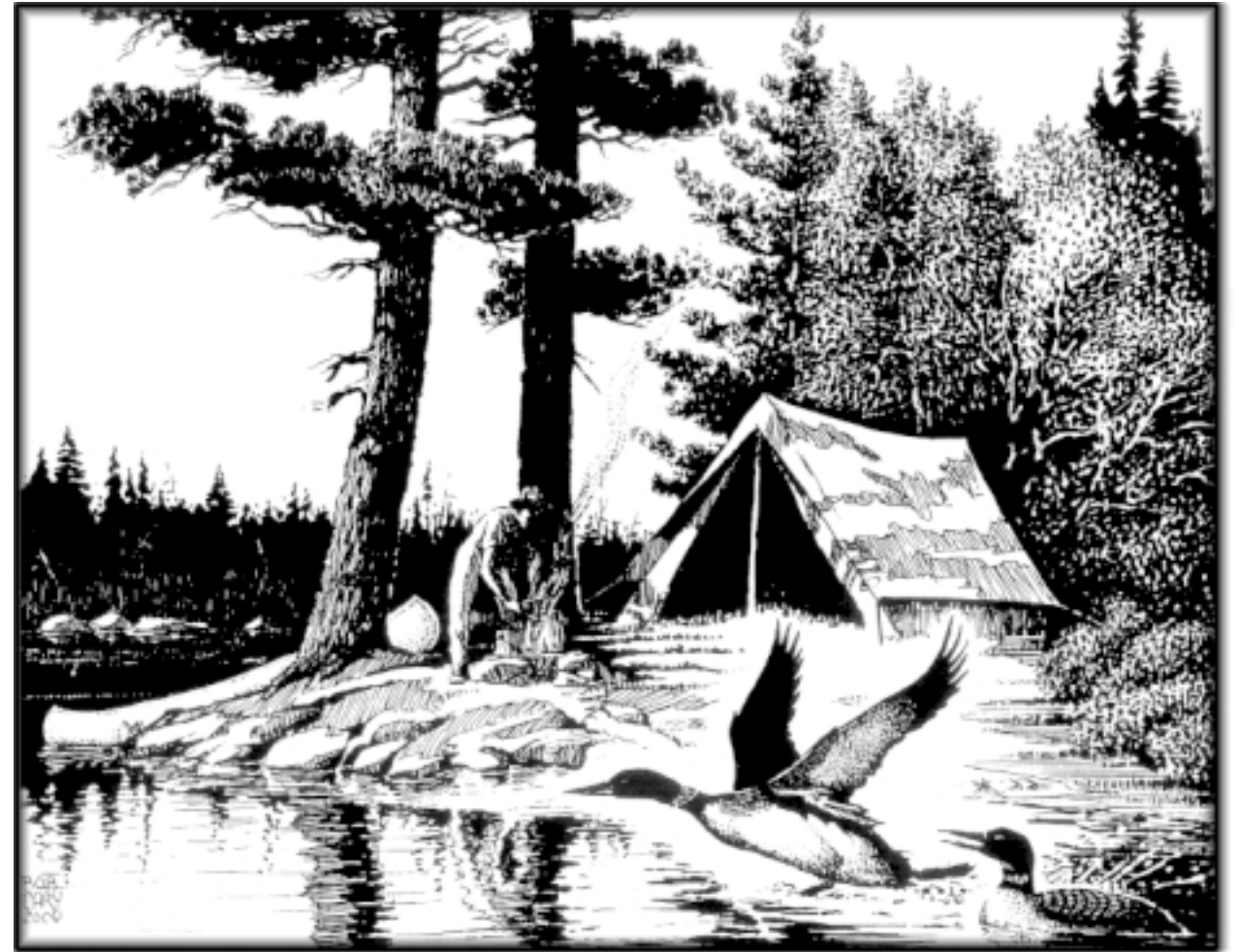


# **ROUTE PLANNING GUIDEBOOK AND PERMIT APPLICATION**



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

NORTHERN TIER NATIONAL HIGH ADVENTURE

14798 Moose Lake Road, P.O. Box 509

Ely MN 55731-0509

Phone: (218) 365-4811 • Fax: (218) 365-3112

E-Mail: [info@ntier.org](mailto:info@ntier.org)

## **NORTHERN TIER HIGH ADVENTURE**

### **SUMMER 2006**

# Northern Tier Geocaching Program

Everyone coming to Northern Tier has heard about the canoeing and fishing. We are now offering a new and exciting program based on the increasingly popular sport of geocaching!

Geocaching is the sport of following bearings or using a GPS unit to pinpoint a specific "cache" or in the case of the Northern Tier program, specific points of interest.

Participating in the optional geocaching program will take you to interesting sites that you might otherwise pass by without knowing they exist. You will have the opportunity to experience pictographs, eagles nests, natural features, remnants of the logging and resort industries, and other points of interest. The Geocaching program is currently set up for all groups traveling in the Quetico Provincial Park and Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Bring your GPS if you have one. If you don't have a GPS, you can still participate with a map and compass as all points are referenced by both coordinates and distance/bearing from a readily identifiable point. You will be given a list of points when you arrive. To earn the NT Geocacher patch shown below, you will seek the answers to ten of the points and turn in your completed form when you check in your gear at the end of your trek.

Some examples from our 2005 program are:

F10A0	*N 48° 03' 39" W 91° 29' 14" 0.2 mi. at 155 deg. from Beaver Island	The oldest cedar tree in Minnesota is located at the end of the bay. To claim this cache, measure the circumference of the tree three feet above the ground.
F12A0	N 47° 55' 12" W 90° 54' 35" 2.0 mi. at 171 deg. from isthmus between Alton and Kelso Lake	A trail leads from Lujenida Lake/Kelso River to Kelso Mountain. Hike across a beaver dam to an easy-to-find trail that is on the Fisher map. You will find a structure at the end of the trail. To claim this cache, tell what type of structure exists at the end of the trail. (The coordinates/reference point is for the trail head.)
F25A2	??	In 1962, Post 30 from Jackson, MS built a wilderness chapel as part of a service project. Rosary was said Sunday morning at the chapel. One of the scouts on that trip has been an interpreter from 2002-04. The remains of the chapel can be found on a hill overlooking a creek that flows into the Cache River. To find the chapel, paddle northeast into Cache River from Kawnipi until you reach the first significant creek heading north (believed to be the creek leading to Otton Lake). Follow the creek to where it divides and then take the right arm. Towards the end on a hill on the right side, you will see a small mound of rocks where the cross was held and 12 large stones in a semi-circle that were used as seats. To claim this cache, give the coordinates or the bearing/distance from the point where the cache river flows into the long narrow bay of Kawnipi.

We encourage you to consider participating in the exciting new geocaching program to add another dimension to your north woods experience.



# NOTES

## Northern Tier Route Planning Guidebook

The purpose of this book is to provide detailed information about parks, permits, routes, and fees so that crews may make an educated decision about where they will travel on their Northern Tier expedition.

Traditionally, crews have planned a route with the assistance of their Interpreter upon arrival at the base. Northern Tier still suggests that all plans are finalized at the base so that current information regarding fire bans, water levels, and bears can be incorporated.

