

Feature Film

Stump Lake



Photo: Baillie Stewart

Site Identification

Nearest Community:
Quilchena, B.C.

Geocache Location:
N 50°19.779'
W 120°24.439'

Altitude:
749m

Ownership:
Public Access

Accuracy:
3 meters

Overall Difficulty: 1

Overall Terrain: 1.5

Access Information and Restrictions:

From Merritt take Highway 5A.

Parking Advice:

Park at the pull out at south end of Stump Lake on Highway 5A.

For more information or to report a problem with this site please contact:

Gold Country Communities Society
PO. Box 933
Cache Creek, BC.,
VOK 1H0

Tel: 1-877-453-9467
email: info@exploregoldcountry.com

For more site pages go to:
www.goldtrail.com

Apply Sticker Here

In the 2006 movie, *The Wicker Man*, Nicolas Cage plays a California Highway Patrolman who is recovering from a tragic road accident when he receives a letter from Willow, his former fiancée telling him that her daughter, Rowan, has gone missing. He immediately makes the journey to Summerisle where Willow lives in a strange community and discovers soon after that Rowan is actually his daughter. He also discovers that the local residents are a community of pagans who practice ancient rituals with the hope of improving their harvest. As he searches for the girl he uncovers dark and disturbing truths about the community. A remake of an earlier movie from 1973, this latest version, directed by Neil LaBute, featured Cage as well as Ellen Burstyn, Molly Parker, and Leelee Sobieski.

Standing in for Northern California, the major accident scene in the film was shot at Hamilton Hill, a closed road above the Tourist Information Centre at the junction of the Coquihalla Highway (5) and the Okanagan connector (5A). The bend at Stump Lake, however, was used for filming a brief part of the movie, and has been used for a number of other commercials and productions as well. Several car commercials have taken advantage of the serene atmosphere and long winding roadway, rolling hills, in a picturesque setting that brings to mind a road of endless possibilities. Toyota, Hummer, Ford, and even Harley Davidson have used the area to promote their vehicles.

The nearby grasslands in the Stump Lake area have also been popular as a shooting location given their ability to emulate prairie, frontier, and otherworldly settings and the TNRD Film Commission works hard to promote the area to filmmakers from around the world. The clear transition of seasons and lack of signs of human impact make this area extremely valuable to filmmakers and advertising

companies. In the pivotal scene in the finale of the updated version of *Battlestar Galactica*, this area hosted the cast and crew who filmed the death scene of one of the main characters in the grasslands.

A popular fishing and recreation lake in B.C.'s interior, Stump Lake is a short 53 km distance north of Merritt on the Old Merritt Highway (5A). The lake, which is popular for fishing, boating, and outdoor water recreation, is home to the historic Stump Lake Ranch and is rich in ranching and first nation's history.

BIBLIOGRAPHY & SOURCES

"The Wicker Man", The Internet Movie Database. Web. 15 Jun. 2012.

Weller, Vicci (TNRD Film Commission). Personal interview. 13 Jun. 2012

Wikipedia contributors. "Battlestar Galactica (2004 TV series)." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 8 Jun. 2012. Web. 17 Jun. 2012.

Letterboxing Clues:

29 metres south of the No dumping sign along the fence.
Cache is under a sage bush.