



Canoe Routes

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The following routes have been researched. All relevant information has been documented in this report.

MAJOR ROUTES

1. Manitouwadge to Black River to Hwy 17 or Lake Superior
2. McKay Lake Road to Pic River to Hwy 17 or Lake Superior
3. White Otter River to Pic River to Hwy 17 or Lake Superior
4. Boot Lake to Kagiano River to Pic River to Hwy 17 or Lake Superior
5. Foch River North to Nagagami Lake to Hwy 11
6. Hatley Lake to Little Pic River to Lake Superior
7. White Lake to Ketchup Lake to Pickle Lake to Garnham Lake to Macutagon Lake

MINOR ROUTES

8. Macutagon Creek to Black River to Hwy 614
9. Nama Creek to Pic River to Hwy 17 or Lake Superior
10. Hatley Lake to Little Pic to Killala Lake Bridge
11. Manitouwadge to Black River to Hwy 614
12. Manitou Falls to Hwy 17

DAY TRIPS

13. Macutagon Creek to Russell's Landing
14. Manitouwadge to Agonzon Lake
15. Russell's Landing to Black River
16. Osawin River to Bound Lake Road

Points to Consider for each Route

1. Entry points/distances to/roads to/maps
2. Exit points/distances to/roads to/maps
3. Level of Skill required
4. Length of trip/days/distance
5. Portages/Locations
6. Maps of routes
7. Rapids/Locations/length of/skill required
8. Water levels/When are good times/bad times
9. Location of camp sites/distances between
10. Fishing opportunities
11. Water quality/purification
12. Restrictions (if any)
13. Special features, example: glacial shift at Manitou Falls
14. History of routes
15. Special Equipment required/boating requirements
16. Local contacts

Summary of Canoe Routes

B=Beginner, I=Intermediate, A=Advanced

<u>Route</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Est. Time Required</u>	<u>Skill Level</u>	<u># of Portages</u>
#1 Manitouwadge to Lake Superior	148 KM	Major	6 days	I/A	13
#2 McKay Lake to Lake Superior	210 KM	Major	5-7 days	I	10
#3 White Otter River to Lake Superior	166 KM	Major	4-5 days	B	5
#4 Boot Lake to Lake Superior	129 KM	Major	4-5 days	B/I/A	19
#5 Foch River North to Highway 11	105 KM	Major	4-5 days	B/I/A	14
#6 Hatley Lake to Lake Superior	137 KM	Major	4-5 days	I/A	None Documented
#7 White Lake to Ketchup Lake to Pickle Lake to Garnham Lake to Macutagon Lake	51 KM	Major	3 days	B	6
#8 Macutagon Creek to Highway 614	33 KM	Minor	3-4 days	B	3
#9 Nama Creek to Lake Superior	94 KM	Minor	3-4 days	B/I	7
#10 Hatley Lake to Killala Lake Bridge	57 KM	Minor	3 days	I/A	None Documented
#11 Manitouwadge to Highway 614	58 KM	Minor	3-4 days	I	8
#12 Manitou Falls to Highway 17	90 KM	Minor	3 days	B	None
#13 Macutagon Creek to Russell's Landing	17 KM	Day	3-5 hours	B	2
#14 Manitouwadge to Agonzon Lake	24 KM	Day	1 day	I	5
#15 Russell's Landing to Black River	22 KM	Day	1 day	B/I	2
#16 Osawin River to Bound Lake Road	18 KM	Day	8 hours	B	None Known

Major Routes





Manitouwadge to Black River to Highway 17 or Lake Superior



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#1 MANITOUWADGE TO BLACK RIVER TO HIGHWAY 17 OR LAKE SUPERIOR

This route is for the average canoeist. However, if you choose to run/chute the rapids you should be aware that experience and technical skills are required. The lower portion of the Black River to Hwy 614 to Lake Superior is for the intermediate canoeist.

Distance:	148 km
Estimated Time:	6 days
Rating:	Intermediate/Advanced
Topographic Maps:	42 F4 Manitouwadge 42 C13 White Lake 42 C12 Cedar Lake 42 D9 Marathon
Entry Point:	Manitouwadge Town Dock or Lion's Beach
Exit Point:	Black River Bridge on Highway 17 or Lake Superior

Note: There is a railway bridge entering Little Mose Lake. Depending on the water level you may be required to portage around this obstacle.

Portages:	13	See accompanying map
	P1	308 m on the left (south) side, choice of two trails depending on water levels one campsite at this portage
	P2	132 m on the left (east) side, very steep and rough—potentially dangerous two people are required to carry the canoe in low water, you may be able to line your canoe
	P3	75 m on the left (east) side, lineable in low water and runnable in high water 2 campsites, one on the east and one on the west side of the river
	P4	400 m on the left (east) side
	P5	250 m on the left (north) due to rapids at the entrance to Agonzon Lake DO NOT RUN THESE RAPIDS
	P6	611 m on the left (north) (starts off on an old road) campsite by landing There are 3 sets of rapids. You can run these but only experienced canoeists should attempt to run the 1 st and 2 nd sets of rapids.

1st set of rapids - runnable; precarious portaging over huge boulders on left

2nd set of rapids – long

3rd set of rapids – chute or portage (40± m) on left side of river, red flagging tape marks the trail. Continue over large boulders to end of rapids and through trees by remains of hunt camp. This is a good place to load canoes because there is lots of room.

P7 638 m on the right side, due to 4 sets of rapids
follow an old logging road
1 campsite at the beginning of the portage and a swimming area at the end
of the portage trail

1st set of rapids – no trail; right side of river (250± m) through jack pine and spruce;
terminates at a sand beach.

2nd set of rapids – short; must ferry to left side of river to avoid a pillow then go right and
raft up on right side of river.

3rd set of rapids – difficult to walk through and short. When you come to a section where
the river forks, go right (narrow). You can walk the canoe through (there are many large
boulders) or you can portage gear in canoes through roughly brushed out area.

4th set of rapids – can line canoes on right side, in high water these are runnable but very
technical; very little manoeuvring room.

P8 600-700 m on the right side, on logging road
campsite located at start of portage and excellent swimming area
Warning: Be mindful of oxbow.

P9 400-500 m on the left side, due to rapids
2 camping areas-1 on lower part of portage and 1 on a sandbar nearby.

P10 200 m on the right side, due to rapids and rocks, very steep

P11 700 m on the left side, due to rapids
2 campsites-1 on left bank under cedar grove and 1 on island across from the
portage.

P12 20 m on the left side, due to rapids in high water, this may be runnable
1 good camping area on a sandbar downstream from rapids

P13 1000 m on right side, due to falls and hydro electric dam, follow the gravel road
no designated campsites but many areas suitable for camping

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.

Cautions: Portages are in poor shape or virtually non-existent from Hwy. 614 to Lake Superior. Portages 10 & 11 are especially rugged and overgrown.

Wind may be a factor on Agonzon Lake, you may become wind bound.

As water decreases, swifts are tighter, log jams and rocks become a problem.

Parts of the Black River have very steep banks.

Restrictions: Forbidden access to hydroelectric project/falls.

Emergency Exit: 2 km past portage 11 there is a road (Swede Road) you can use if your trip must be cut short.

Campsites: Are indicated at portages 1,3,6,7,8,9,11,12 and 13. Aside from these campsites, there may be other clearings along the river suitable for camping.

Fishing: Pickerel, pike
Spawning area (at beginning of Agonzon Lake) Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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.

There are several osprey resting sites in this area and also a blue heron nest can be seen just before Kagu Lake.

Points of Interest: 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.

Falls and rapids along the river are beautiful and scenic.

Native people used this river system to hunt, trap and transport goods.

J.E. Thomson travelled this route on his return trip from the Manitowadge Lake area to the CNR at Heron Bay in 1931.

In 1953, Geco Mines used the Black River and the lower end of Kagu Lake to barge building supplies by canoe.

The Black River was log driven until 1964.

Logging camps existed at various points along the river. Today, there are still many clearings and other evidence of logging history.

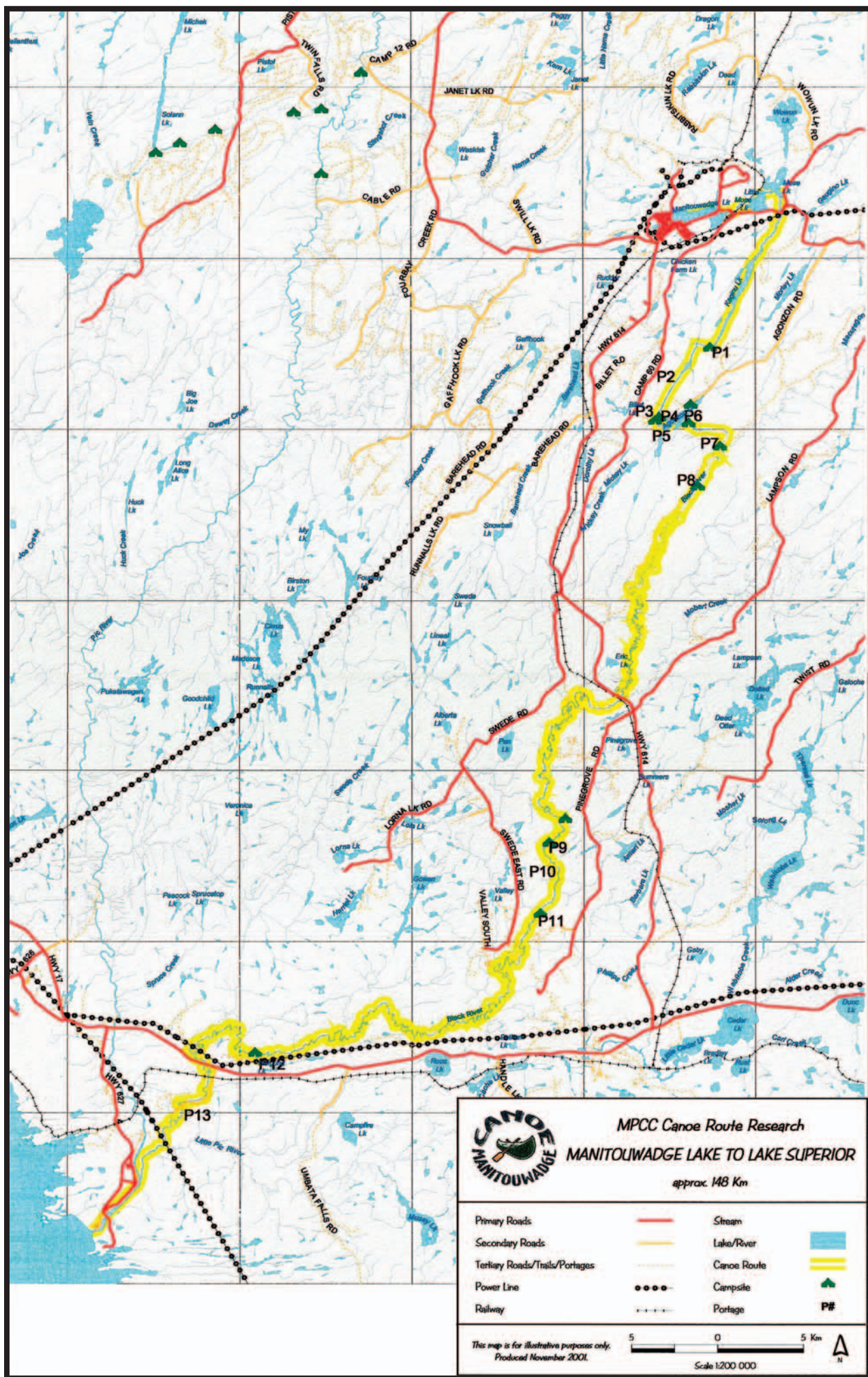
The remains of a dock for unloading logs are still visible at Agonzon Lake. The logs were dumped into Agonzon Lake and driven down the Black River.

South of Agonzon Lake, the valley through which the Black flows, widens and forms a fairly flat basin covered by glacial deposits.

