

Day Trips





Macutagon Creek to Russell's Landing



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#13 MACUTAGON CREEK TO RUSSELL'S LANDING

This route is suitable to all levels of paddlers but due to the number of log jams, overgrown trails and uneven ground the portaging is demanding and will require strength, endurance and good balance. This day trip lasts between 3 to 5 hours, depending on how often you may stop to fish or view wildlife. It makes a great spring run when water levels are higher and log jams are less problematic.

Distance:	17 km
Estimated Time:	3-5 hours
Rating:	Beginner
Topographic Map:	42 F/4 Manitouwadge
Entry point:	Junction of Macutagon Creek and Twist Lake Road
Exit point:	Russell's Landing, accessible by Lampson Lake Road

Portages: 2 (not signed but well worn) See accompanying map

P1 60 m left side of creek due to rapids

P2 200 m right side of creek due to rapids

Depending on the weather and time of year the water could be shallow, exposing rocks, boulders and logs and increasing the number of portages required. For the most part the river is serene, quiet and peaceful with the exception of 2 rapids near the end of the trip. It's a scenic route and a great place for photography!

All portage lengths and other measures of distance are in metric units:

1 metre = 3.3 feet

1 km = 0.625 miles

Natural forces may alter trail conditions. Portions of a portage may be obstructed by fallen trees, flooded due to beaver activity or high water levels, or eroded, therefore, you may need to detour these obstacles. Use the portages. For obvious reasons, no one has ever drowned on a portage.

Campsites: There are many high, dry banks and sandy shores along this route that would be excellent spots for a picnic or wilderness camping. The only designated campsite is at Russell's Landing (end of route). Russell's Landing provides a large area for over night camping and a sandy beach ideal for soaking up some sun after a swim.

Fishing: Speckled trout in deep pools.

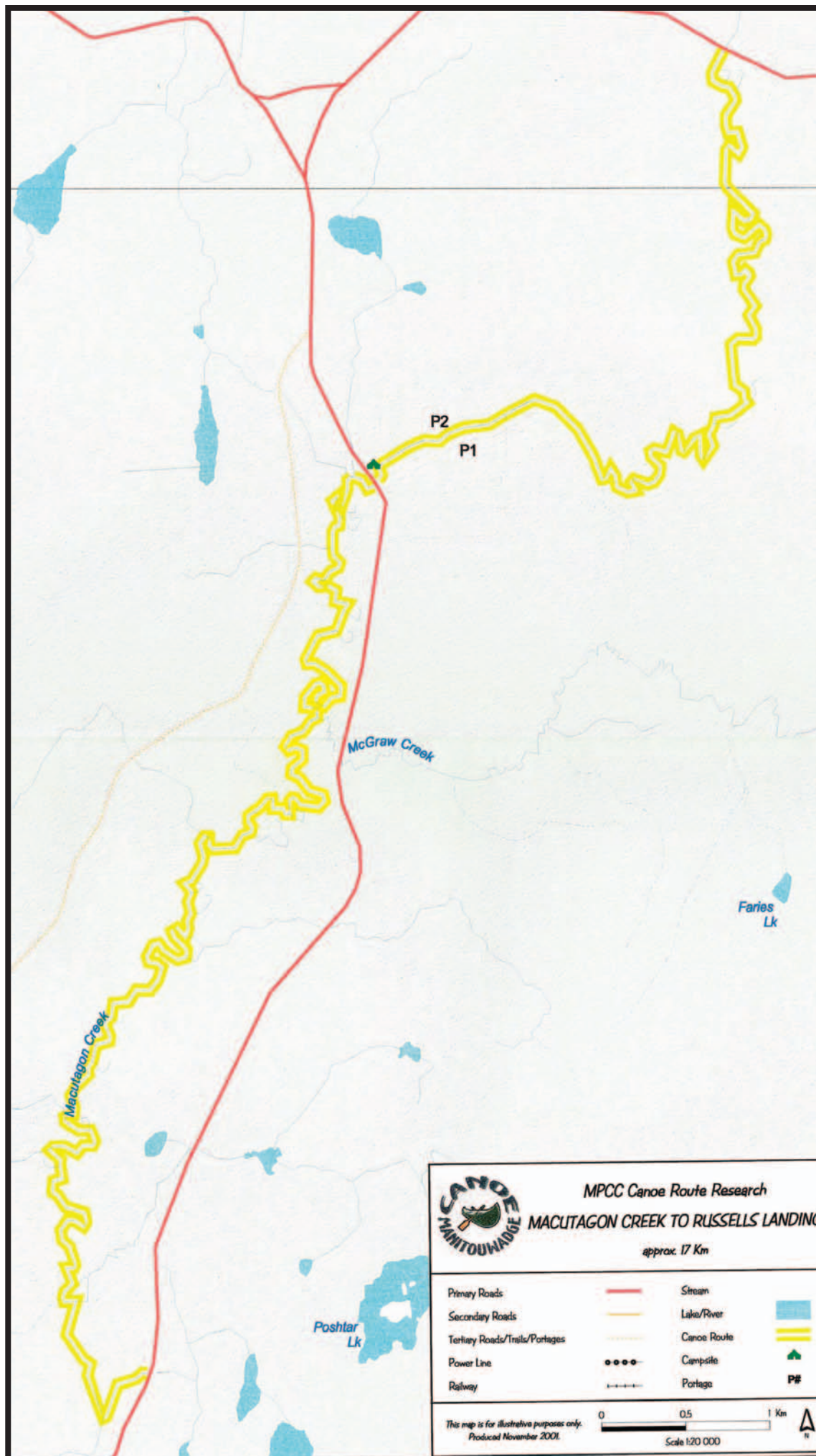
Wildlife: Many species of wildlife such as moose, bear, wolves, beaver, ruffed grouse, loons and other waterfowl can be seen along the routes. If you spend a lot of time outdoors you may be lucky enough to spot any one of these or numerous others in their natural environment.

