICT
COOK, MINNESOTA

Features

- 3 interconnected lakes
- 7 backcountry campsites with fire grate, latrine and tent pads
- Wilderness-style camping without wilderness permits and regulations

Location

Johnson Lake is located 29 miles northeast of Orr, MN.

- From Orr, continue north on U.S. Hwy 53 to Cusson (4 miles).
- Turn right onto St. Louis County 180. At Elephant Lake (10.6 miles), County 180 becomes Forest Road 203.
- From Elephant Lake, continue on Forest Road 203 for 14.8 miles to the trailhead at the end of the road.

Leave No Trace

on the web at LNT.org

2013
Description

The access to Johnson, Little Johnson and Spring Lakes is by float plane or via a ½-mile portage at the south end of Johnson Lake. There is a dock at Johnson Lake but no boat ramp. Watercraft must be launched and loaded back onto your trailer by hand from the dock. All three of these lakes are connected by waterways with no portages.

Franklin Lake is accessed by a mile-long portage from Forest Road 203.

ATV’s may be used to transport canoes or 12 to 14 foot boats on the gravel-surfaced portages into either Johnson or Franklin Lakes. Trailers wider than 62 inches should not be used.

Camping is permitted at any of the campsites (see map) or on any Forest Service land at least 150 feet from lakeshore, campsite or trail.

Fishing is considered good for smallmouth bass, walleye and northern pike.