P.O.W. German work camps and logging camps existed at various points along the river. Today, there are still clearings. One notable clearing is on the left bank upstream from Amwri and along Pinegrove Road.

Just north of Rouse Lake along the Black River, there is a gorge with huge clay formations. The view is scenic. At one time, there was a logging camp in the area.

A flume on the Black River, constructed by Ontario Paper Company in 1937 was the longest in the world at 3 ½ miles long. It was required in order to keep the logs of the two companies (Marathon Paper Mills and Ontario Paper Company) separated on the last leg of their journey to Lake Superior. Ontario Paper held its wood on the Black River above the junction of the Black and Pic Rivers. From this point, the flume spanned overland to a wharf site at Heron Bay.



* note *

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**McKay Lake Rd. (1 KM south of Caramat)
to Pic River or Highway 17 or Lake Superior**



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#2 MCKAY LAKE RD. (1 KM SOUTH OF CARAMAT) TO PIC RIVER OR HIGHWAY 17 OR LAKE SUPERIOR

This route is for canoeists looking for an adventure. The trip will take you past many of the areas challenging rapids and magnificent waterfalls as you follow the route travelled by natives and voyageurs long ago. This is the longest canoe route in the region offering a variety of scenery waiting to be photographed. Take a glimpse into the past upon viewing weathered driftwood which litters the riverbed and banks, the deadheads in the river, the foundations of a watchman's shack or an old boat propped against a tree.

Distance:	210 km
Estimated Time:	5 to 7 days
Rating:	Intermediate
Topographical Maps:	42 E9 Pagwachuan Lake 42 E8 Kagiano Lake 42 E1 Vein Lake 42 D16 Goodchild Lake 42 D9 Marathon
Entry Point:	The junction of Pic River and McKay Lake Road
Exit Point(s):	Junction of Pic River and Hwy 17 or Lake Superior

Portages: **10** See accompanying map

P1	40 m	on left side, Big Rock rapids
P2	30 m	on left side, rapids
P3	40 m	on right side, Deadman Rapids
P4	100 m	on right side, bridge and 2 sets of rapids
P5	45 m	straight through from Kawepiti Lake to Jackfish Pond
P6	1.75 km	straight through "Dying Portage" from Jackfish Pond to Pic River, campsite
P7	500 m	on left side, High Falls-very steep, clay slippery when wet campsite
P8	100-150 m	on right side, upper portion at Middle Falls
P9	150 m	on left side, lower portion at Middle Falls, campsite
P10	150 m	on left side, Manitou Falls, campsite

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.

Caution: On lower portion of the Pic River, wind may be a factor

Campsites: In addition to those indicated at portages 7, 9 & 10:

- 1) Tickseed Road on left side
- 2) Beginning of Waboosekon Lake
- 3) Waboosekon Dam on right side
- 4) Michal Lake Road and Pic River
- 5) Lower Landing Road and Pic River

The Pic River has a history of logging. You will find many clearings (where camps once stood) that would make suitable camping areas.

Fishing: Pike, pickerel, rainbow trout and sturgeon
Fish spawning area at Mair Road and Pic River and at Michal Lake Road and Pic River. There is also a fish spawning area at Manitou Falls. Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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.

Also, osprey can be seen along the way. Yellow hawkweed, northern green orchids and cedars grow abundantly at the base of High Falls due to high moisture levels.

Points of Interest: Dying Portage-traditionally this portage was used by many loggers to avoid the Kawepiti Rapids.

Foundations of a “watchman’s shack” from a lumber camp, were observed in the woods along the trail at the top of High Falls. At one time, the lumber company employed people to observe and correct log jams. The men used ladders to access and free the logs. Up until the 1970’s, remnants of the ladders could be seen along the edge of the falls and the shoreline.

In high water, the valley is flooded to a height of 8-12 feet as evidenced by the lack of growth (to that height) on the cedar trees that grow along the river. Speckled trout are also said to be abundant in high water.

Sandy Hill Portage, located on the opposite side of the falls is also a very steep and sandy portage (reportedly so steep that your nose practically touches the ground as you attempt to ascend). Historically, a windlass (a system of pulleys) was used to haul goods and York boats from the base to the top of the falls. There is no longer any evidence of the windlass.

The first piano and cow to reach Longlac were transported up the Pic River via the windlass at High Falls.

The Pic is one of the major rivers emptying into Lake Superior. Huge banks of carved clay and silt can be seen along the route.

The earliest evidence of human life in the Pic area are the “*Pukaskwa Pits*” -strange excavations of boulders which can be found in many locations along the north shore. These excavations could be up to 3500 years old.

Traditionally, the Natives used the Pic River as a canoe route to reach Manitouwadge Lake via the Pic, Nama Creek and a series of small lakes and connecting portages.

Fort Pic, a fur trading post, was situated at the mouth of the Pic River. This fort was the smallest, but by far, the most important as it was access to the north.

One of the routes the Pic River figured into during the fur trade was up the Pic and White Otter Rivers to White Otter Lake and through a chain of lakes and portages into the Nagagami River watershed. Presumably, the portage was into Bound Lake since depressions of mocassin trails could be seen along the portage just east of Bound Lake, even in 30 inches of snow.

Manitou Falls is at mile 69 or 70 from the mouth of the Pic River. It is the first barrier that people canoeing from Lake Superior would encounter, consequently it is probably a historical camping ground. Traditionally, the natives and fur traders navigated the Pic River to journey inland. The portage is evidence of this as it looks well worn.

A rotational slump which looks like a huge landslide or erosion can be seen at Manitou Falls. Typically this is not an erosion but a phenomenon where the top most layer rotates downward in a circular motion, pushing the riverbed up. This happened in the early eighties blocking off the river and forcing the water to carve a new, more sharply curved path in the valley.

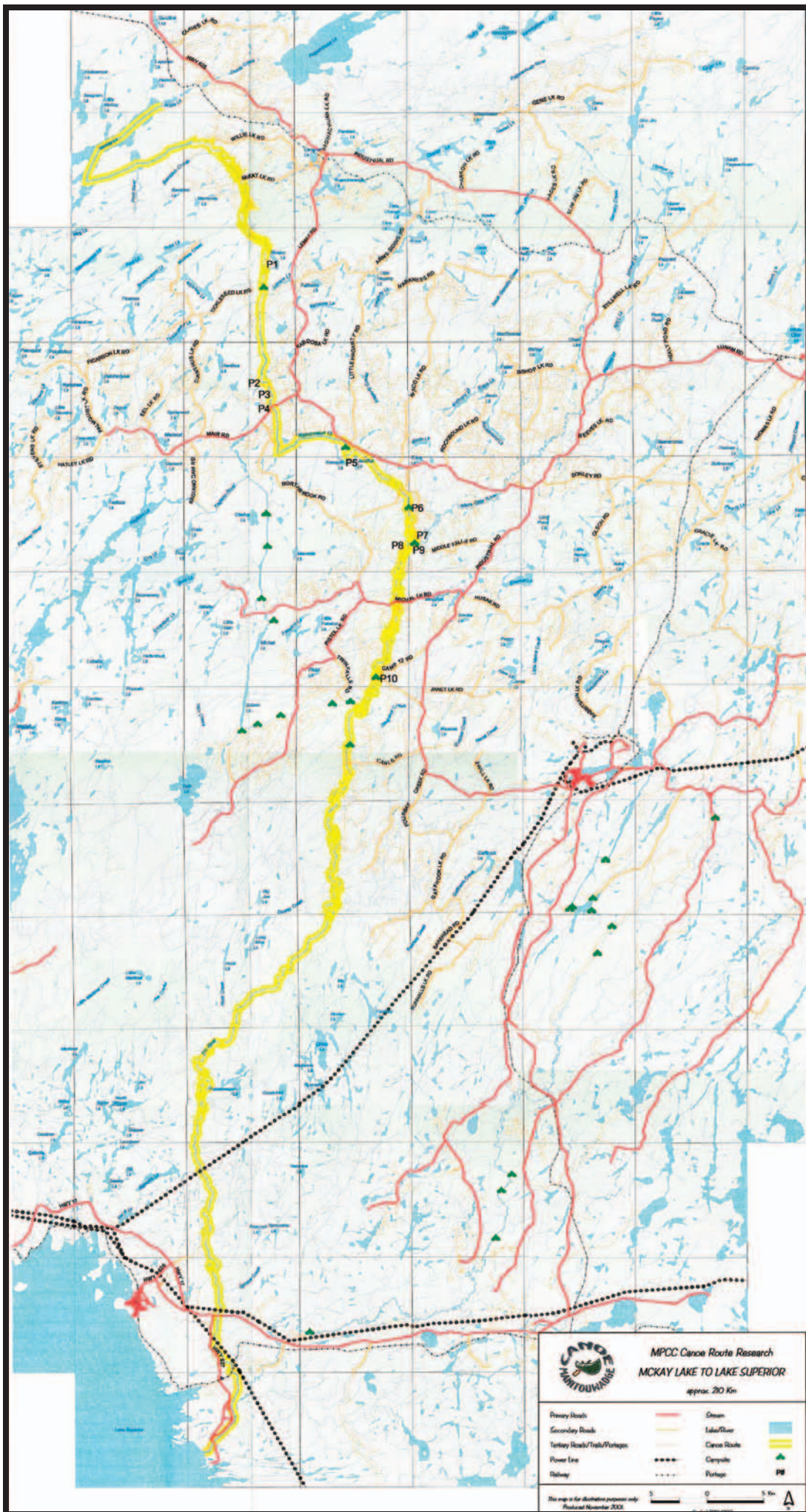
Along the shores of the river, little rocks that were transported by glaciers from Hudson's Bay can be observed. These rocks are commonly referred to as glacial drift.

Evidence points to some volcanic activity in the area but it has not been confirmed.

There was a logging camp at Manitou Falls that was abandoned in the 1970's. A stand of jack pine has been planted in rows. Clearings of flat grassy land surrounding the jack pine are further evidence of the campsite being located in that area. There are remnants of logging everywhere in the area; piles of old logs, the foundation of an old winch shack, parts of equipment (much of which has been torn down and hauled away). Logs and log jams in the river and falls are also reminders of the logging days gone by.

In 1931, J.E. Thomson canoed the portion of the Pic River from Heron Bay to Nama Creek to travel to the Manitouwadge Lake area to conduct a geological survey.

POW work camps (logging) were situated along the shores of the Pic River.



* note *

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White Otter River to Pic River to Highway 17 or Lake Superior



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#3 WHITE OTTER RIVER TO PIC RIVER TO HIGHWAY 17 OR LAKE SUPERIOR

This route is for the average canoeist. Beginners can enjoy this trip as well but are advised to use the portages. The White Otter River is slow and meandering, with occasional deep pools, but is also comprised of sections of fast moving water. It is a beautiful scenic river with many opportunities for photography or wildlife viewing.

Distance:	166 km
Estimated Time:	4-5 days
Rating:	Beginner
Topographic Maps:	42 F5 White Otter River 42 E8 Kagiano Lake 42 E1 Vein Lake 42 D16 Goodchild Lake 42 D9 Marathon
Entry Point:	Junction of White Otter River and Caramat Road
Exit Point:	Junction of Pic River and hwy 17 or Lake Superior

Portages:	5	See accompanying map
P1	30 m	on right or left side (depending on water level), Fitzgerald Rapids
P2	20 m	on right side, rapids may be runnable but use caution
P3	500 +m	on right side, bridge and Skunk rapids
P4	40 m	on right side, rapids
P5	150 m	on left side, Manitou Falls, campsite

There are six bridges along the route. It is doubtful if any of them will require portages.

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

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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.

- Cautions:**
- 1) The first portion of the White Otter River may be littered with logs and rocks. Look out for these obstacles.
 - 2) The water levels may be dangerously high and fast in the spring especially at Skunk Rapids - be sure to portage here.
 - 3) Once you are on the lower portion of the Pic River wind may be a factor.

