



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Lake Almanor
Recreation
Trail**
California



Lake Almanor Recreation Trail

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The Lake Almanor Recreation Trail is much hillier than the simple, flat shoreline hike its name might suggest. The lake is a hydroelectric project that dates back more than 100 years to 1914 and is operated by the Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

This 11-mile trail through pleasant surroundings in the Lassen National Forest features a paved surface that is rutted and collects plenty of fallen forest debris, including the occasional tree. A hybrid or mountain bike is recommended instead of a road bike, and users of many types of wheelchairs could encounter problems. In-line skating is not recommended due to the conditions. It is also recommended that trail users review the state's wildfire restrictions before hitting the trail.

The area around Lake Almanor was touched by the 2021 Dixie Fire that swept across five northern California counties, but it was spared significant damage. Wildflowers were reported growing in the burn areas during the spring after the fire.

The northwestern end point doesn't have a parking lot—just an unpaved clearing in the woods where a vehicle could drop someone off. Parking is available 2.3 miles down the trail at the Almanor Boat Launch, which is accessible from Almanor Drive West.

The northwestern half of the trail is almost entirely wooded. Starting at the clearing on Forest Road 27N52/Humbug Humboldt Cross Road, the trail heads toward the lake and then alongside it to a boat launch. From there, it meanders away from the lake as it passes near the communities of Almanor and Prattville, both of which have a restaurant open in season. While lake views are relatively few, trail users will appreciate the serenity of the expansive conifer forest. Undulating hills and occasional obstacles provide fun for users seeking an experience loosely reminiscent of mountain biking.

The trail boasts more lake vistas about 5.5 miles from the start, including Mount Lassen Volcano in Lassen Volcanic National Park to the northwest. In 1915, Lassen Peak erupted, sending fiery ash 7 miles into the air and a gray ash cloud as far as Nevada. Until the eruption of Mount St. Helens in 1980, it was the most recent active volcano in the Cascade Range. The Cascade Volcanoes are a part of a volcanic chain known as the Ring of Fire—hot spots along the edges of plates under the Pacific Ocean bordering the Americas, Asia, and Oceania. Lassen Peak is the world's largest plug-dome volcano.

In 3 miles, the trail passes the Rocky Point Campground with a picnic area and a sandy beach. The trail ends about 2 miles farther south at the Canyon Dam Boat Launch. The lake spillway into the North Fork Feather River is 0.7 mile south on CA 89/Volcano Legacy Scenic Byway.



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States: California

Counties: Plumas

Length: 11miles

Trail end points: Humbug Humboldt Cross Rd/FR 27N52, 0.1 mile east of CA 89/Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway (Canyondam) to Canyon Dam Boat Launch and Day Use Area, end of FR 27N02, 0.4 mile east of CA 89 (Canyondam)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Inline

Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at several locations along the trail, including:

In Almanor, parking is available at the Almanor Boat Launch (north of Prattville) on Almanor Drive West, 1.1 miles east of its northern intersection with CA 89.

In Prattville, parking is available at the Dyer View Trailhead on Almanor Drive West, 0.6 mile northeast of its southern intersection with CA 89.

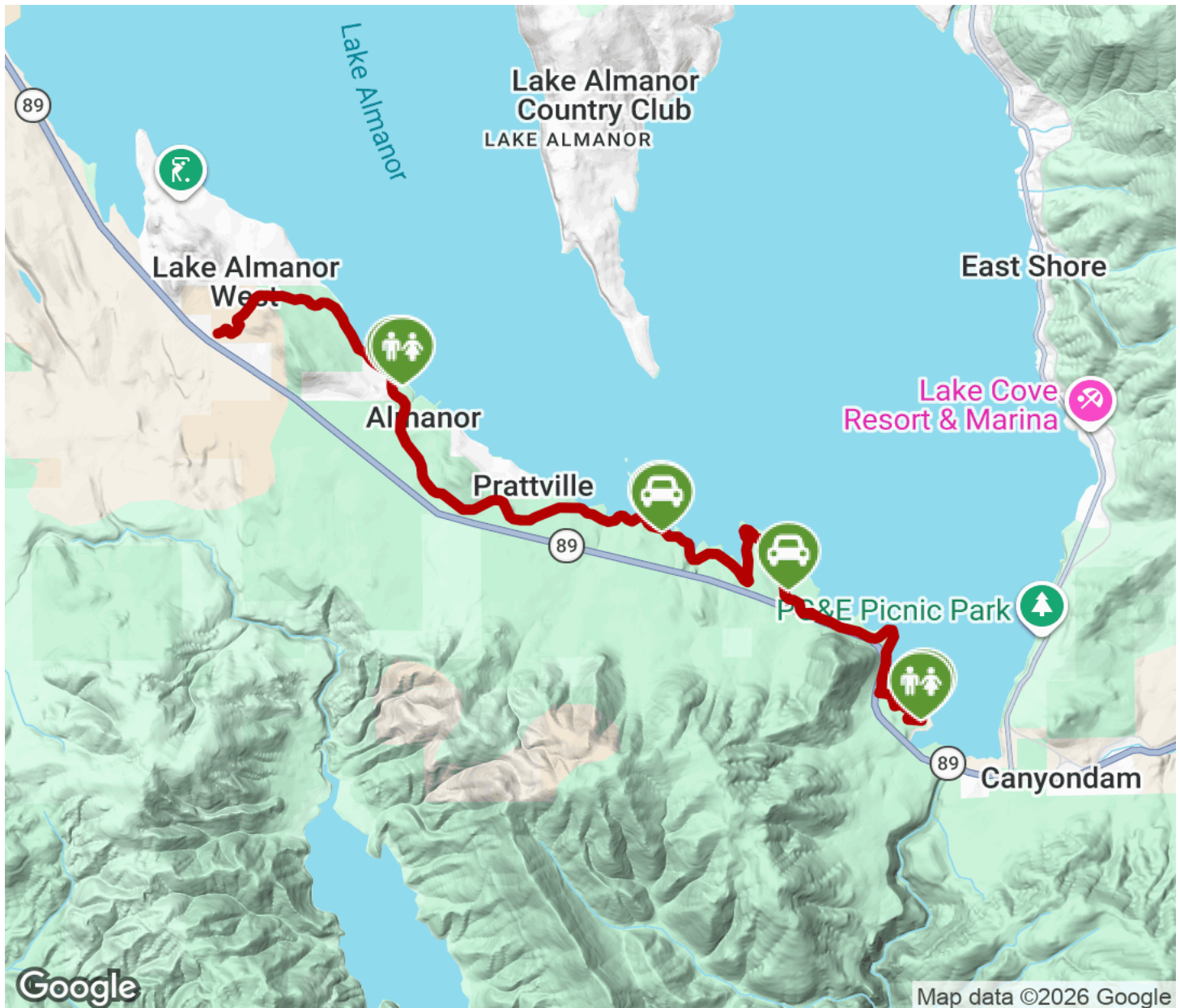
In Canyondam, parking is available at Rocky Point Campground (Rocky Point Campground Road, 0.1 mile north of CA 89) and at the Canyon Dam Boat Ramp and Day Use Area (end of FR 27N02, 0.4 mile east of CA 89).

Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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