Turkey vultures and osprey have been spotted along this route.

The kinds of wildflowers you will find in this area include wild roses, wood lilies, columbine, wild strawberries and blue flag iris.

Points of Interest: Historically, during the spring months when water levels were higher, Macutagon Creek was used to drive logs to the Black River.

There are wide, well worn portages along Macutagon Creek and an "old forgotten" canoe which are testaments to days gone by.



** note **
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Manitouwadge to Agonzon Lake



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#14 MANITOUWADGE TO AGONZON LAKE

This route is for the average canoeist with only 3-5 portages depending on where you decide to exit. There is easy canoeing across 4 lakes in which there are no portages until after the 4th lake. If a more challenging trip is desired, plan your trip for May or June when the water is at higher levels and faster flowing. This route makes a nice day trip for anyone.

Distance:	24 km (Exit - Option 1) or 25 km (Exit - Option 2)
Estimated time:	1 day
Rating:	Intermediate
Topographic Map:	42 F/4 Manitouwadge
Entry point:	Manitouwadge Town Dock or Lion's Beach
Exit point:	Portage #3 accessible by Camp 60 road (Option 1) Camping Area on Agonzon Lake Rd (Option 2)

Portages: **5** See accompanying map

P1	308 m	on left side, due to rapids--choice of 2 trails depending on water level there is a campsite at this portage
P2	132 m	on left side, due to rapids -- this portage is steep and rugged you may be able to line your canoe in low water
P3	50 m	on left side, due to swifts, you may be able to line your canoe in low water there are two campsites, one on each side of the river you may exit here via Camp 60 Road
P4	450 m	on left side, due to rapids
P5	264 m	on left side -- there is a campsite at this portage

Exit: Canoe northeast along the shore of Agonzon Lake until the exit point (rocky area with campsite) is reached.

