

Vancouver Island Nature Viewing Region

Comox Valley Area

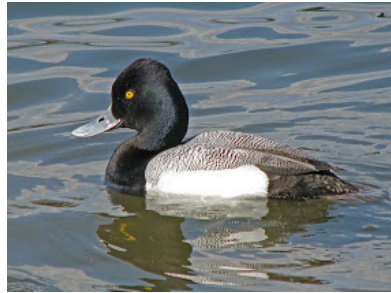
Maple Lake



Hooded Merganser:
Bill Heybroek drawing



Maple Lake: Krista Kaptein photo



Lesser Scaup: Terry Thormin photo

[Photo Gallery](#)

Maple Lake, a large lake surrounded by conifers, is a peaceful place to experience nature within the boundaries of the Village of Cumberland. Beyond the 20-hectare lake there are wetlands and marshes that drain into Maple Creek, which feeds into the Trent River. Trails follow the southeast shore of the lake through a second growth forest of western redcedar, western hemlock, Douglas-fir and Pacific dogwood. There are sticklebacks in the lake, and it is well stocked with rainbow trout and cutthroat trout making it a popular destination for fishing. Birders can check the water for ducks such as Hooded Mergansers, Mallards and Lesser Scaup. Sometimes Trumpeter Swans are seen here. Though privately owned at this time, limited public access is permitted. The lake is open to fishing, but no gas-powered motorboats are allowed. There is no camping or campfires, and the gate is locked at 8 p.m. daily. Maple Lake can be accessed by the west end of Minto Road, through a single-lane road at the culvert under the Inland Island Highway.

[Site Map](#)

Geographical Description	Freshwater lake surrounded by 2nd growth forest, wetlands & marshes to the south & west, draining south to Maple Creek & then to Trent River.
Area/ Trail Length	Approx. 20 ha. lake ; 70-100 m. buffer of forest; approx. 35 ha. wetlands & marshes. Approx. 200 m. 4x4 road to lake. Approx. 400 m. rough trail along southeast shore of lake, 360 m very rough trail beyond to edge of wetland; several accesses to lake shore. 1 km trail along north shore of lake, several accesses to lake shore. Additional .9 km trail through woods westward to Bevan Rd. Some hills & roots.
Habitat	Freshwater lake, 2nd growth forest.
Highlights	Large lake with forest all around perimeter.
Best Season	Spring for flowers, autumn for mushrooms, spring & autumn for fish & birds.
Main Access	West end Minto Rd.
Secondary Accesses	
Cautions	Rough trails, some steep banks. Single-lane road access at culvert under Inland Island Highway.
Jurisdiction	Private forest lands, limited public access allowed. Within Village of Cumberland boundary.

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Birds Trumpeter Swan, Common Raven, Common Merganser, Hooded Merganser, Mallard, Red-necked Grebe, Lesser Scaup, American Coot, Northern Flicker, Varied Thrush, American Robin, Kingfisher, Towhee, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Song Sparrow, Junco, Pine Siskin.

[Bird List](#)

Mammals Black-tailed Deer, Red Squirrel.

Reptiles

Amphibians

Fish Stickleback; Lake stocked with rainbow trout & cutthroat trout.

Insects

Trees Western redcedar, Douglas-fir, western hemlock, Pacific dogwood.

Shrubs Salal, snowberry, Saskatoon, red huckleberry, Oregon grape, bald-hip rose, red-osier dogwood, hardhack, oceanspray, ninebark.

Flowering Plants Prince's pine, vanilla leaf, trillium, pink wintergreen.

Ferns, Lichens, Mosses Sword fern, bracken fern, licorice fern. Step moss.

Other Species

Invasive/Non-native species Non-native: mountain-ash.

Invasive: wall-lettuce.

Mushrooms Russula sp., Bolete sp., Red-belted Polypore, witches butter.

Geology

Regulations Private property; non-motorized access only; hiking, biking, horseback riding permitted. No camping, no campfires. Gate locked 8 p.m. daily. Fishing permitted; no gas-powered motorboats.

Facilities Roadside parking.

Other Features Recent (within past 10-15 yrs.) culturally modified redcedar trees near trailhead.

Other

Connections

FMI

[Maple Lake : a Comox Valley Jewel](#)

[Cumberland Wetlands Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot](#)