

## Know Before You Go

While Gerber North and South Campgrounds are open year-around, full amenities such as restroom maintenance, garbage collection, and host services are only available from mid-May to mid-September.

Gerber Campgrounds have level parking, an RV dump station, drinking water, toilets, picnic tables, fire grates, concrete boat ramp and floating dock, gravel boat ramp, fish cleaning stations, garbage service, and day-use areas. Fees are charged for camping and day use at the Gerber North and South Campgrounds. Primitive campsites have toilets, fire grates, and picnic tables. There is no garbage service for these sites, so please pack it out. No fees are charged for these sites.

If you find an archeological or historic site during your visit, please leave it undisturbed and contact the Bureau of Land Management Klamath Falls Resource Area office. It is against Federal law to disturb these sites or remove artifacts.

## Geology

This area is a basaltic plateau rising 600 feet above Langell Valley to the west, and is bordered by the Oregon-California state line and the Modoc National Forest to the south, and the Fremont National Forest to the north and east. The rugged Miller Creek canyon, located just south of Gerber Dam, offers scenic views of these basaltic outcrops and surrounding lands.

## Recreation Activities

Camping, fishing, and quiet relaxation in a beautiful grove of Ponderosa pines are the main attractions at the Gerber Reservoir. North and South Campgrounds are located close to the water's edge. A concrete boat ramp allows anglers and boaters easy access to the water. There is warm water fishing in the Gerber area for crappie, sunfish, bass, and perch. An eight-mile non-motorized trail connects North and South Gerber Campgrounds with three of the primitive camping areas.

There are a number of outlying primitive camps in the Gerber area. A concrete boat ramp and picnic areas are also located at Willow Valley Reservoir near the south end of the Gerber area.

## Plants and Wildlife

The area is a mosaic of Ponderosa pine forests, juniper woodlands, wetlands, riparian meadows, and sagebrush flats. These habitats provide an abundance of wildflowers and native plants. Common plants found in Ponderosa pine forests include Idaho fescue, Indian paintbrush, and lupine. Most

areas of juniper woodlands and Ponderosa pine forests are being thinned and receiving prescribed fire to maintain healthy plant communities and reduce the incidence of catastrophic wildfire.

The Gerber Recreation Area is a great place to view wildlife. There are nine wildlife viewing sites on the Gerber Watchable Wildlife tour route and Gerber Reservoir is a site on the Klamath Basin Birding Trail. Bald eagle, osprey, sandhill crane, and American white pelican are common birds found around Gerber Reservoir. If you're observant, you may see bobcat, coyote, antelope, or mule deer.

## Cultural

In early times, this area had large open meadows with streams flowing through. Prior to the pioneer settlers, the Klamath and Modoc Indians came to hunt and gather plants in small family bands from early spring through fall. The first pioneer settlers were the Gerber family, and they owned a considerable amount of property in the area. Louis C. Gerber encouraged the Federal Government to establish a grazing district. This area, the "Bonanza Unit," became the first grazing district in the United States under the Taylor Grazing Act.

## Directions to the Site

Gerber Reservoir and developed campgrounds are located about 42 miles east of Klamath Falls, Oregon. From Klamath Falls, take Highway 140 east 15 miles to Dairy. Turn right on Highway 70 and travel for five miles to the community of Bonanza. From Bonanza, continue past Big Springs Park on East Langell Valley Road for approximately 11 miles. Turn left at the intersection of Gerber Road (90 degree corner). Follow Gerber Road for approximately 8.5 miles to the Gerber Recreation Site entrance.

## District Contact Information

### *Lakeview District*

**Klamath Falls Resource Area**  
Bureau of Land Management  
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[www.or.blm.gov/lakeview](http://www.or.blm.gov/lakeview)

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# WELCOME TO GERBER RECREATION AREA

The diversity of this rugged and remote area offers unique opportunities for fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, and camping. The two developed campgrounds, hiking trails, many reservoirs, and primitive campsites found here make this an excellent destination for a weekend jaunt or a day trip.

