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Shoshone Park Picnic Area

Site History

This recreation site was built by the Civilian Conservation Corp in the 1930s and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Shoshone County Sportsman's Association purchased the land and donated it to the Forest Service for development of the recreation site. The site is located along the old Yellowstone or Mullan Trail that allowed early day travel across Lookout Pass between Idaho and Montana. The historic structures within the picnic area consist of two picnic pavilions built in 1936, a rectangular single room, single story log cabin, and a single story rectangular framed garage with half hipped roof line.



Picnic pavilion with slab extension.

Building Descriptions

The two picnic pavilions have a post and beam construction style over a cement slab that was extended outside the original footprint in the 1970s. Log king post trusses can be found on the gabled roof ends. Rafters and purlins are exposed under the roof. Both shelters are presently being restored to their earlier configuration, including replacement of the original rock fireplace and chimneys on the ends of each structure.



Decorative details on the cabin.

The caretaker cabin and garage are located on the south side of the creek that splits the site in two. The exact date of construction for the cabin and garage are unknown, however, they are shown as additions to a 1937 development plan. The cabin logs are coped, making determination of notch type difficult. It does not appear to be the normal ventral saddle notching typical of this time period, but may be "V"-shaped diamond notches. The logs extend beyond the ends of the cabin and are tapered from top to bottom in a decorative fashion. The door is board and batten with decorative wrought iron detailing, while the windows are one-lite fixed below a two-lite hopper style. The caretaker garage is covered with shiplap siding and has a shallow jerkin roof with brackets and exposed rafter ends.

How to Get There

Drive 55 miles east from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho on Interstate 90 to Mullen, Idaho. Take exit 68 into Mullen and follow River Street east to Friday Avenue. Stay left where Friday Avenue turns into Larson Avenue and Willow Creek Road. Travel on Larson to the intersection of Cole Ranch Road and the Old Yellowstone Trail Road and stay right. Follow the Yellowstone Trail Road to Shoshone Park. The trip takes about one hour and is suitable for cars the entire way.

Contact Information

Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District
2502 E. Sherman Ave.
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 93914
(208) 664-2318
<http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/yourplace/cgguide/49.html>



Garage decorative details.