

Seeley Lake Beach Ball

Seeley Lake Beach Balls are prickly balls that look like balls of small straw found along the shorelines of local lakes. They are sometimes called “bull trout burps,” “bull trout barf balls,” or in other parts of the country “cat fish fur balls.”

Beach balls are not produced by bull trout. They are made of larch needles. They may be perfectly round or oval and in a variety of sizes. Eight inches in diameter would be very large.

Beach balls are found all over the world. Scientists have reported finding balls made of fine vegetative strands on Egyptian beaches. Australians report finding beach balls twice the size of a large orange. They are most often found on the shores of lakes. An article in “Science Monthly” in 1948 described balls found at Little Borax Lake, California, made of common ditch grass and ranging from an inch to more than a foot in diameter.