BASS LAKE AREA TRAILS
Sierra National Forest
Bass Lake Ranger District

Welcome!
There are a number of easily reached trails in the Bass Lake Area offering a variety of experiences and can enhance your visit.

For all trails, bring lots of drinking water and wear appropriate hiking footwear. Most trails have easy to moderate slopes with a few having steep slopes. Plan to take your time and your camera!

Pack out all trash you pack in and stay on designated trails. Cutting across switchbacks causes erosion of soils and trail damage.

Willow Creek Trail
One of the most challenging trails is the Willow Creek Trail (22E03) which can be reached either by the North Shore Road next to the Falls Day Use parking area or from the Willow Creek parking area off of Road 274. The trail is 2.7 miles long, ending at the McLeod Flat Road and offers moderate to steep hiking.

The main attractions of this trail are Angel Falls and Devils Slide, two breathtaking water falls, and a variety of quiet spots and scenic views.

Along with the spectacular waterfalls, Willow Creek presents dangers in its extremely slippery rocks and swirling pools. These can be deadly; many people have been injured and some have lost their lives. Please be careful and stay on the trail!

About three tenths miles beyond the Devils Slide turnoff, the Chilkoot trail branches off to the east, traveling further up Willow Creek.

Goat Mountain/Spring Cove Trails
On the south side of Bass Lake, Goat Mountain fire lookout is accessible via the Spring Cove Trail (22E18) and the Goat Mountain Trail (22E94).

The Goat Mountain Trail begins in the Forks Campground and the Spring Cove Trail begins on the east side of the Spring Cove Campground entrance. It is about two and a half miles between the campgrounds. Both trails intersect in about an eighth of a mile, with another 2.5 miles to the lookout. Both offer spectacular views of Bass Lake and mountains beyond. Plan plenty of hiking time and take plenty of water as the trail is up hill.

Way-of-the-Mono Interpretive Trail
Visitors curious about the first people to inhabit the area will want to visit the Way-of-the-Mono Interpretive Trail. This self-guided loop trail is about one half mile long, offering a spectacular vista point to view the lake and mountains. Signs along the trail describe who the Mono people were and how they lived. The trailhead is located across from the Little Denver Church Day Use Area and has an ample parking area.
Lewis Creek National Recreation Trail
Follow the 3.7 mile Lewis Creek National Recreation Trail (21E06) along an historic lumber flume route. Sugar Pine Lumber Company used a enormous flume (an artificial river in a huge wooden trough) to float lumber over 50 miles to the town of Madera. Beautiful flora and waterfalls please the spirit as you travel this moderate to steep north/south trail as it gains 400 feet in elevation.

Shadow of the Giants National Recreation Trail
The Shadow of the Giants National Recreation Trail is a one-mile self-guided interpretive trail through the heart of Nelder Grove of Giant Sequoias. Signs along the path tell of "The Majestic Giant Sequoia and its Forest Neighbors" as you meander along the banks of Nelder Creek.

The Cedars Interpretive Trail
The Cedars Interpretive Trail located in North Fork at the Forest Service Ranger Station, is a quarter mile long. The name is from the Mono name for North Fork "Wa'ap" which means cedar trees. The trail follows the North Fork of Willow Creek, meandering along the creek bank.

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