Campsites: Campsites are found at P5-Manitou Falls, Michal Lake Road and Pic River, Lower Landing Road and Pic River and where the White Otter River meets the Pic there is a nice sandy beach which makes a good camping area.

Fishing: Rainbow trout, speckled trout, pike and pickerel.
Fish spawning area at Manitou Falls—Restrictions apply.

There are fish regulations on the Pic River at Michal Lake Road due to a division change. Here you must refer to the *Fishing Regulations Guide*.

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: The White Otter was the first river to be log driven by Marathon Paper Mills.

It has been said that some bush workers found Indian artifacts such as stone cutting tools along the White Otter.

The Pic is one of the major rivers emptying into Lake Superior. Huge banks of carved clay and silt can be seen along the route.

The earliest evidence of human life in the Pic area are the “*Pukaskwa Pits*” -strange excavations of boulders which can be found in many locations along the north shore. These excavations could be up to 3500 years old.

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Along the shores of the river, little rocks that were transported by glaciers from Hudson’s Bay can be observed. These rocks are commonly referred to as glacial drift.

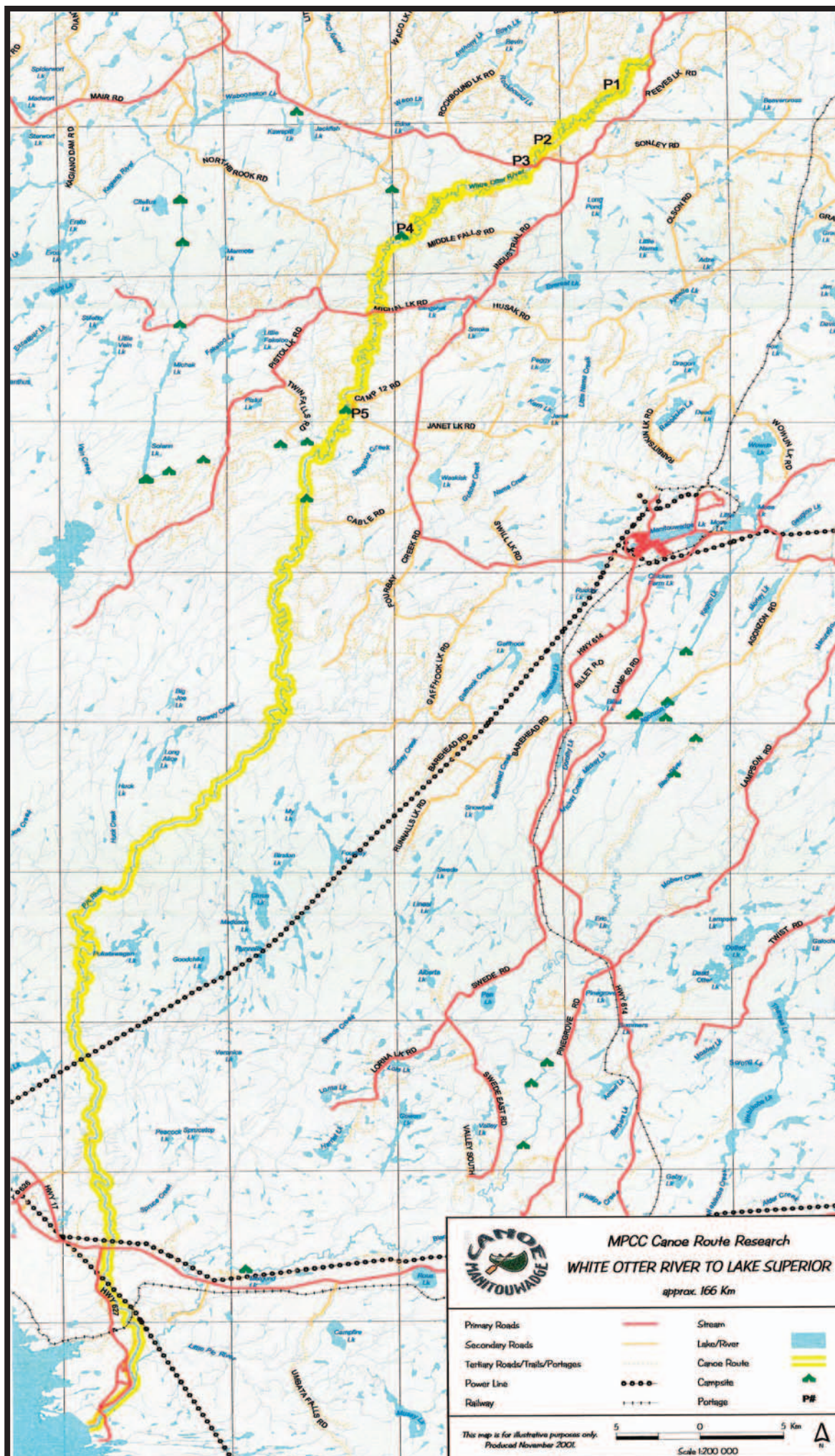
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There was a logging camp at Manitou Falls that was abandoned in the 1970’s. A stand of jack pine has been planted in rows. Clearings of flat grassy land surrounding the jack pine are further evidence of the campsite being located in that area. There are remnants of logging everywhere in the area; piles of old logs, the foundation of an old winch shack, parts of equipment (much of which has been torn down and hauled away). Logs and log jams in the river and falls are also reminders

of the logging days gone by.

In 1931, J.E. Thomson canoed the portion of the Pic River from Heron Bay to Nama Creek to travel to the Manitouwadge Lake area to conduct a geological survey.

POW work camps (logging) were situated along the shores of the Pic River.



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**Boot Lake to Kagiano River to Pic River to
Highway 17 or Lake Superior**



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4 BOOT LAKE TO KAGIANO RIVER TO PIC RIVER TO HIGHWAY 17 OR LAKE SUPERIOR

The Kagiano River is a beautiful trip that includes both flat and minor white water paddling. It is a great experience for any skill level canoeist although there is a fair degree of portaging required. The route has spectacular scenery and good fishing.

Distance:	129 km
Estimated Time:	4-5 days
Rating:	Beginner/Intermediate/Advanced
Topographic Maps:	42 E8 Kagiano Lake 42 E1 Vein Lake 42 D16 Goodchild Lake 42 D9 Marathon
Entry Point:	Boot Lake Camp 54/Mair Road (77 km from town)
Exit Point:	Hwy 17 (82 km) or Lake Superior (106 km)

Portages: **19** See accompanying map

P1	40 m	on right side over bedrock, depending on water level you may be able to line your canoe through
P2	400 m	on left side, beaver dam and depending on water level you may have to portage
P3	68 m	on left side, swifts, could paddle through in low water
P4	66 m	on left side, may be used instead of reloading canoe from P3
P5	78 m	on left side, may be lined in low water
P6	475 m	on left side, log jam at start of portage, 2 campsites
P7	240 m	on right side, campsite for 2-3 tents at end of portage
P8	150 m	on left side, rocky and muddy ending
P9	540 m	on right side, flat, campsite for 5-6 tents at end
P10	263 m	on left side, swifts just before portage, small campsite at beginning
P11	129 m	on left side, swifts which may be difficult in high water but runnable in low water
P12	230 m	on left side, easy, campsite at end of portage
P13a	80 m	on right side
P13b	150 m	can be used during high water, otherwise rapids can be lined or paddled keeping to the left side

For the next 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ km there are log jams; the larger ones have portages around them; the smaller ones you can pick your way through.

P14	83 m	log jam on left side
P15	60 m	log jam on right side
P16	180 m	on right side, Cedar Falls campsite at top of falls, good swimming at bottom of portage
P17	73 m	on left side, log jam
P18	505 m	on right side, Twin Falls; very steep drop; treacherous during wet weather, campsite at base of falls on island, good swimming and fishing holes
P19	363 m	on left side

Once you flow into the Pic River there will likely not be any portaging required.
From here on the river slows down and it is about a 1 hour paddle to the Lower Landing Road.
Also, the banks are steep so stay to the right hand side of the river so that the road is visible.

There are six bridges along the route. It is doubtful if any of them will require portages.

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

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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.

Cautions: There are swifts on the last stretch of the Kagiano River and on the Pic River about 2½ km down from where the Kagiano empties. Both of these are runnable but use caution. The current will increase rapidly in some areas. All rapids and falls must be approached with caution, particularly the approach to Twin Falls where the current increases very quickly.

There is a power dam located at Twin Falls. Stay away from the intake, use the portage around it!

Winds can spring up quickly on the larger lakes.

Campsites: 14 designated campsites on the Kagiano River portages including:
Michal Lake on small sand beach, large enough for 2 tents
Solann Lake at south end on east side it rounds into river-big enough for 4 separate large campsites.

Fishing: There are pickerel and northern pike along the Kagiano River and associated lakes.
Speckled trout on fast water areas east of P5 and also in the scattered feeder creeks and small streams along the route. Good fishing holes can be found at P18. Just prior to Michal Lake there is a fish sanctuary and no fishing is allowed from March 15-June 15. Also there are 5 fish spawning areas; 2 on Kagiano and 3 on the Pic. Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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.

From start to bottom of Solann Lake there is a good opportunity to see moose.

Along the Kagiano there are numerous Osprey resting sites.

Twin Falls area: influence of mist from falls has created a microclimate that supports regionally and locally rare orchids, there is a known total of 22 species existing at the falls site now. Rattlesnake plantain, round leafed orchid, yellow lady's slipper, asters, elderberry, blue bead lilies, solomon's seed, Saskatoon berries, black ash, sarsparilla, arrowhead and many types of mushrooms are some species of plants found here.

Points of Interest:

During the late 1940's this river was used as an important water level regulating system for river driving pulp logs. The remains of the old drop-log dams may still be seen in some areas.

David and Michal Lakes were named after the children of an early logging industry employee and Solann was named after his wife and himself.

Twin Falls is a 600 m stretch of rock which once consisted of cascading falls, chutes and rapids. Kagiano dam now exists on the site.

The Pic is one of the major rivers emptying into Lake Superior. Huge banks of carved clay and silt can be seen along the route.

The earliest evidence of human life in the Pic area are the "*Puckasaw Pits*" -strange excavations of boulders which can be found in many locations along the north shore. These excavations could be up to 3500 years old.