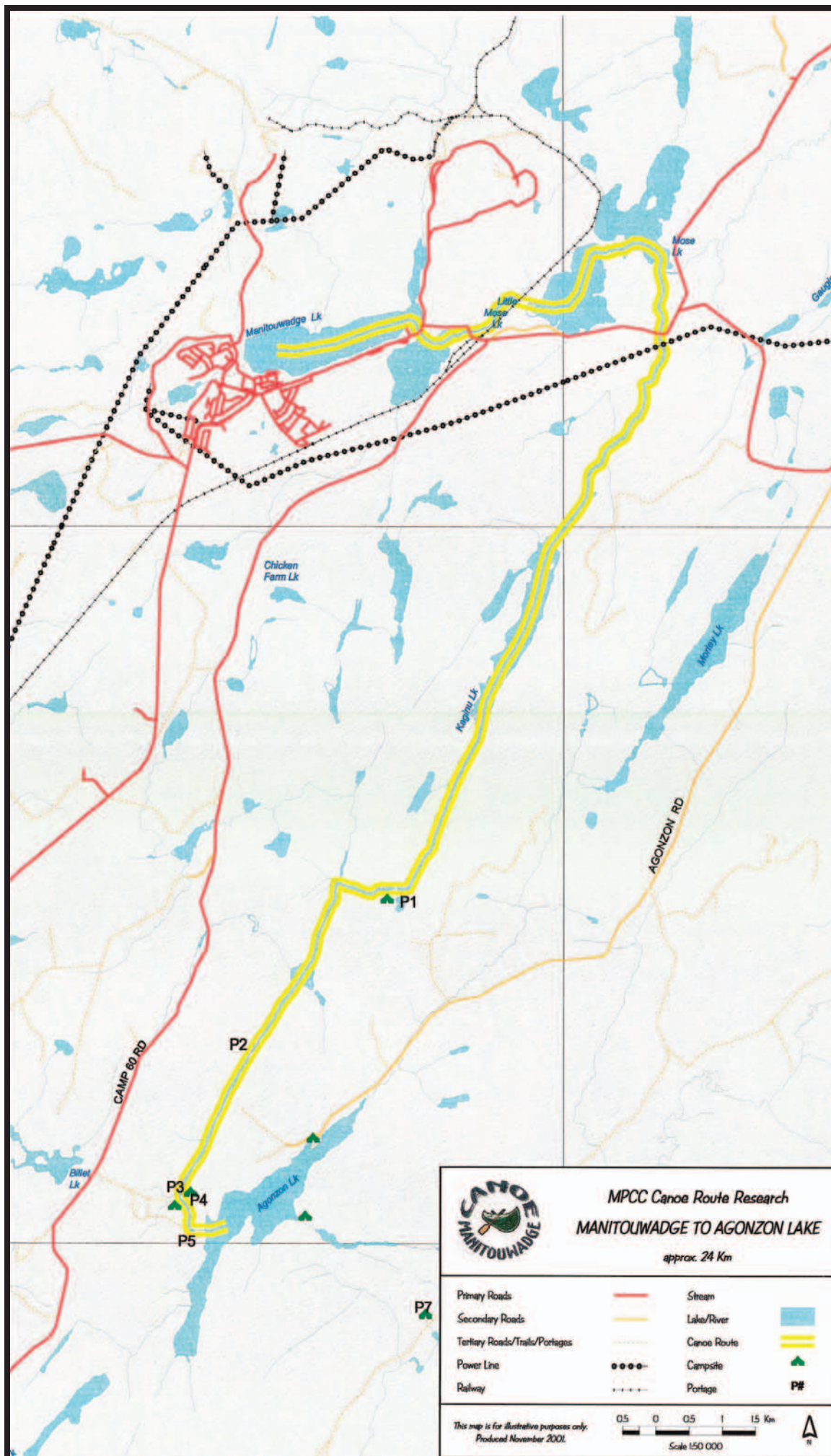
All portage lengths and other measures of distance are in metric units:

1 metre = 3.3 feet
1 km = 0.625 miles

Natural forces may alter trail conditions. Portions of a portage may be obstructed by fallen trees, flooded due to beaver activity or high water levels, or eroded, therefore, you may need to detour these obstacles. Use the portages. For obvious reasons, no one has ever drowned on a portage.

Additional portaging may be required if the 3 bridges are not passable by water. The first bridge, Geco bridge, is passable through a large culvert. When the water is shallow, rocky rapids may scratch your canoe bottom. If the water is high, caution must be used as the current flows very quickly through this culvert and the water may be choppy. Bridge #2 is the Fox Creek bridge, which also has a culvert. If you need to portage over the culvert it must be noted that this is a very busy road due to log truck use. The last bridge is the Black River bridge on Camp 70 Road that is very easy to pass under, as it is very wide and high. This area is very easily accessible to launch canoes and boats as it has a boat launch and ample parking.

