

COUGAR BAY PRESERVE



EXPLORE TRAILS

Through a partnership between The Conservancy and the Bureau of Land Management, the adjoining Cougar Bay lands are co-managed for hiking, recreation and wildlife habitat preservation.

A popular spot for local runners and walkers, the preserve offers two miles of interpretive hiking trails. Conservancy and BLM public trails are connected by a small portion of trail on private land. Please be respectful of this private property to ensure continued use by future visitors.

Please stay on clearly marked and maintained trails.



WATCH BIRDS & WILDLIFE



The rich wetland habitat of Cougar Bay provides an abundance of wildlife watching opportunities. Thirty-four rare animal species are known to utilize the site, including 27 species of birds.

Numerous pairs of nesting osprey at Cougar Bay frequently show-off their fishing skills and migratory songbirds can be seen from early spring through late fall.

The preserve's forest habitat also supports a variety of mammals. You may encounter deer, moose, beaver and otter.

TAKE IN THE VIEWS

Whether you tour the lake in a kayak or canoe, or hike to the elevated look-out platform located at the top of the BLM trail, the spectacular views at Cougar Bay will not disappoint. Trails running along the wetlands provide an ideal spot to take in the views of the osprey nesting platforms, other waterfowl cruising the cool lake water, and glimpses of Coeur d'Alene.



VISIT VOLUNTEER CONTACT INFO

Cougar Bay, a preserve comprised of The Nature Conservancy and Bureau of Land Management property, is located just minutes from downtown Coeur d'Alene. Visitors to the preserve will discover a virtual wildlife nursery on the northwest shore of one of Idaho's most beautiful mountain lakes. Bordered by towering conifer forests and lush meadows, Cougar Bay provides a sanctuary for migrating and nesting waterfowl, numerous shorebirds, songbirds, beaver, otter, deer, and even the occasional moose.

Since 1998, The Conservancy has been protecting this sensitive lakefront area from development while offering recreational opportunities such as canoeing, hiking, and bird watching. Cougar Bay also serves as an educational site for visitors and residents of the community.

Cougar Bay is open year-round and is free and open to the public. The preserve is located just off of Highway 95, two miles south of Coeur d'Alene. A map of the trail system is posted at the trailhead signboard. There are no restroom facilities.

Dogs are allowed on trails but must be kept under close control. Please be a good neighbor and clean-up after your pet.

Volunteer information is available at nature.org/Idahovolunteer

For the latest on trail access and conditions, please contact Kennon McClintock, North Idaho watershed manager, at (208) 267-8999 or kmclintock@tnc.org.



John Pointner Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary Trail



Map Created: 6/2/2014

The surface management status ("land ownership") should be used as a general guide only. Official land records, located at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other offices, should be checked for up-to-date information concerning any specific tract of land.

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