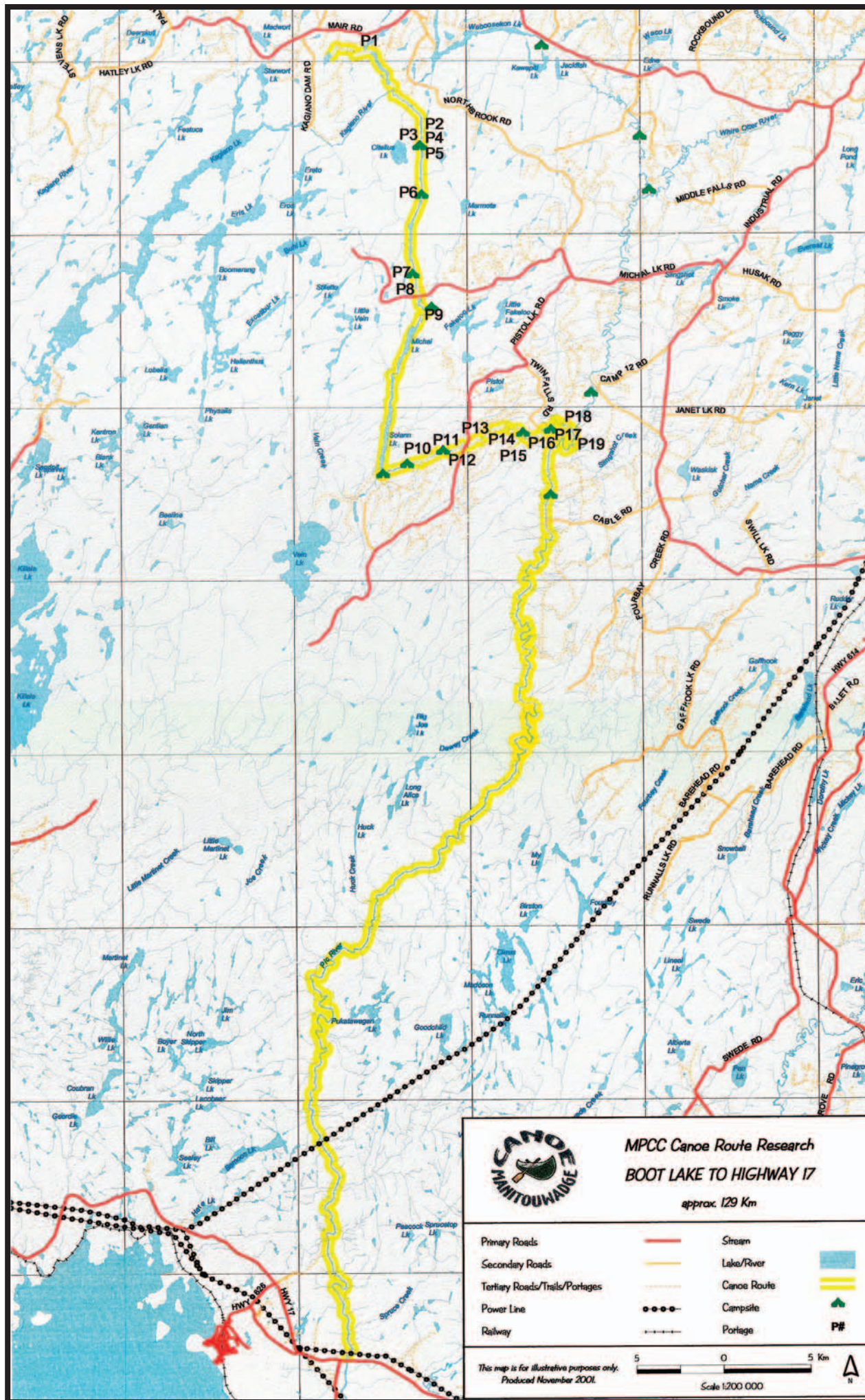
Traditionally, the Natives used the Pic River as a canoe route to reach Manitouwadge Lake via the Pic, Nama Creek and a series of small lakes and connecting portages.

Fort Pic, a fur trading post, was situated at the mouth of the Pic River. This fort was the smallest, but by far, the most important as it was access to the north.

One of the routes the Pic River figured into during the fur trade was up the Pic and White Otter Rivers to White Otter Lake and through a chain of lakes and portages into the Nagagami River watershed. Presumably, the portage was into Bound Lake since depressions of mocassin trails could be seen along the portage just east of Bound Lake, even in 30 inches of snow.

In 1931, J.E. Thomson canoed the portion of the Pic River from Heron Bay to Nama Creek to travel to the Manitouwadge Lake area to conduct a geological survey.

POW work camps (logging) were situated along the shores of the Pic River.



* note *

This map has been reproduced for visual purposes and may not be to scale.



Foch River North to Nagagami Lake to Highway 11



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#5 FOCH RIVER TO NAGAGAMI LAKE TO HIGHWAY 11

This route has a combination of shallow and fast flowing sections with rapids and small waterfalls. It offers excellent fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities and will challenge all levels of canoeing ability.

Distance:	105 km
Estimated Time:	4-5 days
Rating:	Beginner/Intermediate/Advanced
Topographic Maps:	42 F6 Nagagami Lake 42 F7 Nagagamisis Lake 42 F10 Ahmabel Lake 42 F15 Pitopiko River 42 E10 Geraldton
Entry Point:	Junction of Flanders Lake Road and Foch River
Exit Point:	Junction of Foch River and Highway 11

Portages: **14** See accompanying map

You will paddle approximately 20 km before you hit the first portage. You will reach a fork (Foch Island) where you should keep to the right. Portages are not a convenience. They are for your safety.

P1	500 m	on the right side, due to rapids
P2	40 m	on the left side, Bald Rock Rapids, campsite
P3	260 m	on the left side, Boulder Bay Rapids, campsite
P4	140 m	on the right side, rapids
P5	600 m	on the right side, rapids, campsite

Warning: At this point, you will be heading toward Nagagami Lake. The wind can make Nagagami Lake treacherous. As a rule, winds are at their peak during high noon and at their lowest in early morning and late evening.

P6	350 m	on the right side, Couchiching Rapids, campsite
P7	110 m	on the left side, rapids
P8	70 m	on the left side, Trout Rapids
P9	600 m	on the left side, Gull Rock Rapids
P10	50 m	on the left side, White Owl Rapids
P11	1500 m	on left side, Dirty Bush Rapids 2 campsites, one at the beginning and one at the end
P12	50 m	on left side, Island Rapids
P13	1000 m	on the left side, Rough Rock Portage, campsite

P14 1700 m on the left side, Jack Pine Rapids, “The Canyon”
Warning: The Canyon portage must be taken; no return is feasible once you get started. It is a very steep return to the river at the end of the Canyon Portage. It is also slippery when wet. Prepare to slide down with or without your canoe.
3 campsites: 1 at the beginning and 2 near the end

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.

Note: In case of emergency, there are several lodges in the Nagagami Lake area.

Campsites: In addition to the campsites listed at the portages, there are several campsites along the route (refer to map). Please use the campsites already constructed. There are also several tourist camps.

Fishing: White fish, brook trout, speckled trout, pickerel and pike.
Fish sanctuary – Fishing prohibited May 15 - June 15 to protect spawning areas. There are four fish spawning areas on the Foch River before Nagagami Lake. Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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.

There are osprey resting sites along this route.

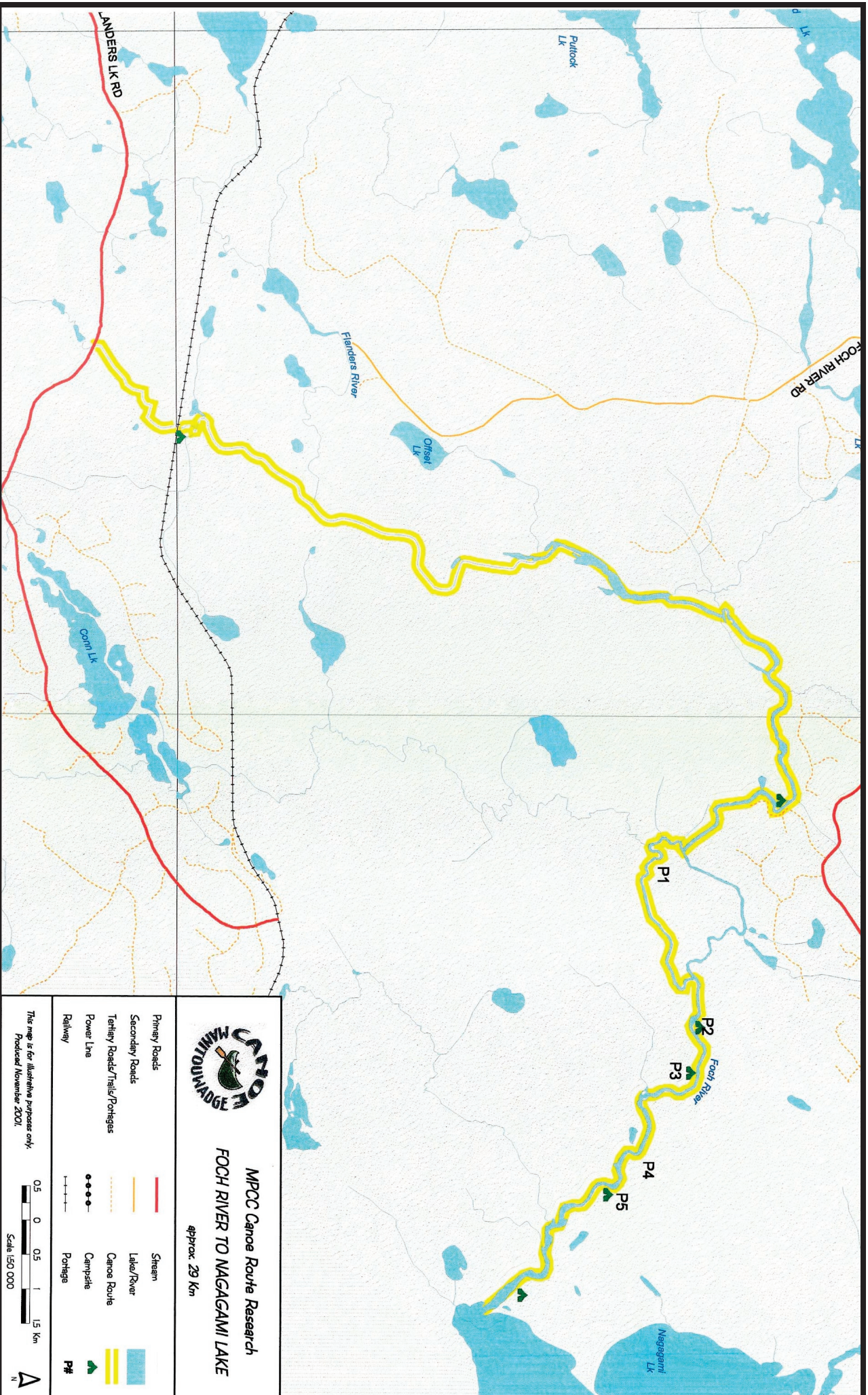
Typical boreal forest – black spruce, jack pine, poplar and cedars.

Points of Interest: At one time, a fur trading post stood on the lake.

During your trip on the Nagagami River, you will pass through Nagagami Provincial Nature Reserve Park protecting interesting glacial landforms and wetlands.

* note *

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Hatley Lake to Little Pic River to Lake Superior



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#6 HATLEY LAKE TO LITTLE PIC RIVER TO LAKE SUPERIOR

This route is for the intermediate to advanced canoeist. Everyone we spoke to indicated that approximately the first 5 km of the Little Pic River below Hatley Lake are not easily navigable due to log jams and at certain times of the year, low water levels. Additional research is required to determine if parts of this route are viable. A section of the Little Pic River from Hatley Lake could prove to be impassable. Extensive work to clear certain sections of the river would be needed to make it a feasible route. Launching at Islington Lake will make up for the difficulties encountered with its beautiful scenery.

Distance:	137 km
Estimated Time:	4 - 5 days
Rating:	Intermediate to Advanced
Topographic Maps:	42 E7 Spider Lake 42 E2 Killala Lake 42 E1 Vein Lake 42 D15 Coldwell 42 D16 Goodchild Lake
Entry Point:	Hatley Lake (via Stevens Lake Rd.) 70 km (2 hours from Manitouwadge).
Exit Point:	Lake Superior

Portages: See below (Information taken from topo maps and interviews)

From the bottom of Hatley Lake to Islington Lake, there are no known portages, however, you may be required to drag your canoe in low water. Sections of this part of the river have very steep banks; in these areas you will not be able to get off the river.

4 km from campsite at entrance of Islington Lake, there will be fast water (narrows, possibly rapids).

5 km from campsite you will encounter fast flowing water (narrows, possibly rapids).

At mileage 7 from the campsite, there is an old rock dam which may have been part of a bridge. In this area of the river, you may have to walk or line your canoe.

You can exit the river through Jack pine Rd., Deadhorse at mileage 42 (on your right), a good place to camp.

