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MARLETTE LAKE

History – Marlette Lake was constructed in 1873, when a small earth-fill dam was erected at the outlet to a broad glaciated basin. The dam was raised several times during the years, until it reached its present height of 45 feet in 1959. The water was piped to Virginia City via a series of flumes and pipes (inverted siphon). The State of Nevada purchased Marlette and the land that surrounds it in 1963. Brook trout were introduced in the 1880's, Lahontan cutthroat trout in 1964 and Tahoe rainbow trout in 1984. The lake is presently used as a brood lake for the rainbow and cutthroat trout. Marlette was first opened to fishing in 2006.

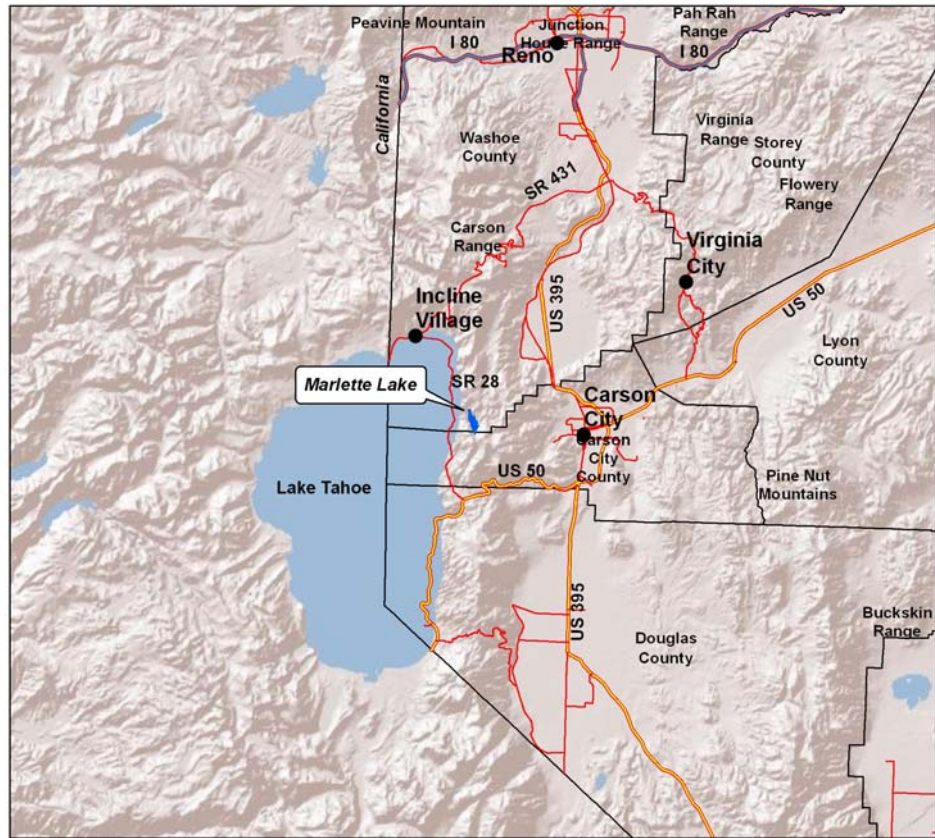
Pertinent Information – Marlette covers 381 surface acres to a maximum depth of 45 feet. In addition to the brook trout, Lahontan cutthroat trout and Tahoe rainbow trout, there are speckled dace and suckers in the lake. Rainbow trout in the 2008 spawning run averaged about 13 inches in length, with a maximum size up to 15 inches. Cutthroat trout average about 15.5 inches with a maximum size up to 22.5 inches. Angler questionnaire data in 2007 found anglers catching 3.44 fish per angler day. Successful lures include Kastmaster, Mepps, Vibrax, Panther Martin, and Daredevil Midgets. Flies include wooly buggers, leeches, pheasant tail, hare's ear, Sheep Creek special and prince nymphs. Camping - Overnight camping is not allowed at the lake itself. A certified camping area can be found approximately 2 miles from the lake on the road to Spooner Lake.

Stocking – In 2009, 4,000 9-inch rainbow trout and 3,000 cutthroat trout are scheduled for introduction during June.

Regulations – Season is open July 15 through September 30, 1 hour before sunrise to 2 hours after sunset. Limit is zero (no) fish, catch and release only. Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used. These new regulations include the lake, tributaries and outlet stream in Carson City and Washoe Counties.

Boating Regulation – Only vessels without motors are permitted.

Biologist Forecast for 2008 – Marlette Lake was opened to fishing for the first time on July 15 of 2006. During summer, fishing should be excellent from just before dawn to mid-morning, but will slow considerably after that, picking up again in the evening. Fishing is the best in fall all day. Rainbow, cutthroat and brook trout average about 13 inches in length, but a few fish up to 20 inches are captured.



No warranty is made by the Nevada Department of Wildlife as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

Access – The easiest route into Marlette Lake is to walk the road in from Spooner Lake, about a 10-mile round trip. The pass is 8,000 feet, so you want to make sure you're in good shape before attempting the trip. Allow enough time for the trip out following fishing. Bring food and water and a raincoat. If you are a mountain bike rider, then the trip will be shorter (time wise). If you are not in good enough shape to ride the bike all the way in, alternate riding and walking and then you can coast most of the way out. You can strap a float tube to your backpack with bungee cords.