

Recreation Opportunity Guide



BEAVER FALLS KARST INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: This trail provides access to everyone who wants an opportunity to see the karst world up close without entering a cave. At the trailhead, you will find a gravel parking area, vault toilet, and garbage cans.



LOCATION: The trailhead is located at milepost 100.5 on Forest Road 20. Take State Highway 929 to Forest Road 20 (Control Lake junction), stay on Forest Road 20 for approximately 40 miles and watch for signs to the trailhead.

BEAVER FALLS TRAIL:

Distance: 0.7 miles (one way)

Trip Time: 45 minutes

Difficulty: Easiest

Elevation Change: n/a

Trail Tread: Built of Alaska yellow cedar, the double loop boardwalk trail is ADA accessible and provides interpretive signs describing the karst landscape.

Recommended Seasons:

Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
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SPECIAL FEATURES: Beaver Falls is one of the Island's many recreational gems. Surrounded by ancient muskegs and cathedral forests, the falls are relatively small but spectacular to see. Water cascades some 40 feet down to disappear into an adjacent cave. The cave itself is inaccessible and prone to sudden flooding.

Before reaching the falls, you walk through muskegs that have taken thousands of years to develop to their present state. Decaying plants build a layer of peat that holds water like a giant sponge and gradually break down the surface of the karst to form caves. Visitors can pause at several points on the tour to see unique plant species including bog laurel, Labrador tea, and diminutive, ultra slow-growing shore pines that might be less than two feet high, yet 150 or more years old. Features such as sinkholes, deep vertical pits, disappearing streams, and collapsed channels can also be seen from the trail.



SAFETY TIPS:

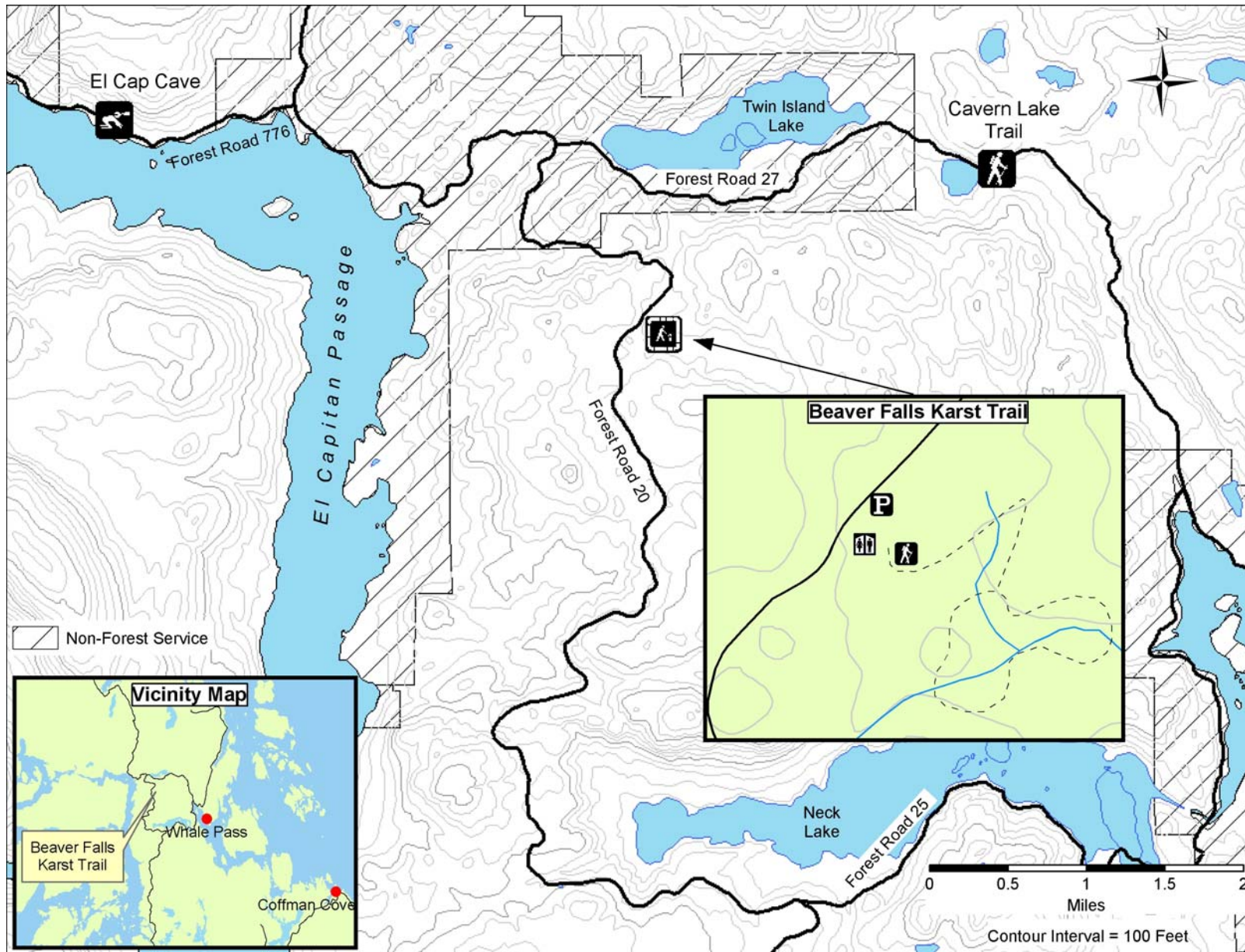
- ✓ *Discharging firearms is prohibited within 150 yards of buildings, campsites, developed recreation sites, or occupied areas*
- ✓ *Fireworks or other explosives are prohibited*
- ✓ *Be respectful of others and keep your pets under control*
- ✓ *Do NOT feed or approach bears!*
- ✓ *Water for consumption should be treated or boiled*
- ✓ *Rubber boots, rain gear and insect repellent are recommended*



USDA Forest Service
Alaska Region
Tongass National Forest

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Plan ahead and prepare
 Pack it in, pack it out
 Leave what you find



Minimize campfire impacts
 Be considerate of others
 Respect wildlife