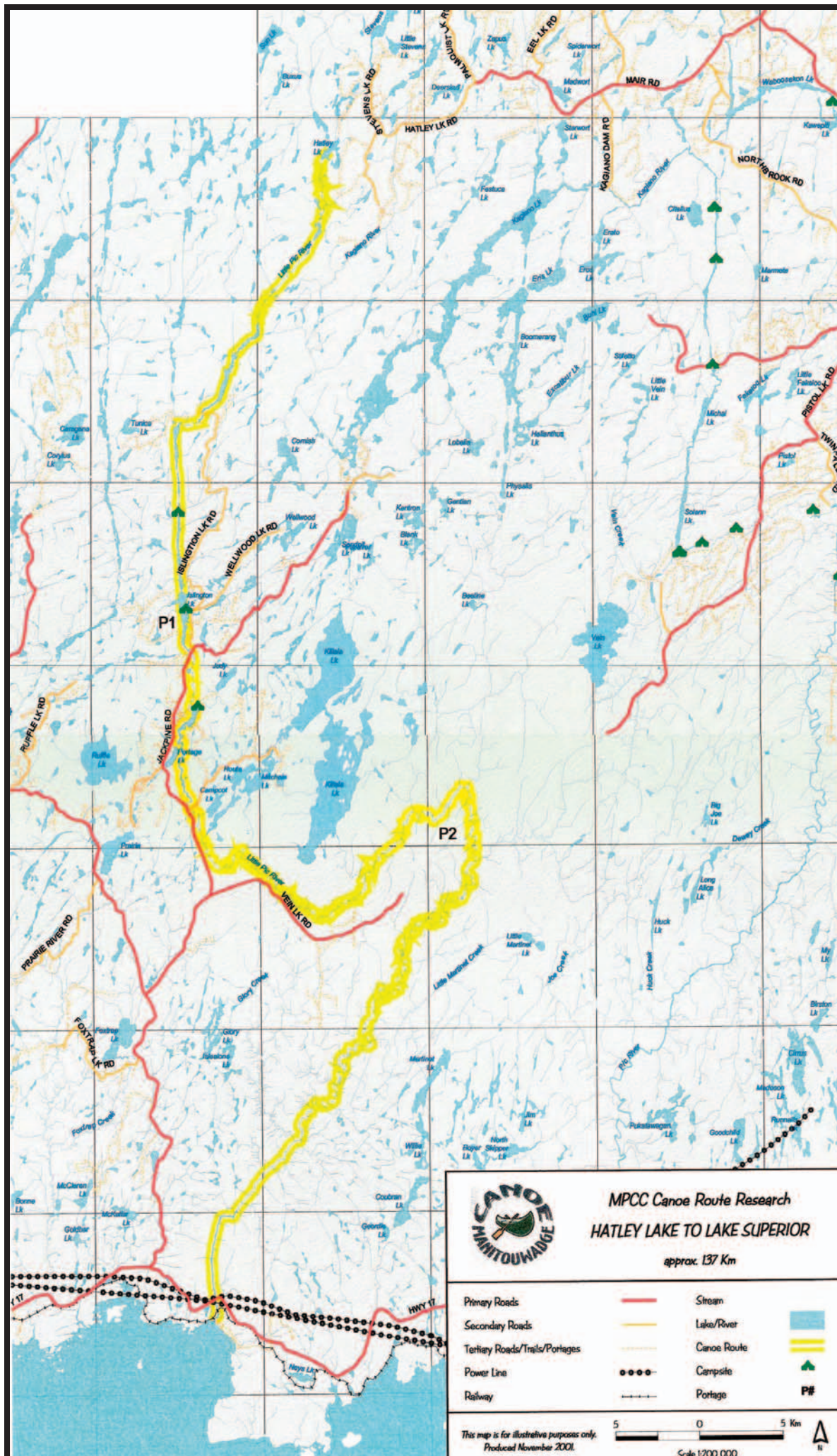
From this point on, there is a section of good paddling followed by a stretch of small drop offs and an 8-9 km span comprised of 3 falls/cascades between 40 to 60 feet high. There are no portage trails, so you will have to make your own trails. Good trout fishing. Very scenic - good photo opportunities. Old lumber camps nearby.

Below Killala Lake Creek there is a series of rapids on and off for approximately 6 km. The banks are steep and gorge-like.

Bottom section of Little Pic River is whitewater. No portages.

Water level varies depending on amount of rain. Very steep canyon-like walls, once you get on you must canoe through. The banks are muddy and finding a campsite will prove to be a difficult task. Not a scenic area, water always very dirty.

Caution:	Watch for falls and other drop offs; they are not marked, signed or indicated in any way. If you want to portage on the river bank you will have to make your own trail(s).
Campsites:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hatley Lake - nice sandy beach, good campsite, lots of clearings, very clear water. 2) Entrance to Islington Lake - little beach can be a campsite (in low water you may have to portage). 3) On left side of Islington Lake there is a nice sandy beach on the point, good camping. 4) On the north side of Killala Lake Creek there is a field - remnants of old logging camp, a good camping area.
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>Blue herons and eagles are also part of the magnificent scenery.</p>
Fishing:	Excellent rainbow trout fishing at the 3 falls, there is also plenty of walleye and speckled trout.
Points of Interest:	<p>Archaeological evidence indicates that humans arrived here to hunt and fish about 4000 years ago. The French built a fur trading post in the 18th. century, followed by a Hudson's Bay Company fort. More recently, the remoteness of the Coldwell peninsula prompted the Canadian government to build a German POW camp at Neys and Angler during World War II.</p> <p>The Little Pic River was previously used to drive logs on spring runs. During the 2nd World War, German POW's worked in logging camps along the Little Pic River. As many as 3 POW camps existed in the area. No buildings are standing anymore; just foundations. There were also 10 POW work camps located 35 km from the mouth of the Little Pic River.</p> <p>The force of the waters on the land has worn the ancient rock into fascinating shapes, which have become legendary. The beauty of the rugged landscape intrigued the Group of Seven artists, A.Y. Jackson, Franklin Carmichael and Lawren Harris, who captured many local scenes in their artwork, the most famous of these being "Pic Island" by Lawren Harris.</p>



* note *

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**White Lake to Ketchup Lake to Pickle Lake
to Garnham Lake to Macutagon Lake**



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

Canoe Route #7

#7 WHITE LAKE TO KETCHUP LAKE TO PICKLE LAKE TO GARNHAM LAKE TO MACUTAGON LAKE

This canoe route consists of a series of lakes which the average canoeist can paddle with the exception of the portages, where advanced skills are required because they are lengthy.

Distance:	51 km
Estimated Time:	2-3 days
Rating:	Intermediate/Advanced
Topographic Maps:	42 F3 Obakamiga Lake 42 C13 White Lake
Entry Point:	Marathon Boat Club, Hwy 17
Exit Point:	Junction of Macutagon Creek and Ice Lake Road

Portages:	6	See accompanying map
P1	1 km	to exit Shabotik Bay
P2	1.50 km	from top of small body of water before White Lake to Ketchup Lake
P3	1 km	from Ketchup Lake to Pickle Lake
P4	2 km	from Pickle Lake to Pickle Creek, easier to portage this part walking along an established trail, (possibly a ski-doo trail)
P5	1.25 km	from Pickle Creek to Garnham Lake
P6	300 m	from Upper Garnham to Macutagon Lake

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.

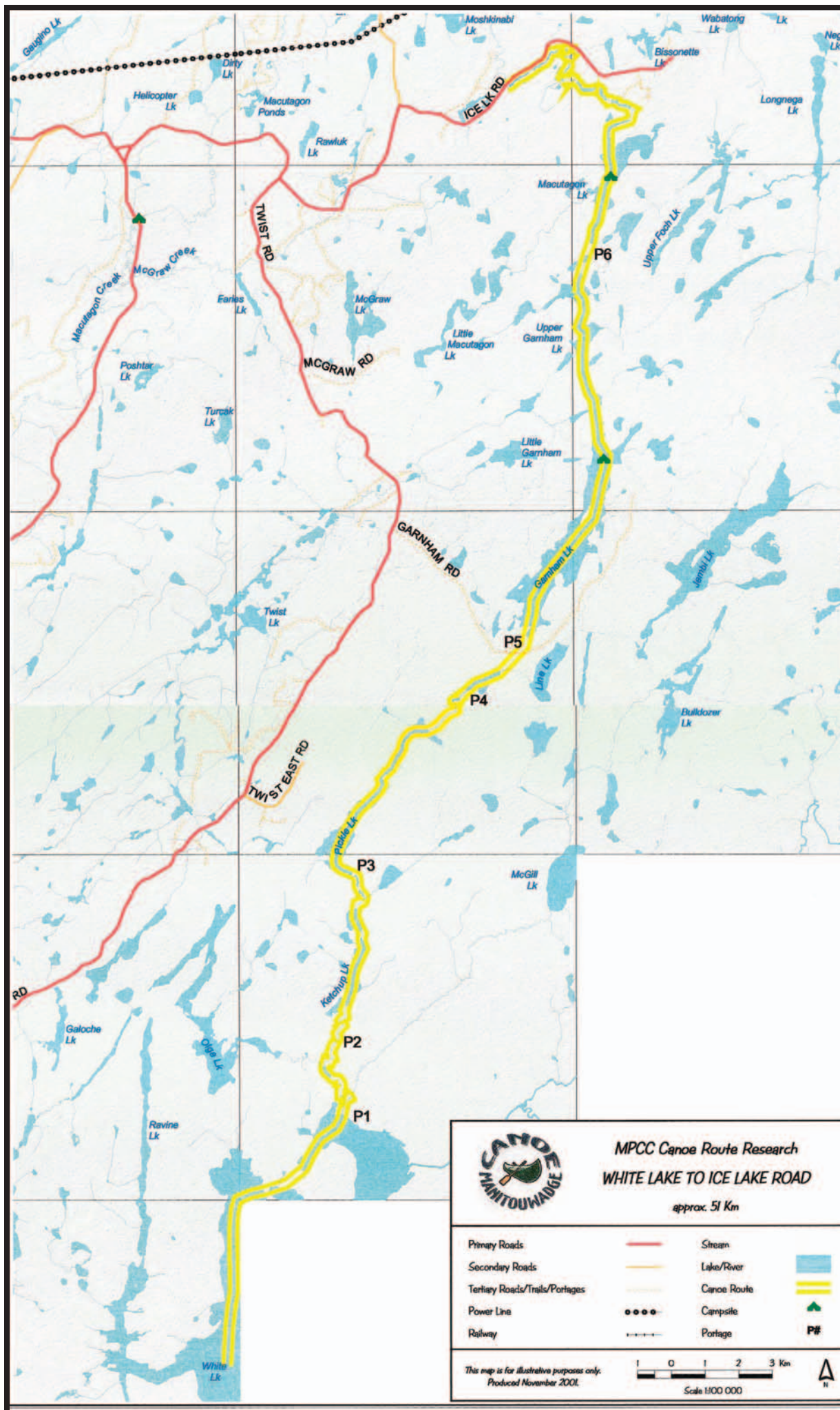
Cautions: With the portages being long, a potential danger is getting lost in the bush.

Due to a lot of lake canoeing the possibility for weather changes is present, especially on Garnham Lake which gets rough in windy/bad weather where the waves can reach 3 feet high. The area of Shabotik Bay is unpredictable and you must proceed with caution as it gets very rough.

Restrictions: Fly-in fishing camps exist on Macutagon Lake and Garnham Lake therefore road access is denied and rules and regulations pertaining to this must be followed.

Note: If a canoeist wishes to start at White Lake Provincial Park the rules and regulations of entering the park must be met and check-in must be made at the park entrance.

- Campsites:** There are no designated campsites but for the most part many options exist, you can camp anywhere you want. There is a little island on Macutagon Lake which would make a good camping spot. An island and a sandpoint exist on Garnham that are also feasible to use as campsites. At the entry of Shabotik Bay, and about ½ way down on the left side of Shabotik Bay you will find campsites. On White Lake, various camps can be found on islands on the lake and in the narrows.
- Fishing:** Pickerel, pike and speckled trout at log jams.
- 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.
- Osprey resting area on Garnham Lake.
- Points of Interest:** This is a traditional native route and has been used by trappers to access Garnham and Macutagon Lakes.



