

Vancouver Island Nature Viewing Region

Buttle Lake Area

Darkis Lake



Darkis Lake: photo by Krista Kaptein



Least Sandpipers: photo by Krista Kaptein

A trail from the Buttle Lake Campground at Strathcona Park leads to Darkis Lake, just outside the Park boundary. In summer the small shallow lake attracts insects & birds.

[Photo Gallery](#)

Geographical Description	On the west side of Buttle Lake just outside the Strathcona Park boundary.
Area/ Trail Length	1.8 km loop around lake.
Seasons to Visit	Summer for insects & birds.
Habitat	Small lake, second-growth forest.
Viewing Highlights	Dragonflies, waterbirds, migrating shorebirds such as Least Sandpiper, songbirds such as Cedar Waxwings.
Other Features	At low water it is possible to walk all the way around the lake.
Main Access	Along the Gold River highway (#28) at the Buttle Lake Campground.
Secondary Accesses	
Cautions	
Jurisdiction	Timberwest private lands.

Regulations	No fires.
Facilities	Parking lot, signage, toilet. Camping adjacent at Buttle Lake Campground.
Other Recreational Activities	Fishing, swimming.
Other Connections	Many other trails of varying difficulty in Strathcona Park.
History FMI	The trail was built by employees of Timberwest.
Links	BC Parks