The maps, route descriptions and fees in this booklet will provide the information to choose a park and begin the route planning process. The routes discussed are only a few of the numerous possibilities for each base. Please contact us at (218) 365-4811 for any clarification.

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**VERY IMPORTANT!**

**Each crew must fill out an individual Permit Application Form. These must be returned to the Northern Tier by December 12.**

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here are some frequently asked questions to help you in planning your Northern Tier wilderness canoeing expedition.

## 1. What is a portage?

A portage is a trail to connect lakes or to travel around obstacles. This is an important aspect of your expedition and you should not be afraid of planning a trip with a considerable number of portages. People have been portaging in canoe country for thousands of years. On a busy route you will probably see numerous "senior citizens" happily walking the trails with a canoe on their shoulders. The way we do portages at the Northern Tier is quick, professional, and efficient. We pack to enable most crews to do a portage in a single trip. Here are a few positives about portaging:

- Stretch your legs
- Answer calls of nature
- Travel to more remote areas
- Sense of accomplishment
- See wildlife
- Walk along streams and rapids
- Historical - footsteps of the Native Americans and voyageurs
- Great stories

## 2. I notice portages are sometimes marked in rods. What is a rod?

A rod is a traditional method of measurement that is often used for portages. A rod is 16.5 feet or about a canoe-length. There are 320 rods in a mile. It is fairly unusual to have a portage as long as 320 rods. The average portage is going to be 80-120 rods. More important than the distance are other factors such as steepness and amount of bog, swamp, rocks, and roots.

## 3. How many miles can we expect to cover in a day?

There are many factors that affect this including wind, paddling skill, and number of portages. A well-paddled canoe will cruise at about 4 mph. You can usually cover a portage, single portaging, at about 2 mph. You also need to factor in lunch breaks, fishing, sightseeing, and wildlife viewing. We advise people that 10 miles per day is a safe number to use for estimating your travel distance. This will usually get you into camp at 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. With good conditions you can travel 20 miles in a day if you keep at it. Of course, on a windy day you may have to layover or may find it difficult to paddle even 5 miles. This is why we recommend a conservative estimate of 10 miles per day.

## 4. What other costs may we expect?

Trips from the Atikokan base or the Ely base may involve Quetico Provincial Park permit and camping fees (different charges if going from Atikokan south or Ely north), and Canadian government charges for Remote Area Border Crossing permit fees and work permit fees for Ely staff. Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness permit and user fees, and United States Forest Service Guide / Outfitter fees may apply for U.S. trips. These are in addition to the Northern Tier trip fees. This can be confusing when trying to figure your actual trip costs and choosing options.

You should review the fee calculator on the Resource CD that came with your "Expedition Planning Guide" to estimate these costs.

## 5. Which routes qualify for the "Northwest Voyageurs Brigade" Historic Trails Award?

There is a national Historic Trails award for certain routes in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and in Quetico Provincial Park. This award is available through the Voyageur's Area Council in Duluth, MN.

Each crew attending the C.L. Sommers base in Ely and the Donald Rogert base in Atikokan will receive information about how to apply. In this guide look for the symbol below, which indicates routes that may qualify for this award.



# BISSETT TRIP REQUEST

Please complete a separate form for Each CREW!  
(Only required to request a Manigotogan or Woodland Caribou Trip)

**Fax#: 218-365-3112; Attn: Registrar**  
Phone: 218-365-4811

Mail: Northern Tier  
Attn: Registrar  
P.O. Box 509  
Ely, MN 55731

PLEASE FAX OR MAIL FORM(S) TO ARRIVE  
IN THE ELY OFFICE NO LATER THAN  
**DECEMBER 12, 2005.**

1	<b>Crew Number</b>	_____	
	<b>Unit Type (Circle)</b>	<b>Troop</b> <b>Venture Crew</b> <b>Council Contingent</b>	
	<b>Unit Number</b>	_____	
2	<b>Leader Name</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b> _____
	<b>Leader Address</b>	_____	<b>Evening Phone</b> _____
		_____	<b>Daytime Fax</b> _____
		_____	<b>Email</b> _____
3	<b>Alternate Leader # 1</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b> _____
	<b>Alternate Leader # 2</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b> _____
	<b>Alternate Leader # 3</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b> _____
4	<b>Route Choice (Circle):</b> <b>Manigotogan</b> or <b>Woodland Caribou</b> or <b>Atakaki</b>		

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**IMPORTANT:** No fees need to be paid with this permit application. Any fees required will be collected at a later date.

# ATKOKAN PERMIT APPLICATION

Please complete a separate form for Each CREW!

Please read previous page before applying.

Fax#: 218-365-3112; Attn: Registrar  
Phone: 218-365-4811

PLEASE FAX OR MAIL FORM(S) TO ARRIVE  
IN THE ELY OFFICE NO LATER THAN  
**DECEMBER 12, 2005.**  
THIS FORM IS **MANDATORY** FOR ALL  
ATIKOKAN CREWS!!!

Mail: Northern Tier  
Attn: Registrar  
P.O. Box 509  
Ely, MN 55731

**1** Crew Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unit Type (Circle) Troop Venture Crew Council Contingent  
 Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_

**2** Leader Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Leader Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**3** Alternate Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Park Choice (Circle One): NORTH (Crown Land) or QUETICO

**5** Entry Point Choice (Please enter either NP (No Preference), the number, or the name):  
 Please see entry point options shown on the enclosed map.

**QUETICO:**

1st Choice: _____	11, Baptism Creek	31, Cirrus Lake
2nd Choice: _____	12, Pickerel Lake	32, Quetico Lake
3rd Choice: _____	21, Nym Lake	
	22, Sue Falls (Lerome)	
	23, Mack Lake (Float plane)	

**NORTH (Crown Land):**  
 Please give us an idea as to which type of shuttle you are planning. Note that this is **NOT** locked in at this time.

Entry Point Considering: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exit Point Considering: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd \_\_\_\_\_

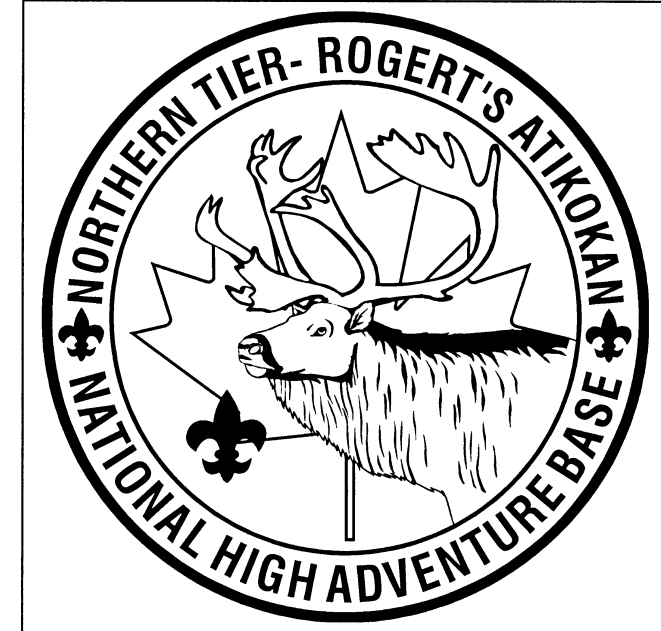
Please make a copy of each crew's Permit Questionnaire for your records.

