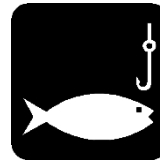


Coronado National Forest
Huachuca Mountains
Parker Canyon Lake



Lake

This medium-sized 132 acre lake is located in the Canelo Hills west of the Huachuca Mountains. It offers a number of recreational possibilities for those willing to drive the long paved roads that lead to it. For those who like to fish, Parker Canyon Lake offers both cold and warm water species, including stocked rainbow trout and resident bass, sunfish, and catfish. To make landing those wily lunkers a bit easier, there is a fishing pier and a paved boat ramp at the lake, as well as a lakeside paved area and a graveled path along some of the best catfishing shoreline. There is also a concessionaire-operated country store at the lakeshore where you can pick up some last minute supplies, buy a fishing license, or rent a boat. Bird watchers and nature lovers will also find much to enjoy at Parker Canyon Lake. A five-mile trail leads around the shoreline never getting more than a few steps from the water. The Parker Lakeshore Trail offers excellent vantage points from which to enjoy the ducks and other waterfowl that are invariably bobbing on the lake's clear waters. Some of those points have benches and interpretive signs. Bald eagles and osprey are regularly sighted in this area, as are spring warblers and hummingbirds in season. On the terrestrial side, Coues whitetail deer can frequently be seen browsing among the oaks and grasses that surround the lake and in the two campgrounds near its shores. Coatimundi, javelina, and roadrunners make occasional appearances as well. Most facilities are accessible. Parking for vehicles, motor homes, and boat trailers.

Attractions: Non-motorized and motorized boating (10 hp or less)

Fishing

Concession-operated marina and store (Call 520-455-5847 for hours)

Lakeview Campground with drinking water and restrooms, 65 sites for tents and RVs

Rock Bluff Group Site (For reservations, please visit www.recreation.gov)

Birdwatching and wildlife viewing

Picnicking

Parker Lakeshore Trail #128

Season: Open year-round

Elevation: 5,400'

Access: From Tucson, drive east on Interstate 10 to the State Route 83 exit. Drive south to Sonoita, then continue on AZ 83 approximately 25 miles to Parker Canyon Lake. From Sierra Vista, travel through Fort Huachuca's west gate to SR 83 (Access card required, which can be obtained at Van Deman gate.) Turn south and travel 10 miles to the lake. Alternate from Sierra Vista: travel south on State Highway 92 about 14 miles to Coronado Memorial Road (FR 61) and drive 25 miles over Montezuma Pass on FR 61, then FR 48, along the south side of the Huachuca Mountains to Parker Canyon Lake. Pavement on this route ends shortly after the Memorial visitor center.

For further information contact: Sierra Vista Ranger District, 4070 South Avenida Saracino, Hereford, Arizona 85615, (520) 378-0311.