Caution:	Wind may be a factor on Agonzon Lake—you may become wind bound.
Campsites:	There are many areas suitable to camping along this entire route. There are 2 designated campsites with one existing at Portage 1 and another at the exit point at Portage 5.
Fishing:	Pickeral and pike are all along the route. There is a fish spawning area at the entrance to Agonzon Lake. Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).
Wildlife:	<p>Many species of wildlife such as moose, bear, wolves, beaver, ruffed grouse, loons and other waterfowl can be seen along the routes. If you spend a lot of time outdoors you may be lucky enough to spot any one of these or numerous others in their natural environment.</p> <p>Before entering into Kagu Lake there is a great blue heron nest. At the start and end of Kagu Lake are moose aquatic feeding areas. There are three osprey resting sites along the route. You will see many wildflowers including the blue flag iris, the bullhead lily and the wood lily.</p>
Points of Interest:	<p>The most prominent topographic feature is an escarpment averaging 400 feet high and extending along the North Shore of Manitowadge Lake, westward to Nama Creek and eastward to Mose Lake, a distance of about 10 miles. On this escarpment is Kiwissa Ski Hill. Also, there once stood a house in a clearing –now known as Enns’ Hill. The highest peak of this escarpment which used to have a fire tower lookout on it, has an elevation of about 450 feet above Manitowadge Lake.</p> <p>Falls and rapids along the river are beautiful and scenic.</p> <p>Native people used this river system to hunt, trap and transport goods.</p> <p>J.E. Thomson travelled this route on his return trip from the Manitowadge Lake area to the CNR at Heron Bay in 1931.</p> <p>In 1953, Geco Mines used the Black River and the lower end of Kagu Lake to barge building supplies by canoe.</p> <p>The Black River was log driven until 1968.</p> <p>Logging camps existed at various points along the river. Today, there are still many clearings and other evidence of logging history.</p> <p>The remains of a dock for unloading logs are still visible at Agonzon Lake. The logs were dumped into Agonzon Lake and driven down the Black River.</p>



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Russell's Landing to Black River



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

Canoe Route #15

#15 RUSSELL'S LANDING TO BLACK RIVER

This route is for the average canoeist. The narrow river meanders its way through the forest with many slow moving, winding, shallow portions and other swift moving portions. There are also several rapids of which canoeists should be aware. Canoeists should also be aware that if they launch from Russell's Landing they will have to canoe through a culvert. If the water is too shallow, they will have to portage over the road (about 50m). Alternately, canoeists can launch from the right side of Lampson Lake Road. The trip may be lengthened by deadfall and log jams. There are good photography and wildlife viewing opportunities along this route.

Distance:	22 km
Estimated Time:	1 day
Rating:	Beginner/Intermediate
Topographic Map:	42 F/4 Manitouwadge
Entry Point:	Junction of Russell's Landing and Lampson Lake Rd.
Exit Point:	Set of falls on the Black River

Portages: **2 (not signed)** See accompanying map

P1 200 m on right side, due to rapids

P2 150 m on right side, due to rapids; you can drag your canoe through or use a road on the right bank to portage around

There may be other rapids and swifts which you can run in high water or you may have to drag your canoe.

All portage lengths and other measures of distance are in metric units:

1 metre = 3.3 feet

1 km = 0.625 miles

Natural forces may alter trail conditions. Portions of a portage may be obstructed by fallen trees, flooded due to beaver activity or high water levels, or eroded, therefore, you may need to detour these obstacles. Use the portages. For obvious reasons, no one has ever drowned on a portage.