**IMPORTANT:** No fees need to be paid with this permit application. Any fees required will be collected at a later date.

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# ATKOKAN

## DONALD ROBERT CANOE BASE



### Atikokan Parks Comparison

White Otter-Turtle River / Crown Lands	Quetico Provincial Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cans and bottles are allowed</li> <li>Maximum crew size of 11, plus Interpreter (12 total)</li> <li>No permit or camping fees currently required</li> <li>"Leave no Trace" policies must be followed</li> <li>Motorboats allowed (uncommon, but you will see and hear a few)</li> <li>Occasional wilderness cabins</li> <li>Entry/exit points may be further from base (higher shuttle fees possible)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cans and bottles are not allowed as food containers</li> <li>Maximum crew size of 8, plus Interpreter (9 total)</li> <li>Permits and per-night camping fees required</li> <li>"Leave no Trace policies must be followed</li> <li>Motorboat use not allowed (except on a few First Nations lakes at far western edge of park)</li> <li>No man-made structures in park</li> <li>Entry/exit points fairly close to base (lower shuttle fees)</li> </ul>

# **ATKOKAN ROUTES**

## **DON ROBERT CANOE BASE**

Crews participating at Atikokan have many possible canoe routes. Those listed here represent the most common ones. Each route can be adapted to increase or decrease length, or add different lakes. There are only a handful of routes starting and finishing at the Atikokan base. The majority of crews shuttle to and from the wilderness. Shuttles for a round trip will be approximately \$36 per person round trip or \$18 one way. A canoe cache has been established on Bending Lake for crews wishing to fly to or from the wilderness. Northern Tier has been provided with the canoe cache option by the generosity of Mr. John Parrish, past chairman of the Northern Tier Committee. This saves a crew the expensive option of flying canoes in or out.

When your crew is considering routes, ask the following questions:

- Do we want to go into Quetico Provincial Park? This is an option available for crews of six to eight people plus interpreter.
- What are our priorities? Is the crew interested in a strenuous expedition? Do we want opportunities to see wildlife, waterfalls, pictographs, cultural relics or fishing? Most routes offer an opportunity for combinations of the above.
- How much are we willing to spend on a shuttle ?
- How remote do we want to be? Some routes are very close to primary and secondary highways where powerboats have ready access and there may be cottages. Other routes requiring more portages have fewer canoeists and therefore better fishing and more opportunities to see wildlife.
- Are we prepared for a challenging route? Northern Tier encourages all crews to prepare for their trip through conditioning exercises. Younger crews may not be able to handle some of the more challenging trips. It is important that the adults are in very good condition so they aren't the reason the youth cannot participate in the level of adventure they deserve.

The routes listed in this section are divided into five sections: Quetico routes, Atikokan to Ely routes, Clearwater West Loops, Crown Land routes, Floatplane options, and Meany's Brigade route.

## **Quetico Provincial Park Routes From Atikokan**

The Quetico is one of Ontario's best wilderness canoeing parks. There are over one million acres of lakes and rivers to explore. There are many good books on paddling in Canada. One of the most comprehensive books about the Quetico is Robert Beymer's Paddlers' Guide to the Quetico. It lists several very good loop routes from all the Quetico entry points. There are several routes that start at one entry point and finish at another. The route you pick will depend on the entry point you are able to reserve.

The entry points are:

- Mack Lake (#23) on the east side of the Quetico. This entry is accessible by floatplane only, landing on Clay Lake. Water levels in late July and August may be too low to paddle from Clay Lake to Mack Lake.
- Baptism Creek (#11) accessed from the Dawson Trail Ranger Station on French Lake.
- Pickerel Lake (#12) accessed from the Dawson Trail Ranger Station or Stanton Bay.
- Nym Lake (#21) off Highway 11 east of Atikokan
- Sue Falls (#22) accessed from Lerome Lake on Highway 11.
- Cirrus Lake (#31) and Quetico Lakes (#32) accessed from Beaverhouse Lake. Bus and floatplane shuttles are options at Beaverhouse.
- Three Mile Lake (#41), Maligne River (#42), McAree Lake (#43) and Bottle River (#44) accessed through Lac La Croix. This is a long expensive shuttle. Crews choosing one of these four entries may choose to fly their crew, interpreter, equipment and canoes to Lac La Croix.

## **ATKOKAN (DON ROBERT) BASE**

### **STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE PERMIT APPLICATION**

1. Please enter your crew number, circle your unit type, and fill in your unit number.
2. Please enter the leader information **FOR THIS CREW**. You must fill out a separate form for **EACH CREW**, and the leader information must be **DIFFERENT** for EACH CREW!
3. Please enter the alternate leader information for one other adult leader in EACH CREW.
  - **Quetico** crews: In the event that neither the primary leader nor the 1<sup>st</sup> alternate leader from one crew will be attending with that crew, it is your responsibility to notify Northern Tier of the changes **immediately**. There will be an additional \$9.00 Cnd charge for these changes.
4. Choose which area EACH crew has chosen to enter. Feel free to review the route planning guide as well as the difference in pricing pertaining to the different options.
5. Please choose an entry point, if desired (Please see entry points on the included map and options in this booklet). You may enter NP (No Preference) if your crew is undecided. Some crews, especially returning crews, may opt to apply for a certain entry point if they are looking for new routes.
  - **Quetico**: Please enter up to three preferences for your entry point. You may enter NP (No Preference) if it does not matter to your crew. Please refer to the separate map sent with this book. If you mark NP (No Preference) on your application, we will try to get you a Quetico permit for 22, 31, 32, or 21 in that order. Be advised shuttle fees of \$36.00 or more per person will apply.  
**Quetico entry point numbers: (Note: these are Entry Points and do not correspond to Shuttle Point numbers previously listed.)**  
11 – Baptism Creek (limited canoe routes), 12 – Pickerel Lake, 21 – Nym Lake (12 and 21 are busy), 22 – Sue Falls (accessible through Lerome Lake), 23 – Mack Lake (float plane only), 31 – Cirrus Lake, 32 – Quetico Lake (31 and 32 are accessible through Beaverhouse Lake), 41 – Three Mile Lake, 42 – Maligne River, 43 – McAree Lake, 44 – Bottle River (41 – 44 are accessible through Lac La Croix Ranger Station)
  - **North (Crown Land)**: We would like to have an idea of where you may be considering traveling. Note that these are certainly not locked in, but they will help us to better serve you. Please refer to the shuttle points map and chart included in this book.

Crews who are returning from past years will notice that we are no longer collecting credit card information for your permits. We have changed this to streamline the permit process for all involved. The charges (if any) related to securing crews' permits will be added to the Northern Tier Billing Statement. **Please note that you will be responsible for paying the balance of your PERMIT and/or SHUTTLE fees upon check-in with the appropriate agency.**

# ELY PERMIT APPLICATION

Please complete a separate form for **Each CREW!**

Please read previous page before applying.

PLEASE FAX OR MAIL FORM(S) TO ARRIVE  
IN THE ELY OFFICE NO LATER THAN  
**DECEMBER 12, 2005.**  
THIS FORM IS MANDATORY FOR ALL  
ELY CREWS!!!