* note *
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Minor Routes





Macutagon Creek to Black River to Highway 614



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#8 MACUTAGON CREEK TO BLACK RIVER TO HIGHWAY 614

This route is ideal for the beginner canoeist. The river is very meandering and narrow with few portages. It also has many bends with log jams that may increase the number of portages. There are beaver dams and small rapids where you can drag yourself through and old logging clearings on the right banks, that make excellent camp sites. The left bank from Russell's Landing to Black River is steep therefore not recommended for campsites. From Camp 53 to a set of rapids is straight paddling. This route makes for an excellent spring run when water levels are at their highest. Wildlife can be seen in abundance with excellent opportunities for photographers or nature observers.

Distance:	33 km
Estimated Time:	3 - 4 days
Rating:	Beginner
Topographic Map:	42 F/4 Manitouwadge 42 C/13 White Lake
Entry Point:	Junction of Twist Lake Rd., Macutagon Creek (Russell's Landing)
Exit Point:	Black River Bridge, Hwy 614

Portages: **3** See accompanying map

- | | | |
|-----------|-------|--|
| P1 | 200 m | on right side, due to rapids |
| P2 | 150 m | on right side, due to rapids |
| P3 | 700 m | on right side, follow old logging road |

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.

Caution: Be mindful of oxbows in the river.

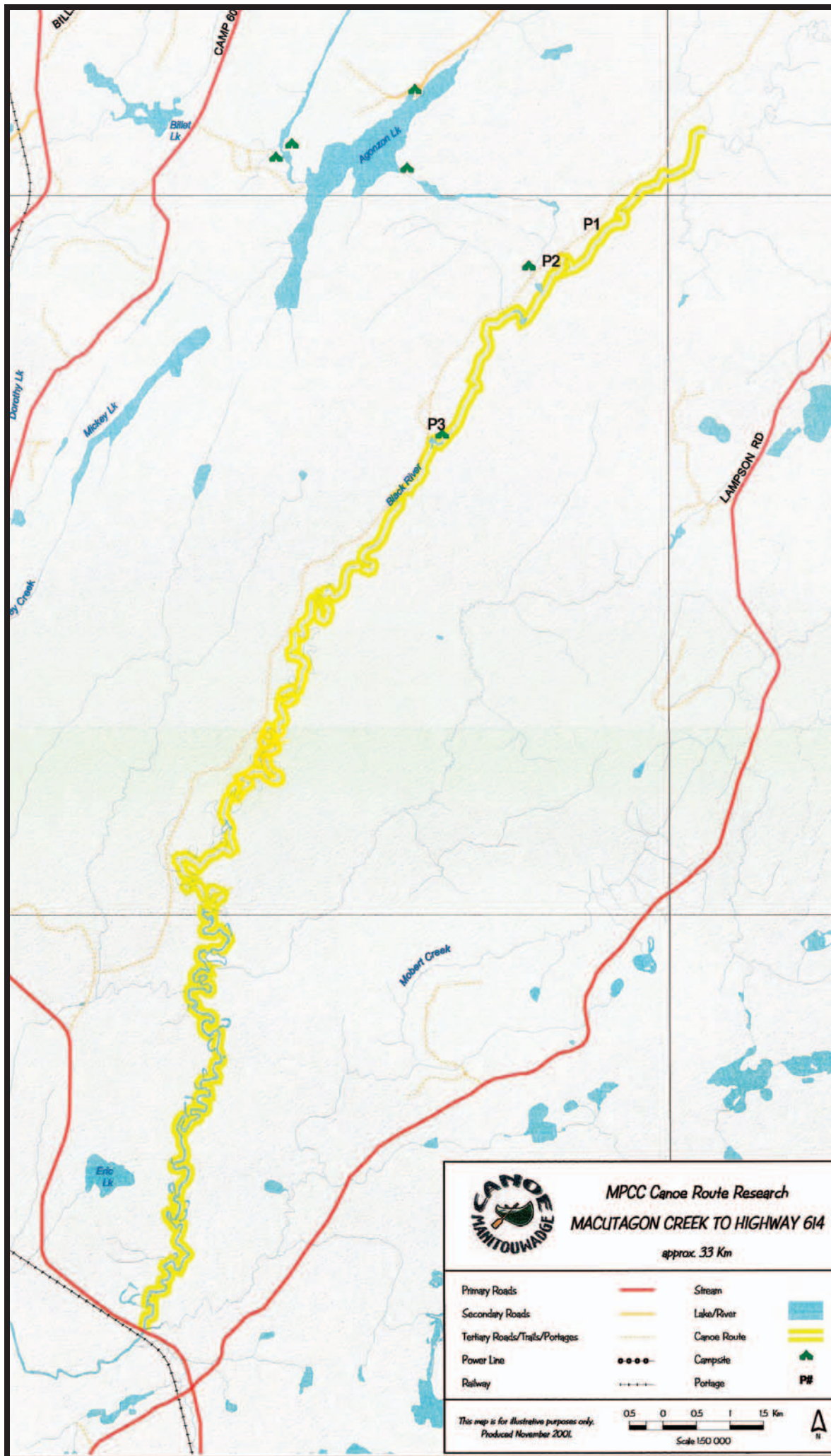
Campsites: There are several campsites along the way with one at Russell's Landing where you will find a huge, flat grassy area and a sandy beach, ideal for camp set up. Another one is located at the start of portage 3 with an excellent swimming area and also one at the Black River Bridge on Hwy 614.

Fishing: Excellent brook trout fishing.

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.

There are many moose aquatic feeding areas along the route.

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



* note *

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Nama Creek to Little Pic to Highway 17 or Lake Superior



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#9 NAMA CREEK TO PIC RIVER TO HIGHWAY 17 OR LAKE SUPERIOR

This route could prove to be quite a challenge. Facts collected during our research indicate that the area from Nama Creek Bridge to Pic River is highly impassible due to low lying trees, log jams and low water levels but on the other hand, Nama Creek may make a good spring run when the water levels are higher. The route is described as rugged, rocky, hilly and steep, with faster flowing water. In certain sections it may seem like you're moving through a gorge.

Distance:	To Hwy 17 - 75 km To Lake Superior 93.59 km
Days:	3 - 4 days
Rating:	Beginner/Intermediate
Entry Point:	Nama Creek Bridge on Industrial (Caramat Rd.) (14 km)
Exit Points:	Junction of Pic River and Hwy 17 (82 km) or where Pic River meets Lake Superior (106 km)
Topographic Maps:	42 E1 Vein Lake 42 D16 Goodchild Lake 42 D9 Marathon

Portages: 7 NOT CONFIRMED (Information taken from Topo Maps)

P1	25 m	on left side of river due to rapids
P2	50 m	on right side of river (series of 3 rapids)
P3	30 m	on right side of river (rapids)
P4	35 m	on left side of river (rapids and falls)
P5	50 m	on left side of river (Nama Falls)
P6	30 m	on left side of river (1- rapids and falls) (2 - rapids and falls)
P7	25 m	on right side of river (rapids)

You will encounter 6 bridges along the route. It is doubtful if any of them will require portages.

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.

Caution: Lower portion of Pic River is very windy, you could become windbound as you approach Hwy 17 and Lake Superior.

Restrictions: Once you pass the Nama Creek Rd., off Four Bay Rd. there are no more exit points. Therefore you must canoe to Highway 17 or Lake Superior.

Campsites: There are many suitable campsites along the Pic River, however these are subject to change due

to the erosion of the clay banks.

Fishing: Excellent brook trout fishing. There is also a spawning area. Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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: The Pic is one of the major rivers emptying into Lake Superior. Huge banks of carved clay and silt can be seen along the route.

The earliest evidence of human life in the Pic area are the “*Pukaskwa Pits*” -strange excavations of boulders which can be found in many locations along the north shore. These excavations could be up to 3500 years old.

Traditionally, the Natives used the Pic River as a canoe route to reach Manitouwadge Lake via the Pic, Nama Creek and a series of small lakes and connecting portages.

Fort Pic, a fur trading post, was situated at the mouth of the Pic River. This fort was the smallest, but by far, the most important as it was access to the north.

One of the routes the Pic River figured into during the fur trade was up the Pic and White Otter Rivers to White Otter Lake and through a chain of lakes and portages into the Nagagami River watershed. Presumably, the portage was into Bound Lake since depressions of mocassin trails could be seen along the portage just east of Bound Lake, even in 30 inches of snow.

Manitou Falls is at mile 69 or 70 from the mouth of the Pic River. It is the first barrier that people canoeing from Lake Superior would encounter, consequently it is probably a historical camping ground. Traditionally, the natives and fur traders navigated the Pic River to journey inland. The portage is evidence of this as it looks well worn.

A rotational slump which looks like a huge landslide or erosion can be seen at Manitou Falls. Typically this is not an erosion but a phenomenon where the top most layer rotates downward in a circular motion, pushing the riverbed up. This happened in the early eighties blocking off the river and forcing the water to carve a new, more sharply curved path in the valley.

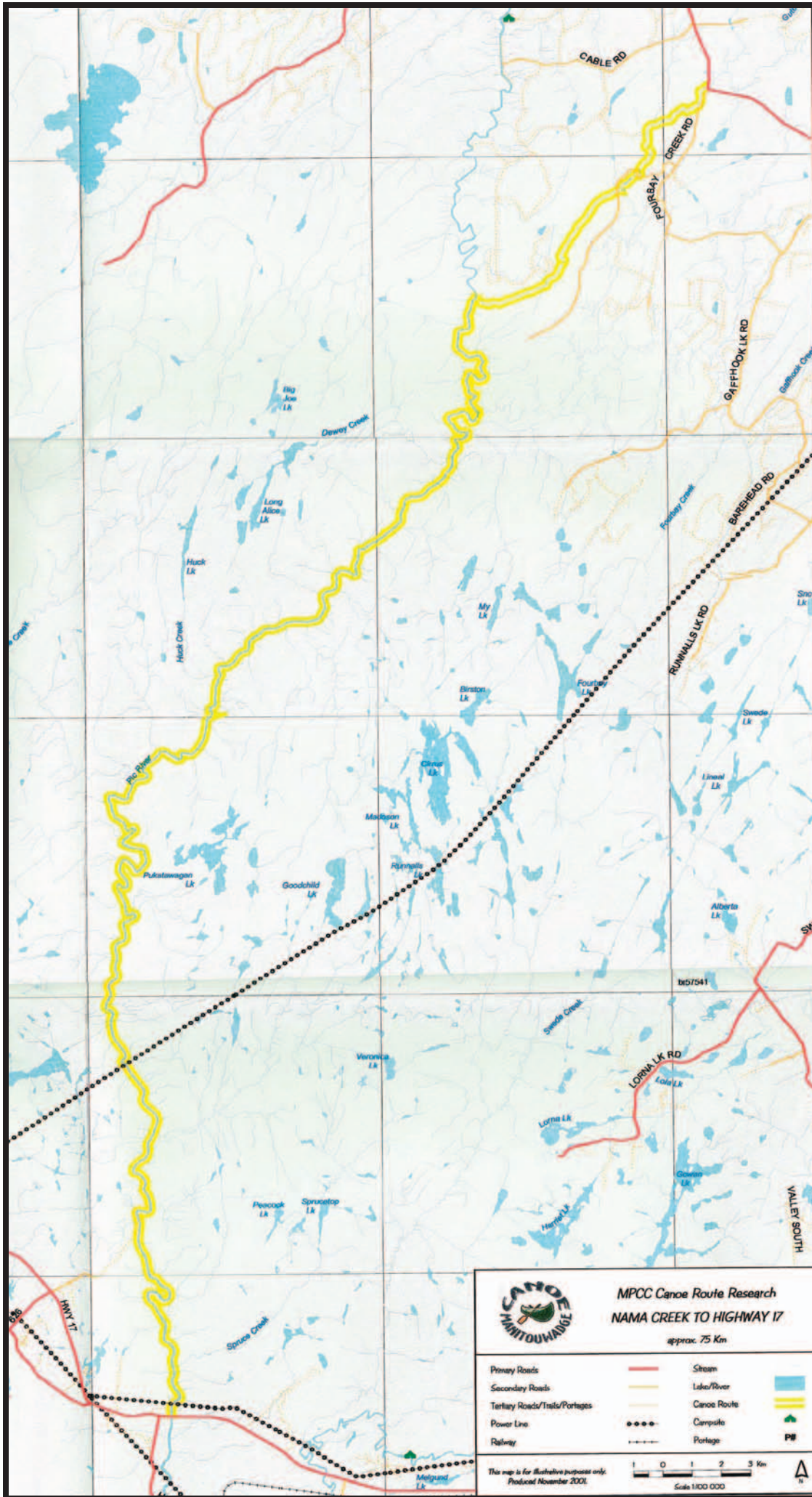
Along the shores of the river, little rocks that were transported by glaciers from Hudson’s Bay can be observed. These rocks are commonly referred to as glacial drift.

