

Anahim Lake

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Anahim Lake is almost exactly 200 miles or 320km west of Williams Lake and is often referred to as the gateway to Tweedsmuir Park.

The community itself supports two fuel stations, three grocery stores, and three restaurants as well as an airport. Anahim Lake is best known for its annual Rodeo on the second week of July.



Photo courtesy Miriam Schilling

Fishing

Anahim Lake itself has a history as a resort lake because of its easy access to surrounding lakes and the Dean River. The Dean River is famous throughout the world for its trout fly fishing on the Upper Dean, and its summer Steelhead runs, Coho and Chinook Salmon on the Lower Dean where the river descends to the Pacific Ocean. The Commonwealth Fly-Fishing Championships were held on the Dean River in 1993 and it's a must destination for fly fishermen after hard fighting wild trout.

Anahim Lake in the West Chilcotin is sponsored by:



If you prefer lake fishing, Anahim Lake is very productive with trout weighing from three quarters of a pound to two pounds or larger. You can fly fish for them among the many bays and weed beds that support versatile aquatic life, spin cast from shore or troll through the quiet waters with a boat.

Other Lakes

There are several other lakes in the vicinity of Anahim Lake that offer great fishing for the whole family. Abuntlet Lake just north of Anahim Lake has excellent fly fishing at the outflow into the Dean River. Lessard Lake in the same direction is an excellent lake for wild rainbow trout with sizes that range from 2 to 4 lbs, and can be much larger. Kappan Lake is located 10 miles south of Anahim Lake and contains stocked rainbow trout to 6lb that are rarely fished. Hotnarko Lake can be challenging to get into and is often accessed by floatplane but offers up a rainbow/steelhead strain.



Photo courtesy Miriam Schilling

Activities

Fishing isn't the only activity on Anahim Lake. The lake is also known for its variety of bird life and is a favorite destination for bird watchers. Surrounded by spectacular mountain views, the calm multi-bay lake is ideal for canoeing, kayaking and float tubing. Go on local day hikes, horse back riding or on an organized multi-day pack horse trip into the mountains.

Anahim Lake is also a great jumping off point for tours into Tweedsmuir Park or Bella Coola and all the activities you can find in both places.

Keep your eyes peeled for horses and cattle on the roads. Anahim Lake is a ranching area and it's not uncommon to see a horse tied up to the hitching post in front of the general store.

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