Fax#: 218-365-3112; Attn: Registrar  
Phone: 218-365-4811

Mail: Northern Tier  
Attn: Registrar  
P.O. Box 509  
Ely, MN 55731

<b>1</b>	<b>Crew Number</b>	_____		
	<b>Unit Type (Circle)</b>	<b>Troop</b>	<b>Venture Crew</b>	<b>Council Contingent</b>
	<b>Unit Number</b>	_____		
<b>2</b>	<b>Leader Name</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b>	_____
	<b>Leader Address</b>	_____	<b>Evening Phone</b>	_____
		_____	<b>Daytime Fax</b>	_____
		_____	<b>Email</b>	_____
<b>3</b>	<b>Alternate Leader # 1</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b>	_____
	<b>Alternate Leader # 2</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b>	_____
	<b>Alternate Leader # 3</b>	_____	<b>Daytime Phone</b>	_____
<b>4</b>	<b>Park Choice (Circle):</b>	<b>BWCAW or QUETICO</b>		

If Quetico is chosen, would you prefer us to also apply for a backup BWCAW permit (see instructions for details): **YES or NO**

### QUETICO CREWS ONLY!

**5** **Entry Point Choice:** [Please enter either NP (No Preference), the number, or the name]:

Please see entry point options shown on the enclosed map.

Note: All BWCAW crews will automatically be applying for a Moose Lake entry point.

1st Choice: _____	61, Agnes Lake	52, Sarah Lake
2nd Choice: _____	62, Carp Lake	51, Basswood River
3rd Choice: _____	53, Kahshahpiwi Lake	
	NP, No Preference	

Please make a copy of each crew's Permit Questionnaire for your records.

**IMPORTANT:** No fees need to be paid with this permit application. Any fees required will be collected at a later date.

Some of the common routes are:

### **Route Name: Beaverhouse Lake to French Lake long route**

**Entry Point:** Quetico Lake permit required

**Ending Point:** French Lake or Stanton Bay on Pickerel Lake.

**Trip Length:** 60 miles

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 9 (164 rods)

**Shuttle Fees:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Maps required:** Quetico Lake (52B11), Poohbah (52B6), Kawnipi (52B6), Pickerel (52B11)

**Highlights:** This route will take your crew into the less traveled central Quetico. Before leaving Quetico Lake check out the pictographs on the north shore. Travel on Sturgeon Lake cautiously, it is a large lake and can be rough on windy days.

**Route Description:** Beaverhouse, Quetico, Jean, Burnside, Sturgeon, Russell, Oliphant, Fern, Beg, Bud, Pickerel, French.



### **Route Name: Beaverhouse Lake to Nym Lake**

**Entry Point:** Cirrus Lake Permit Required

**Trip Length:** 45 miles

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 7 (220 rods)

**Shuttle Fees:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Maps Required:** Quetico Lake (52B11), Pickerel (52B11)

**Highlights:** The pictographs on Quetico Lake are a little off the route but worth the side trip. Most of the small lakes have good fishing

**Route Description:** Beaverhouse, Cirrus, Kasokokwog, McAlpine, Batchewaung Bay, Batchewaung Lake, Nym Lake.

Variation: Continue from Batchewaung Bay to Pickerel Narrow into Pickerel Lake and finish at Stanton Bay or French Lake.



### **Route Name: Lerome Lake to French Lake**

**Entry Point:** Sue Falls permit required

**End Point:** French Lake or Stanton Bay on Pickerel Lake

**Trip Length:** 85 miles

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 16 (150 rods)

**Shuttle Fees:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Maps required:** Quetico Lake (52B12), Poohbah (52B5), Kawnipi (52B6), Pickerel (52B11)

**Highlights:**

**Route Description:** Lerome, Cirrus, Quetico, Jean, Burnside, Sturgeon, Russell, Oliphant, Fern, Bud, Beg, Pickerel, French.



Routes can be run in the opposite direction and changed to meet your crew's needs. When picking entry points decide how much you want to spend on shuttles first and then decide on start and finish points.

## **Atikokan To Ely Base to Base Routes**

If you are interested in paddling any of the base-to-base routes, please contact us for details. These are most suitable for 10-day treks, as the routes will be at least 80 miles long. Crew members who complete one of these treks will be awarded a participation emblem from C.L. Sommers and Don Rogert Canoe Bases. The added benefit of these exciting treks is that you will be able to experience the extreme remoteness of the interior of Quetico Park, where few other people tend to travel. Please note that we do not arrange transportation for your crew. If you have at least two crews, one may start at Ely and one at Atikokan and trade vehicles.

### **Route Name: Pictograph Route- Option 1**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Lerome Lake (22)

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**Shuttle:** From Atikokan Base to Lerome Lake. Fee: \$18 U.S. per person

**Distance:** 125 miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 rods (1.1 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 35

**Maps Required:** Fisher F29, F28, F23, F24, F17, F10

**Main Features:** Lightly used entry point, MANY pictographs along route

**Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Lerome Lake, Jackfish Creek, Bewag Lake, Lark Lake, Cole Lake, Cirrus Creek, Sue Lake, Sue Falls, Cirrus Lake, Kasakokwog Lake, Quetico Lake, Badwater Lake, Fair Lake, Your Lake, Snow Lake, Little Pine Lake, Trail Creek, Trail Lake, March Lake, Bentpine Creek, Sturgeon Lake, Maligne River, Tanner Lake, Maligne River, Minn Lake, Darky River, Darky Lake, Argo Lake, Crooked Lake, Basswood River, Basswood Lake, Wind Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** This route starts off nicely, as the entry point is not often used. This means that your group will immediately be in a remote part of the region, and most likely spend days at a time without seeing other groups. The pictographs along this route, especially on Quetico Lake and Darky Lake are some of the best in the region.



### **Route Name: Pictograph Route- Option 2**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Quetico Lake (32)

**Shuttle:** From Atikokan Base to Beaverhouse Lake. Fee: \$18 U.S. per person

**Distance:** 105 miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 rods (1.1 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 29

**Maps Required:** Fisher F28, F23, F24, F17, F10

**Main Features:** Many pictographs along route, same route as “Pictograph Route- Option 1”, but longer shuttle to Beaverhouse Lake results in shorter trek

**Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Beaverhouse Lake, Quetico Lake, Badwater Lake, Fair Lake, Your Lake, Snow Lake, Little Pine Lake, Trail Creek, Trail Lake, March Lake, Bentpine Creek, Sturgeon Lake, Maligne River, Tanner Lake, Maligne River, Minn Lake, Darky River, Darky Lake, Argo Lake, Crooked Lake, Basswood River, Basswood Lake, Wind Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** After a longer shuttle over an old logging road, your group will start further along the first route. This will allow your group to travel a bit slower and make more side trips, if you choose. The pictographs along this route, especially on Quetico Lake and Darky Lake are some of the best in the region.