Evidence points to some volcanic activity in the area but it has not been confirmed.

There was a logging camp at Manitou Falls that was abandoned in the 1970’s. A stand of jack pine has been planted in rows. Clearings of flat grassy land surrounding the jack pine are further evidence of the campsite being located in that area. There are remnants of logging everywhere in the area; piles of old logs, the foundation of an old winch shack, parts of equipment (much of which has been torn down and hauled away). Logs and log jams in the river and falls are also reminders of the logging days gone by.

This is the route J.E. Thomson took in 1931 to travel to Manitouwadge Lake area to conduct a geological survey.

POW work camps (logging) were situated along the shores of the Pic River.



* note *

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Hatley Lake to Little Pic to Killala Lake Bridge



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#10 HATLEY LAKE TO LITTLE PIC RIVER TO KILLALA LAKE BRIDGE

This route is for the intermediate to advanced canoeist. Everyone we spoke to indicated that approximately the first 5 km of the Little Pic River below Hatley Lake are not easily navigable due to log jams and at certain times of the year, low water levels. Additional research is required to determine if parts of this route are viable. A section of the Little Pic River from Hatley Lake could prove to be impassable. Extensive work to clear certain sections of the river would be needed to make it a feasible route. Launching at Islington Lake will make up for the difficulties encountered with its beautiful scenery.

Distance:	57 km
Estimated Time:	3 days
Rating:	Intermediate to Advanced
Topographic Maps:	42 E7 Spider Lake 42 E2 Killala Lake
Entry Point:	Hatley Lake (via Stevens Lake Rd.- 70 km (2 hours from Manitouwadge).
Exit Point:	Killala Lake Bridge on Vein Lake Rd.

Portages: See below (Information taken from topo maps and interviews)

From the bottom of Hatley Lake to Islington Lake, there are no known portages, however, you may be required to drag your canoe in low water. Sections of this part of the river have very steep banks; in these areas you will not be able to get off the river.

4 km from campsite at entrance of Islington Lake, there will be fast water (narrows, possibly rapids).

5 km from campsite you will encounter fast flowing water (narrows, possibly rapids).

At mileage 7 from the campsite there is an old rock dam which may have been part of a bridge. In this area of the river, you may have to walk or line your canoe.

You can exit the river through Jackpine Rd., Deadhorse at mileage 42 (on your right), good place to camp.

From this point on, there is a section of good paddling followed by a stretch of small drop offs and an 8-9 km span comprised of 3 falls/cascades between 40 to 60 feet high. There are no portage trails, so you will have to make your own trails. Good trout fishing. Very scenic - good photo opportunities. Old lumber camps nearby.

Below Killala Lake Creek there is a series of rapids on and off for approximately 6 km. The banks are steep, gorge like. Water level varies depending on amount of rain.

Caution: Watch for falls and other drop offs; they are not marked, signed or indicated in any way. If you want to portage on the river bank you will have to make your own trail(s).

Campsites:

- 1) Hatley Lake - nice sandy beach, good campsite, lots of clearings, very clear water.
- 2) Entrance to Islington Lake - little beach can be a campsite (in low water you may have to portage).
- 3) On left side of Islington Lake there is a nice sandy beach on the point, good camping.
- 4) On the north side of Killala Lake Creek there is a field - remnants of old logging camp, a good camping area.

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.

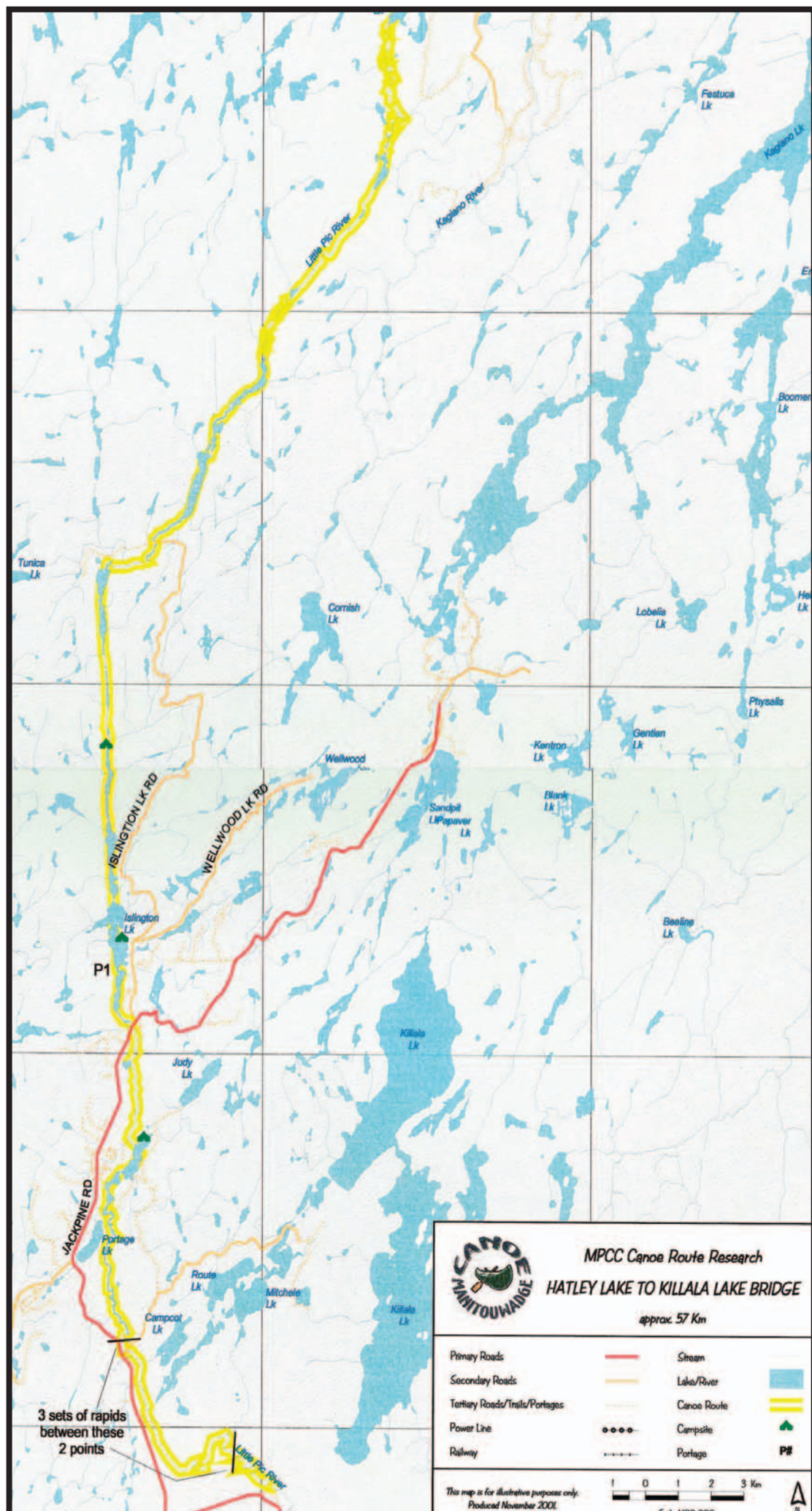
Blue herons and eagles are part of the magnificent scenery.

Fishing: Excellent rainbow trout fishing at the 3 falls, there is also plenty of walleye and speckled trout.

Points of Interest: Archaeological evidence indicates that humans arrived here to hunt and fish about 4000 years ago. The French built a fur trading post in the 18th. century, followed by a Hudson's Bay Company fort. More recently, the remoteness of the Coldwell peninsula prompted the Canadian government to build a German POW camp at Neys and Angler during World War II.

The Little Pic River was previously used to drive logs on spring runs. During the 2nd World War, German POW's worked in logging camps along the Little Pic River. As many as 3 POW camps existed in the area. No buildings are standing anymore; just foundations. There were also 10 POW work camps located 35 km from the mouth of the Little Pic River.

The force of the waters on the land has worn the ancient rock into fascinating shapes, which have become legendary. The beauty of the rugged landscape intrigued the Group of Seven artists, A.Y. Jackson, Franklin Carmichael and Lawren Harris, who captured many local scenes in their artwork, the most famous of these being "Pic Island" by Lawren Harris.



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Manitouwadge to Black River to Highway 614



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

Canoe Route #11

#11 MANITOUWADGE TO BLACK RIVER TO HIGHWAY 614

This route is for the average canoeist. However, if you choose to run/chute the rapids you should be aware that experience and technical skills are required. In the spring the water is fast flowing.

Distance:	58 km
Estimated Time:	3- 4 days, hard paddling, 2 days
Rating:	Intermediate
Topographic Maps:	42 F4 Manitouwadge 42 C13 White Lake
Entry Point:	Manitouwadge Town Dock or Lion's Beach
Exit Point:	Black River Bridge on Highway 614

Note: There is a railway bridge entering Little Mose Lake. Depending on the water level you may be required to portage around this obstacle.

Portages: **8** See accompanying map

P1	308 m	on the left (south) side, choice of two trails depending on water levels one campsite at this portage location
P2	132 m	on the left (east) side, very steep and rough–potentially dangerous two people are required to carry the canoe in low water, you may be able to line your canoe
P3	75 m	on the left (east) side, lineable in low water and runnable in high water 2 campsites, one on the east and one on the west side of the river
P4	400 m	on the left (east) side
P5	250 m	on the left (north) due to rapids, at the entrance to Agonzon Lake DO NOT RUN THESE RAPIDS
P6	611 m	on the left (north) (starts off on an old road) campsite by landing There are 3 sets of rapids. You can run these but only experienced canoeists should attempt to run the 1 st and 2 nd sets of rapids.

1st set of rapids– runnable; precarious portaging over huge boulders on left

2nd set of rapids– long

3rd set of rapids– chute or portage (40± m) on left side of river, red flagging tape marks the trail. Continue over large boulders to end of rapids and through trees by remains of hunt camp. This is a good place to load canoes because there is lots of room.

P7	638 m	on the right side, due to 4 sets of rapids follow an old logging road 1 campsite at the beginning of the portage and a swimming area at the end of the portage trail
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1st set of rapids – no trail; right side of river (250± m) through jack pine and spruce; terminates at a sand beach.

2nd set of rapids – short; must ferry to left side of river to avoid a pillow then go right and raft up on right side of river.

3rd set of rapids – difficult to walk through and short. When you come to a section where the river forks, go right (narrow). You can walk the canoe through (there are many large boulders) or you can portage gear in canoes through roughly brushed out area.

4th set of rapids – can line canoes on right side in high water these are runnable but very technical; very little maneuvering room.

P8 600-700 m on the right side, on logging road
campsite located at start of portage and excellent swimming area
Warning: Be mindful of oxbow.

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: Campsites are indicated at portages 1,3,6,7 and 8. Aside from these campsites, there may be other clearings along the river suitable for camping.

Fishing: Pickerel, pike
Spawning area (at beginning of Agonzon Lake). Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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.

There are several osprey resting sites in this area, and also a blue heron nest can be seen just before Kagu Lake.

Points of Interest:

The most prominent topographic feature is an escarpment averaging 400 feet high and extending along the North Shore of Manitouwadge 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 Manitouwadge Lake.