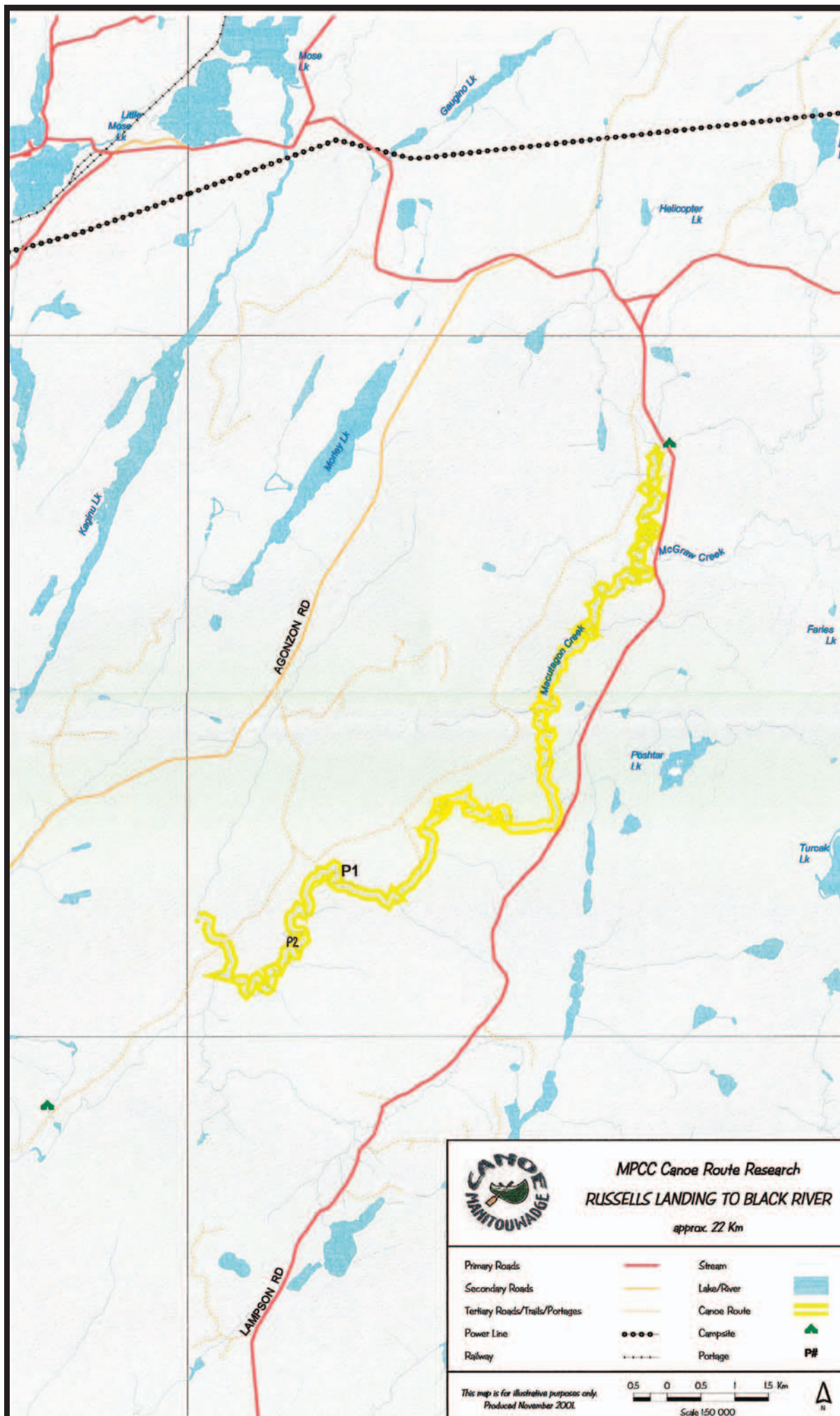
Campsites: Although there are no designated campsites there are many level areas suitable for camping. Russell's Landing itself has a huge, flat grassy area with a sandy beach that is ideal for camp setups. At the end of the route, there is a nice camping area at the last set of falls.

Fishing: Fishing opportunities abound in deep pools on Macutagon Creek where you can fish for brook trout.

Wildlife: Many species of wildlife such as moose, bear, wolves, beaver, ruffed grouse, loons and other waterfowl can be seen along the routes. If you spend a lot of time outdoors you may be lucky enough to spot any one of these or numerous others in their natural environment.

Points of Interest: Native people used this river to hunt and trap.

Historically, Macutagon Creek was used to drive logs to the Black River. This happened during the early spring when water levels were higher.



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Osawin River to Bound Lake Road



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#16 OSAWIN RIVER TO BOUND LAKE ROAD

The Osawin River route is a trip a beginner can enjoy, as it is a nice, feasible paddle with easy access at both the entry and exit points. There are a few sets of rapids in the first quarter of the trip. In high water, these are runnable, however in low water you may have to drag or line your canoe or portage. The surrounding area of the last quarter of the trip may offer good moose viewing opportunities, as it is marshy and swampy.

Distance:	18 km
Estimated Time:	8 hours
Rating:	Beginner
Topographic Map:	42 F/6 Nagagami Lake
Entry Point:	Junction of Osawin River and Flanders Lake Rd. (1 hour from Manitouwadge).
Exit Point:	Junction of Osawin River and Bound Lake Rd. (1 ½ hours from Manitouwadge).

Portages: None known. If you decide to portage you may have to break trail. No portage required at railway tracks.

Caution: There may be a lot of cedar overhang. Watch out for these low slung trees!

Notes: In case of emergency, you may exit via the railway tracks. Follow the tracks West to Hillsport.

It should be noted that about 2-3 km into the trip there is a fork in the river; at this point paddlers should continue north.

Campsites: No designated campsites but suitable locations exist at Flanders Lake Road and CN railway.

Fishing: Speckled trout, pike

Wildlife: Many species of wildlife such as moose, bear, wolves, ruffed grouse, loons and other waterfowl can be seen along the routes. If you spend a lot of time outdoors you may be lucky enough to spot any one of these or numerous others in their natural environment.

Moose and eagle viewing areas exist along this route.

An osprey resting site can also be found along the river.

Points of Interest: North of rail tracks there was a sawmill, possibly to mill timber for railway ties.

The Osawin River flows north.



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