### **Route Name: Kahshapiwi Lake- South**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Batchewaung Lake (21)

**Shuttle:** From the Atikokan Base to Nym Lake. Fee: \$18 U.S. per person

**Distance:** 80 miles

**Longest Portage:** 220 rods (0.7 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 23

**Maps Required:** Fisher F29, F25, F18, F10

**Main Features:** Remote, Scenic, good fishing lakes

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Nym Lake, Batchewaung Lake, Batchewaung Bay, Pickerel Narrows, Pickerel Lake, Dore Lake, Twin Lakes, Deux Rivieres, Sturgeon Lake, Russell Lake, Chatterton Lake, Keats Lake, Shelley Lake, Cairn Lake, Sark Lake, Keefer Lake, Kahshapiwi Lake, Yum Yum Lake, Grey Lake, Unnamed Lake, Shade Lake, Unnamed Ponds, West Lake, South Lake, Basswood Lake (North Bay), Burke Lake, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Prairie Portage, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** This route has a nice variety of waterways, including the long, narrow, glacially-formed lakes of the “Kahshapiwi Creek” (Kahshapiwi Lake, Sark Lake, and Cairn Lake), which are more common



## **ELY (CHARLES L. SOMMERS BASE)** **STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING** **THE PERMIT APPLICATION**

1. Please enter your crew number, circle your unit type, and fill in your unit number.
2. Please enter the leader information FOR THIS CREW. You must fill out a separate form for EACH CREW, and the leader information must be DIFFERENT for EACH CREW!
3. Please enter the alternate leader information for up to three other adult leaders in EACH CREW.
  - **Quetico** crews: In the event that neither the primary leader nor the 1<sup>st</sup> alternate from one crew will be attending with that crew, it is your responsibility to notify Northern Tier of the changes immediately. There will be an additional \$9.00 Cnd charge for these changes.
  - **BWCAW** crews: We apply for the permit in the name of the unit (ie, the Troop #, Venture Crew #, or Council Contingent name). If the leaders change, there is no need to notify Northern Tier.
4. Choose which park EACH crew has chosen to enter. Please review this booklet for information pertaining to the different options.
  - If you have chosen to apply for a Quetico permit, do you choose for us to also apply for a BWCAW permit, to protect your crew in the event that a Quetico permit is unavailable? Please understand that this is highly recommended, especially for crews arriving during the higher-use period of July 1 – August 10. **If you choose to do this there are two possible outcomes:**
    1. If the Quetico permit IS obtained, the BWCAW permit will be cancelled. Your crew will only be billed for the additional \$12 for this option (unless we have to secure a permit for delayed entry into Quetico. In this case you will have a BWCAW and a Quetico permit).
    2. If the Quetico permit is NOT obtained, then the crew will be responsible for the normal BWCAW fees (see chart).
5. Please choose an entry point, if desired (Please see entry points on the included map and options in this booklet). You may enter NP (No Preference) if your crew is undecided. Some crews, especially returning crews, may opt to apply for a certain entry point if they are looking for new routes.
  - Note: crews opting to go into the **BWCAW** will automatically be applying for a Moose Lake entry point. Please refer to the separate map sent with this book.
  - **Quetico** crews are recommended to choose an entry point originating from Prairie Portage Ranger Station. Please refer to the separate map sent with this book.

**Prairie Portage Ranger Station Entry Points:** 51 – Basswood River, 53 – Kahshapiwi Lake, 62 – Carp Lake, 52 – Sarah Lake, 61 – Agnes Lake, NP – No Preference on Entry Lake

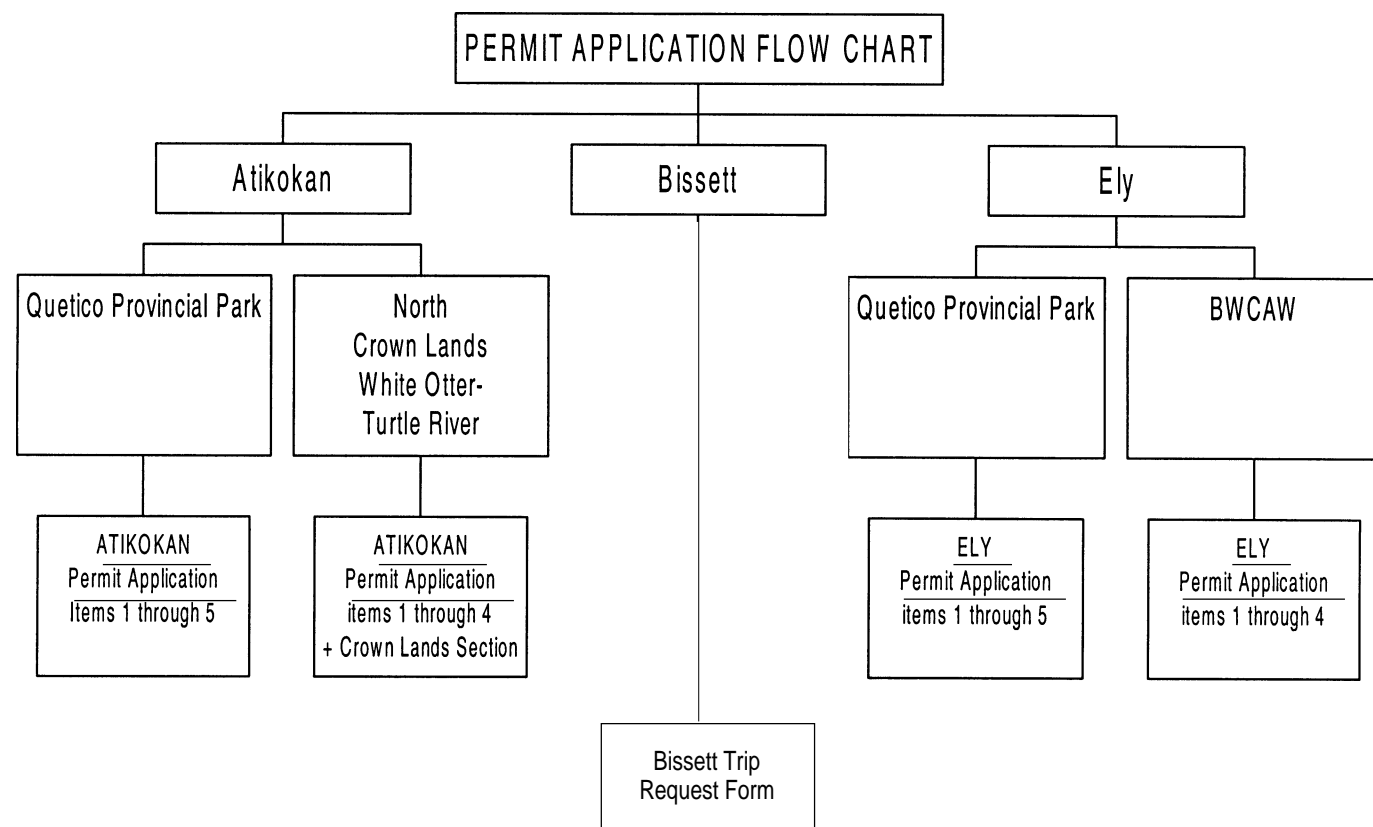
Crews going to Prairie Portage will start canoeing from the Ely Base on Moose Lake.

When an entry point is selected or assigned to your crew, this means your direction of travel on your canoe trip must be in the direction of that entry point. There is no required time limit in getting to this point. Once you have reached that entry point you can go in any direction you want. The intent of the entry points is to disperse visitor usage in Quetico Provincial Park.