Falls and rapids along the river are beautiful and scenic.

Native people used this river system to hunt, trap and transport goods.

J.E. Thomson travelled this route on his return trip from the Manitouwadge Lake area to the CNR at Heron Bay in 1931.

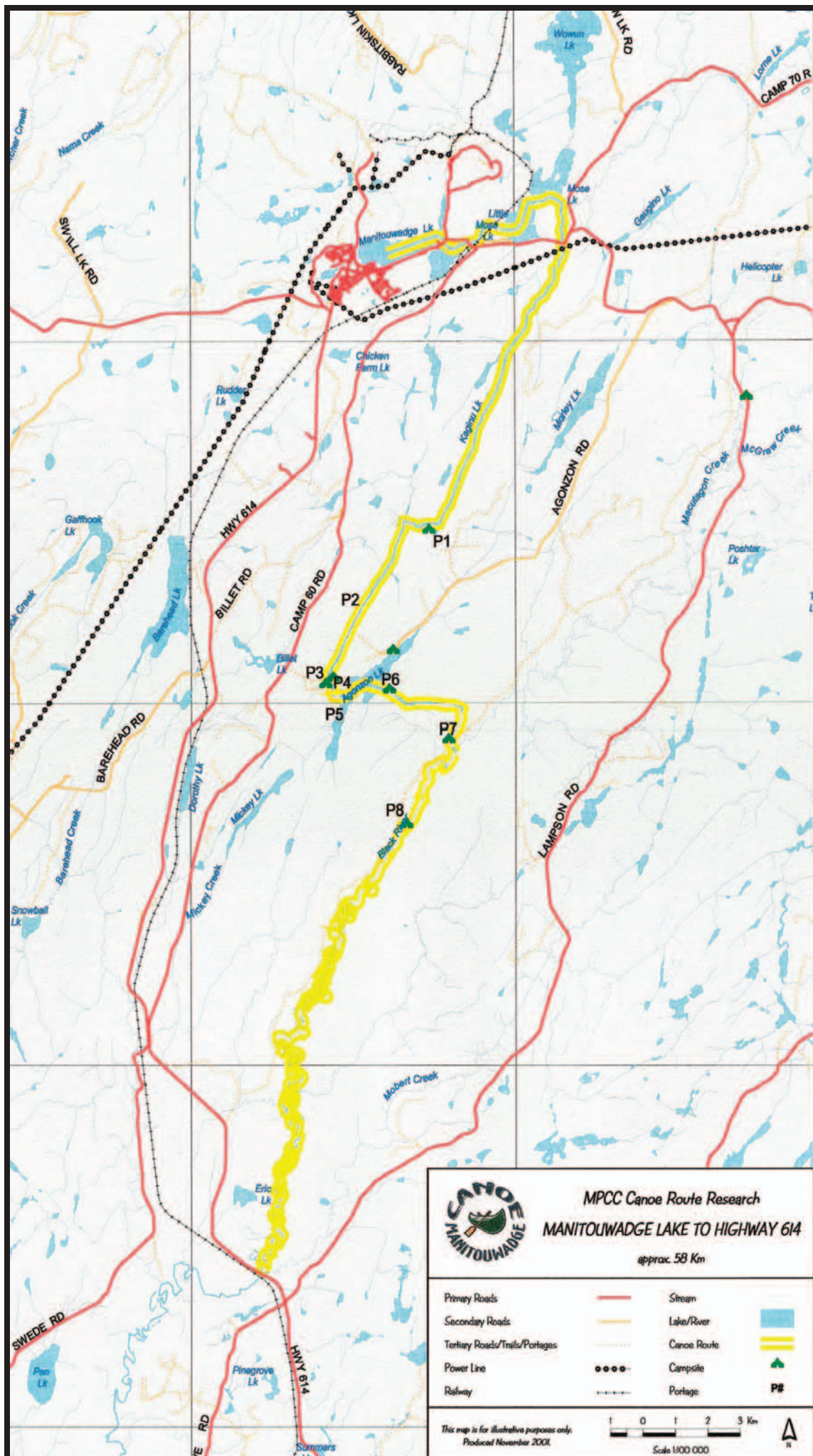
In 1953, Geco Mines used the Black River and the lower end of Kagu Lake to barge building supplies by canoe.

The Black River was log driven until 1964.

Logging camps existed at various points along the river. Today, there are still many clearings and other evidence of logging history.

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.

South of Agonzon Lake, the valley through which the Black flows, widens and forms a fairly flat basin covered by glacial deposits.



* note *

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Manitou Falls to Highway 17



Manitouwadge Public Consultation Committee

#12 MANITOU FALLS TO HIGHWAY 17

This route can be enjoyed by all, especially a beginner as there are no portages. Historically, the Pic River is one of the most significant rivers in our area. In addition to the history, canoeists can enjoy a wide array of wildlife and scenery.

Distance:	90 km
Estimated Time:	3 days
Rating:	Beginner
Topographic Maps:	42 E1 Vein Lake 42 D16 Goodchild Lake 42 D 9 Marathon
Entry Point:	Below Manitou Falls on the Pic River
Exit Point:	Junction of Pic River and Highway 17

Portages: None, however, in shallow water there may be gravel beds through which you may have to drag your canoe or around which you may have to portage.

There are six bridges along the route. It is doubtful if any of them will require portages.

Caution: The lower part of the Pic gets very windy and you may become windbound.

Campsites: 1) One at Manitou Falls in cedar grove
2) One at Lower Landing Road

Although they may not be designated, there are several suitable camping areas along the Pic River which may change from year to year due to the nature of the clay banks.

Fishing: Speckled trout, pickerel and sturgeon.
There is a fish spawning area (salmon and rainbow trout) at Manitou Falls. Restrictions apply. Check local fishing regulations (MNR).

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.

At Manitou Falls scouring rush, northern green orchid, ciliolate aster and columbine are some of the many wild flowers you may see.

Points of Interest: The Pic is one of the major rivers emptying into Lake Superior. Huge banks of carved clay and silt can be seen along the route.

The earliest evidence of human life in the Pic area are the “*Pukaskwa Pits*” -strange excavations of boulders which can be found in many locations along the north shore. These excavations could be up to 3500 years old.

Traditionally, the Natives used the Pic River as a canoe route to reach Manitouwadge Lake via the Pic, Nama Creek and a series of small lakes and connecting portages.

Fort Pic, a fur trading post, was situated at the mouth of the Pic River. This fort was the smallest, but by far, the most important as it was access to the north.

One of the routes the Pic River figured into during the fur trade was up the Pic and White Otter Rivers to White Otter Lake and through a chain of lakes and portages into the Nagagami River watershed. Presumably, the portage was into Bound Lake since depressions of mocassin trails could be seen along the portage just east of Bound Lake, even in 30 inches of snow.

Manitou Falls is at mile 69 or 70 from the mouth of the Pic River. It is the first barrier that people canoeing from Lake Superior would encounter, consequently it is probably a historical camping ground. Traditionally, the natives and fur traders navigated the Pic River to journey inland. The portage is evidence of this as it looks well worn.

A rotational slump which looks like a huge landslide or erosion can be seen at Manitou Falls. Typically this is not an erosion but a phenomenon where the top most layer rotates downward in a circular motion, pushing the riverbed up. This happened in the early eighties blocking off the river and forcing the water to carve a new, more sharply curved path in the valley.

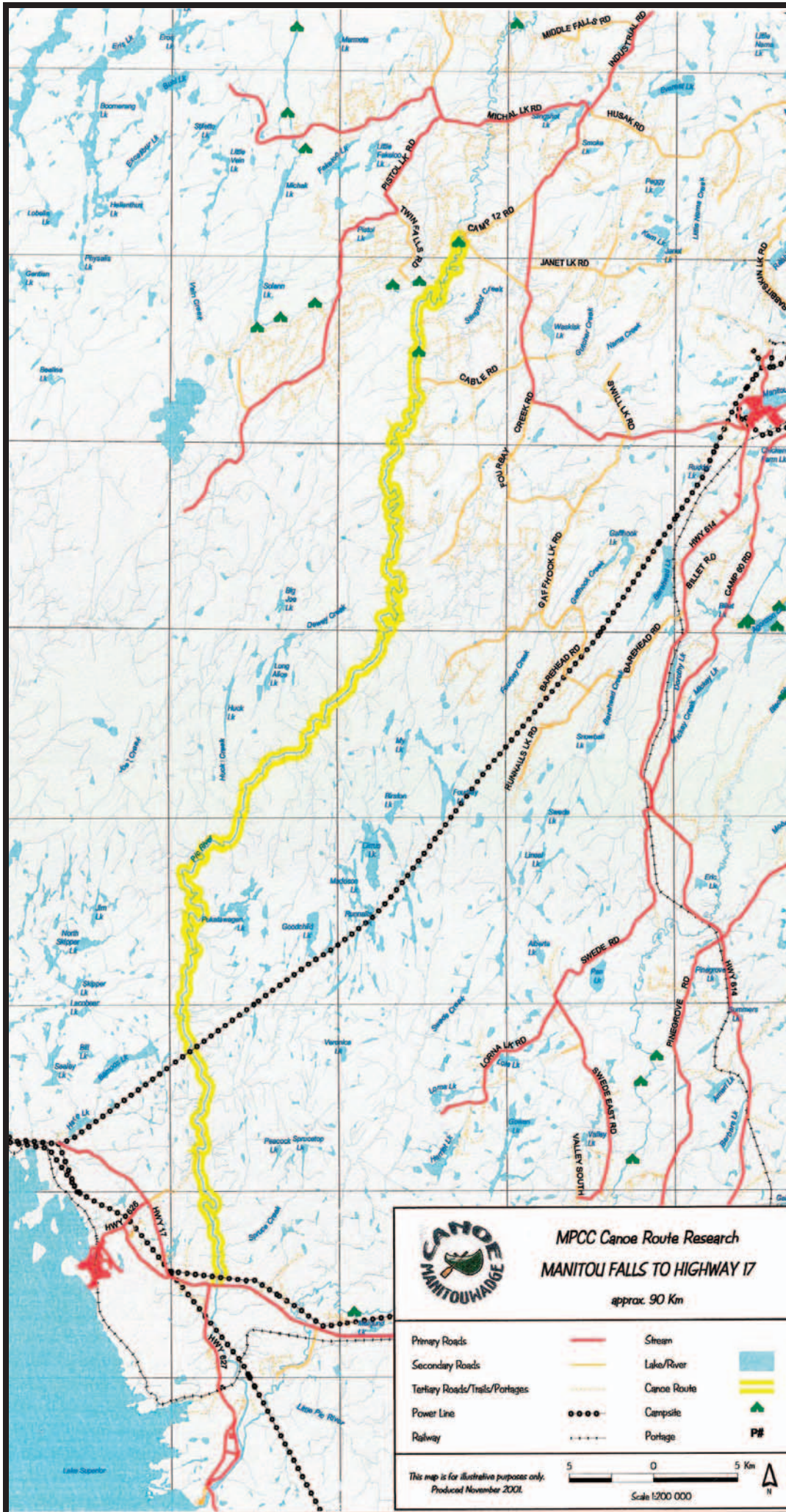
Along the shores of the river, little rocks that were transported by glaciers from Hudson's Bay can be observed. These rocks are commonly referred to as glacial drift.

Evidence points to some volcanic activity in the area but it has not been confirmed.

There was a logging camp at Manitou Falls that was abandoned in the 1970's. A stand of jack pine has been planted in rows. Clearings of flat grassy land surrounding the jack pine are further evidence of the campsite being located in that area. There are remnants of logging everywhere in the area; piles of old logs, the foundation of an old winch shack, parts of equipment (much of which has been torn down and hauled away). Logs and log jams in the river and falls are also reminders of the logging days gone by.

In 1931, J.E. Thomson canoed the portion of the Pic River from Heron Bay to Nama Creek to travel to the Manitouwadge area to conduct a geological survey.

POW work camps (logging) were situated along the shores of the Pic River.



* note *

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