Crews who are returning from past years will notice that we are no longer collecting credit card information for your permits. We have changed this to streamline the permit process for all involved. The charges related to securing crews’ permits will be added to the Northern Tier Billing Statement. **Please note that you will be responsible for paying the balance of your PERMIT fees upon check-in with the appropriate agency.**

# PERMIT RESERVATION SECTION

## WHICH PERMIT APPLICATION DO I FILL OUT?



**PERMIT APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE  
RETURNED TO THE NORTHERN TIER BY  
DECEMBER 12**

in this region. There are also numerous scenic falls along this route, such as Chatterton, Split Rock, and Snake.

### **Route Name: “The Far Northland”- Southbound**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Batchewaung Lake (21)

**Shuttle:** From the Atikokan Base to Nym Lake. Fee: \$18 U.S. per person

**Distance:** 80 miles

**Longest Portage:** 193 rods (0.6 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 16

**Maps Required:** Fisher F29, F25, F18, F11, F10

**Main Features:** Large lakes, pictographs, petroglyphs, fewer portages

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Itinerary:** Nym Lake, Batchewaung Lake, Batchewaung Bay, Pickerel Narrows, Pickerel Lake, Dore Lake, Twin Lakes, Deux Rivieres, Sturgeon Lake, Russell Lake, Chatterton Lake, Keats Lake, Shelley Lake, Montgomery Lake, Kawnipi Lake, Keewatin Lake, Agnes Lake, Meadows Lake, Sunday Lake, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay, Sunday Bay), Prairie Portage, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake.

**Route Description:** This itinerary is considered to be the easiest Ely-to-Atikokan route, as it follows some larger bodies of water, such as Agnes and Kawnipi. Although you will need to be wary of possible progress-slowing winds, you will likely see a number of other paddlers on this route, as it is the easiest way into the interior of the park. There are also numerous scenic falls along this route, such as Chatterton, Split Rock, Snake, and Louisa. You will have a chance to view pictographs and the only known petroglyphs in the park (on Agnes Lake). The longest portage of this route is less than 2/3 of a mile in length, and this is accomplished on the last or second to last day. This route follows the reverse route of “The Far Northland.” “From Lake Agnes, by Louisa, to Kawnipi we will go...”

## **Clearwater West Loops**

### **Route Name: White Otter/Ann Bay Loop**

**Length:** 50 miles

**Shuttle/Launch Fee:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Number of portages (Longest Portage):** 7 (164 rods)

**Maps Required:** Atikokan (52B13) and White Otter (52G4)

**Highlights:** This is one of the easiest portaging routes. There are only seven portages with two over 500 yards. This route includes the White Otter Castle, pictographs, an old Prisoner of War Camp and good fishing for walleye, smallmouth bass and northern pike.

**Route Description:** Clearwater West to White Otter and Ann Bay. From Ann Bay paddle into Halfmoon Lake and Portage into Nora Lake. The Nora Lake portage will lead you back into White Otter near the Castle. The route travels back to Clearwater West and the end of your trip.

### **Route Name: Wasp Lake Loop**

**Length:** 50 miles

**Shuttle/Launch Fee:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Number of portages:** 11 (91 rods. The portages from Clearwater West into Turtle Lake require you to travel through some beaver ponds where you will have to get out and drag your canoes through mud.)

**Maps Required:** Atikokan (52B13) and White Otter (52G4)

**Highlights:** The Wasp Lake area through Little Gull and Below Bow offers good fishing and opportunities to see wildlife. The smaller lakes are less affected by wind. Walleye fishing on Turtle and Crow Rock lakes is closed. There is good Smallmouth and Northern fishing on these lakes.

**Route Description:** Clearwater west to Turtle Lake and Crow Rock. Portage into Wasp Lake and follow the Gamble River into Little Gull. Travel south through an un-named lake into Belo Bow and Back into Crow Rock. The route returns to Clearwater West through the Turtle Portage.

### **Route Name: Wasp Sanford Route (with Little Gull Irene option)**

**Length:** 60 mile

**Shuttle/Launch Fee:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 11 (164 rods)

**Maps Required:** Atikokan (52B13), White Otter (52G4)

**Highlights:** This is a longer route combining the Wasp Lake and White Otter trips. Sanford Lake is a very deep clear lake north of Wasp Lake. This route also passes by the White Otter Castle and the POW camp.

**Route Description:** This route is the same as the Wasp Lake Loop as far as Wasp Lake then portage north into Sanford Lake. The route to Elsie is not shown on the map we provide but there is a fairly direct route into Elsie and then on to Nora and White Otter near the Castle.

**Alternate Route:** 70 miles (7 days). This loop begins like the previous two but turns north at Little Gull Lake traveling on the Gamble River to Little Irene and Irene Lake then over to Sanford and Elsie finishing like the above route.

### **Route Name: White Otter, Ann Bay, Peckagoning Loop**

**Length:** 85 miles 7 to 9 days

**Shuttle/Launch Fee:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 14 (164 rods)

**Maps Required:** Atikokan (52B13), White Otter (52G4), Peckagoning (52F1) Manion Lake (52C16)

**Highlights:** This is a longer option still giving the opportunity to view pictographs on Ann Bay, the White Otter Castle and the POW camp. On the Peckagoning to Grey Trout portion of the route there is a fish habitat experiment in progress studying the long-term effects of clear cutting on small Lake Trout spawning lakes.

**Route Description:** Clearwater west to White Otter, Ann Bay, Halfmoon, Nora and back to White Otter. The route turns west and north on the Turtle River through Dibble and Smirch on the way to Peckagoning. The route now turns south and east to Crook and Grey Trout finishing at Clearwater West.

### **Route Name: West of White Otter Lake Options**

There is an optional route west of White Otter that will take crews through less traveled Sedgwick, Jackfish and Houston Lakes. This is a more strenuous option but the solitude and fishing are worth it.

## **Crown Land Routes**

Most of the crews paddling in the Crown Land north of Atikokan choose to start and end their trips with a bus shuttle. The price list is posted on page 9. There are many routes around Atikokan in the Crown Land. It would be difficult to list all the routes and the variations of each.

### **Route Name: Crooked Pine Lake Route**

**Entry Point:** Crooked Pine Lake

**End Point:** Base

**Length:** 55 miles

**Shuttle Fee:** \$18 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 16 (128 rods)

**Maps Required:** Sapawe (52B14), Atikokan (52B14)

**Highlights:** The beginning of this route will take you through a number of smaller lakes and rivers with the opportunity to see a small waterfall. This route gives you the option of paddling to the base or connecting with a few of our other routes. This is a good way to extend miles on your trip.

**Route Description:** Crooked Pine Lake, Mercurio Lake, Lance Lake, Melma Lake, Seine River, Bradshaw Lake, Marmion Lake, Finlayson Lake, Steeprock Diversion to the Seine River and Perch Lake.

**Float Plane Variation:** You may also choose a float plane option and fly just north of Crooked Pine Lake to Mercurio Lake.

River, Bloodvein River, Scout Lake

**Maps Required:** Artery Lake (52M6), North Eagle Lake (52M5), Sasaginnigak Lake (52M12), Dogskin Lake (52M11)

**Route Description:** This route is a combination of river and lake travel. Sasaginnigak Lake (Lake of Many Islands) is beautiful and has many campsites. Pictographs can be found on Atik Bay on what is called the East River. The route can be done in either direction. The most difficult portage is going from the Bloodvein River to Scout Lake.

### **Route Name: Manigotogan River Trip**

The Manigotogan River trip will be limited to crews with 7 or 8 days trips. Starting dates will be three days apart. Bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis. If you have your own van, shuttles can be arranged using your vehicle.

**Location:** Bissett Base

**Entry Point:** Long Lake

**Shuttle:** Bus access to Long Lake, Egress at Manigotogan village on highway 304

**Longest Portage:** 82 Rods

**Number of Portages:** 32

**Main Features:** Several waterfalls and rapids, pictographs, fishing

**Difficulty:** Intermediate

**Itinerary:** Long Lake, Quesnel Lake, Turtle Lake, Manigotogan River to the village of Manigotogan

**Maps Required:** Manigotogan Lake (52L13), Garner Lake (52L14), Bissett (52M4), English Brook (62P1)

**Route Description:** There are ample opportunities to view wildlife including moose and otters. The number of portages reflects small rapids and waterfalls on the trip that afford good fishing opportunities. The forest area represents intermediate older growth and evidence of past forest fires.

### **WOODLAND CARIBOU PROVINCIAL PARK**

Some crews have expressed interest in canoe trips in Ontario's Woodland Caribou Provincial Park, east of the Atikaki. This option does exist with some restrictions. Crew size in the Woodland Caribou is limited to 9 rather than the regular 12 in the Atikaki. The fees for the Woodland Caribou are a one time \$9.00 (Canadian) reservation fee plus \$12.00 per adult per night and \$5.50 per youth (17 and under). If your crew is interested in this option please contact Don MacDonald, the director of Canadian Programs, to arrange the permits. Please note you will need a fishing license for both Ontario and Manitoba if you plan to fish on both sides of the provincial border.

## **FLOAT PLANE SHUTTLES:**

In 2006 Northern Tier and Blue Water Aviation will help crews start and end their trips from more locations than the canoe cache on Scout Lake. We would like to reduce the traffic and therefore the camping pressure on Scout Lake. When schedules permit, crews may end their trip at any lake in our regular flying zone and meet the next crew using their canoes.

In 2005 a new route not requiring a floatplane shuttle was added. The Manigotogan route will start and end with a 25 mile shuttle.

### **Route Name: Black Lake Loop**

**Location:** Bissett Base

**Entry Point:** Scout Lake

**Shuttle:** Fly-In and Out of Scout Lake

**Distance:** 67 Miles

**Longest Portage:** Approximately 340 Rods

**Number of Portages:** 28 (depends on number of beaver dams)

**Main Features:** Pictographs, Excellent Fishing

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Scout Lake East, Noname Lake, Kawaseecheesonk Lake, Atik Bay, Black Lake, South to Noname Lake, Scout Lake

**Maps Required:** Artery Lake (52M6), Dogskin Lake (52M11), Sasaginnigak Lake (52M12)

**Route Description:** Pictographs near Sas Lake on Atik Bay on what is called the East River. This trip can be done in either direction. This route can be lengthened by taking a more northerly route through Hot Dog Lake and/or Rundle Lake then down the Manitoba border to Hobbs Lake and back to Noname Lake and Scout Lake (approximately 65 miles)

### **Route Name: Gammon and Bloodvein River Loop**

**Location:** Bissett Base

**Entry Point:** Scout Lake

**Shuttle:** Fly-In and Out of Scout Lake

**Distance:** 75 Miles

**Longest Portage:** Approximately 340 Rods

**Number of Portages:** 30 (depends on number of beaver dams)

**Main Features:** Asineewakkayhigun Falls, Fishing, Rivers

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Itinerary:** Scout Lake West, Bloodvein River Downstream (NW), Gammon River Upstream (SE), Old Gammon River, Stonehouse Lake, Bloodvein River, Scout Lake

**Maps Required:** Artery Lake (52M6), North Eagle Lake (52M5)

**Route Description:** Almost all of this route is on rivers. The Bloodvein and Gammon Rivers have several beautiful rapids and waterfalls. The Asineewakkayhigun Falls are especially nice where the Bloodvein River leaves Stonehouse Lake. This trip can be done in either direction. One of the most difficult portages is going west out of Scout Lake to the Bloodvein River.

### **Route Name: Sasaginnigak Lake Loop**

**Location:** Bissett Base

**Entry Point:** Scout Lake

**Shuttle:** Fly-In and Out of Scout Lake

**Distance:** 100 Miles

**Longest Portage:** Approximately 340 Rods

**Number of Portages:** 35 (depends on number of beaver dams)

**Main Features:** Fishing, pictographs, Sasaginnigak Lake

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous. This route may be impassible in low water years.

**Itinerary:** Scout Lake East, Noname Lake, Kawaseecheesonk Lake, Atik Bay, Sasaginnigak Lake, Sasaginnigak

### **Route Name: Red Paint Lake Loop**

**Entry Point:** Marmion or Finlayson Lake

**End Point:** Dashwa or Turtle Lake

**Length:** 50 miles

**Shuttle Fee:** \$36 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 15 (95 rods)

**Maps Required:** Atikokan (52B13), White Otter (52G4)

**Highlights:** This is a less traveled route for groups looking for solitude and challenge. There are several good locations to see moose, beaver and otters.

**Route Description:** Marmion or Finlayson, Sawbill Bay, Red Paint Lake, Serpent, Middle Bow, Below Bow, Crowrock ending at Dashwa or Turtle Lake.

**Variation:** From Dashwa Lake you can paddle back to base. This extends the trip 18 miles and adds 5 portages (one around a water falls). The loop can also be extended at Middle Bow by traveling northeast to Upper Bow, Sparkle, Kay, Doan, Little Irene, Little Gull, and Wasp and then into Crowrock to finish the trip at Dashwa or Turtle Lakes.

### **Route Name: Secret Lake Turtle River Route**

This is a variation of the Turtle River short route. The total length of the trip is 62 miles with 5 more portages. Crews may also choose to start a Turtle River trip at Grey Trout Lake and Clearwater West Lake. Each option extends the trip and reduces the shuttle fee.

### **Route Name: Seine River Route**

**Entry Point:** Upper Seine Bay

**End Point:** Base

**Length:** 50 mile

**Shuttle Fee:** \$19 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 5 (50 rods)

**Maps Required:** Sapawe (52B14), Atikokan (52B13)

**Highlights:** This is an easy route for novice crews who don't want to do a lot of portaging. The route travels through some popular local fishing lakes. Crews will have an opportunity to see some of the diversions and dams used to create the Steeprock mine.

**Route Description:** Upper Seine Bay, Marmion Lake, Finlayson Lake, Steeprock Diversion to the Seine River and Perch Lake.

### **Route Name: Turtle River Long Route**

**Entry Point:** Agimak Lake at Ignace

**Ending Point:** Mine Centre public landing

**Length:** 90 miles 9 days

**Shuttle Fee:** \$42 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 30 (82 rods)

**Maps Required:** Ignace (52G5), White Otter (52G4), Peckagoning (52F1), Manion Lake (52C16), Mine Centre (52C15)

**Highlights:** This route is a good sample of what the Canadian Shield has to offer. You will paddle through large and small lakes, and rivers; portage around rapids and waterfalls (3). Rapids are always a good place to stop and fish. When you get to White Otter it is a short side trip to visit the White Otter Castle.

**Route description:** Agimak Lake, McNamara Lake, Balmoral Lake, Nora Lake, White Otter, Dibble, Smirch, Peckagoning, Turtle River, Jones Lake, Eltrut Lake and on down the Turtle River to Mine Centre on Little Turtle Lake.

### **Route Name: Turtle River Short Route**

**Entry Point:** Big Turtle Bridge

**End Point:** Mine Centre

**Length:** 50 miles

**Shuttle Fee:** \$38 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 18 (82 rods)

**Maps Required:** Peckagoning (52F1), Manion Lake (52C16), Mine Centre (52C15)

**Highlights:** This abbreviated Turtle River trip includes two waterfalls. After you portage around the falls or rapids stop and try the fishing.

**Route Description:** Turtle River to Jones Lake and Eltrut Lake back into the Turtle River on to Little Turtle Lake and Mine Centre.

**Route Name: Wasp Lake Route**

**Entry Point:** Turtle Lake

**End Point:** Base

**Length:** 50 miles

**Shuttle Fees:** \$18 U.S. per person

**Number of Portages (Longest Portage):** 9 (150 rods)

**Maps Required:** White Otter (52G4), Atikokan (52 B13)

**Highlights:** The middle portion of this route travels through some small quiet lakes where fishing is good and the chances of seeing other groups is limited. On the Eye River portion there is a waterfalls. There are walleye restrictions on some of the lakes on this route.

**Route Description:** Turtle Lake, Crowrock, Wasp, Little Gull, Below Bow, Crowrock, Dashwa, Eye, Ear, Perch Lake and Base.

**Variations:** This route can be extended by up to 20 miles by traveling up into Little Irene, Doan, Sparkle, Upper Bow Lake area.

## Float Plane Options

Northern Tier has a canoe cache on Bending Lake for crews wishing to start or finish their trip with a floatplane shuttle. Flying the crew and equipment will cost about \$160.00 per person with Atikokaan Aero. Crews may choose to fly their gear and canoes to a number of lakes north of Atikokan or to Lacroix, Beaverhouse or Mack on the edge of the Quetico.

Some of the common floatplane starting or ending lakes north of Atikokan are:

<u>Lake</u>	<u>Route Options</u>
Campus	White Otter, Turtle River, Sanford, Wasp
Doan	Wasp Lake, Red Paint
Sparkle	Wasp Lake, Red Paint
Dibble	White Otter, Turtle River, Sanford, Wasp
Agimak	Turtle River
Gulliver	Wasp Lake, Red Paint
White Otter	White Otter, Turtle River, Sanford, Wasp
Beaverhouse	Quetico Provincial Park
Clay Lake	Mack Lake entry Quetico
Lacroix	Quetico
Bending Canoe Cache	White Otter, Turtle River, Sanford, Wasp

## **BISSETT ROUTES** **NORTHERN EXPEDITIONS**



Snake, and Louisa. You will have a chance to view pictographs and the only known petroglyphs in the park (on Agnes Lake). The longest portage of this route is less than 2/3 of a mile in length, and this is accomplished on the first or second day. This route follows the route of "The Far Northland:" "From Lake Agnes, by Louisa, to Kawnipi we will go..."

**Route Name: Western Park Boundary**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Basswood River (51)

**Shuttle:** From Beaverhouse Lake to the Atikokan Base. Fee: \$18.00 US per person

**Distance:** 95 miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 rods (1.1 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 14

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F17, F16, F23, F28

**Main Features:** Larger lakes, flat western end of park

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderate

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake, Basswood River, Crooked Lake, Iron Lake, Lac la Croix, Namakan River, Quetico River, Beaverhouse Lake

**Route Description:** This western route follows the US-Canadian border from Prairie Portage to the Quetico River, where it turns north and follows the Quetico Park boundary to the end of the trek. With only one long portage of roughly a mile in length, this easy and scenic trek can become difficult if strong head winds pick up on the several larger lakes. The terrain is fairly flat along most of this route, as it follows natural water flow routes through the region. You will probably see a few natives in this region, as you pass the First Nation (Native Canadian) village on Lac la Croix.



**ATIKOKAN SHUTTLE INFORMATION FOR 2006**

Atikokan canoe trips usually start and end with a shuttle by van or float plane. Shuttles are the only way for crews to start and end trips in Quetico Provincial Park. The accompanying chart lists shuttle drop off options.

Bus or float plane shuttles north from the Atikokan base allow access to 20 entry points into millions of acres of Crown Land. There are only three routes leaving or returning to the base. The Eye and Seine Rivers have limited carrying capacity. They also require at least 5 days be spent on the same section of river traveling to and from the base. Lakes and rivers close to the base are accessible by power boat and may have cottages on them. Crews wishing to get into the wilderness and avoid these areas should shuttle both into and out of the woods.

The chart below and map (included in this mailing) show most of the bus shuttle drop-off and pick-up points. Float Planes offer the opportunity to reach more secluded lakes. Most crews who fly combine a bus shuttle with a floatplane shuttle to decrease cost.

**BUS SHUTTLE FEES in U.S. DOLLARS (One Way)**

<i>Drop Point</i>	<i>Price Per Person</i>	<i>Drop Point</i>	<i>Price Per Person</i>
<b>CROWN LAND SHUTTLES</b>			
1. Mine Centre	\$19.00	9. Clearwater West	\$18.00
2. Manion Lake	\$18.00	10. Turtle Lake	\$18.00
3. Tom's Portage on Manion Lake Rd	\$18.00	11. Dashwa Lake	\$18.00
4. Crilly Dam	\$18.00	13. Finlayson Lake	\$18.00
5. Ignace	\$23.00	14. Marmion Lake	\$18.00
6. Big Turtle Bridge on Highway 622	\$19.00	16. Island Falls	\$18.00
7. Secret Lake	\$18.00	17. Upper Seine Bay	\$18.00
8. Grey Trout	\$18.00		
<b>QUETICO PARK SHUTTLES</b>			
12. French Lake to Pickeral Lake Entry	\$18.00	22. Lerome Lake to Sue Falls Entry	\$18.00
12A. Stanton Bay to Pickeral Lake Entry	\$18.00	31. Beaverhouse Lake to Cirrus Lake Entry	\$18.00
21. Nym Lake to Batcheaung Lake Entry	\$18.00	32. Beaverhouse Lake to Quetico Lake Entry	\$18.00

All shuttle fees are in US dollars. Shuttle fees can be paid by Visa, MasterCard or check. Checks to be made out to Iron Range Bus Lines.

***All prices subject to change without notice.***

***No charge for interpreter on bus shuttles!***



**Number of Portages:** 23

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F18, F25, F29

**Main Features:** Remote, Scenic, good fishing lakes

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Burke Lake, Basswood Lake (North Bay), South Lake, West Lake, Unnamed Ponds, Shade Lake, Unnamed Lake, Grey Lake, Yum Yum Lake, Kahshapiwi Lake, Keefer Lake, Sark Lake, Cairn Lake, Shelley Lake, Keats Lake, Chatterton Lake, Russell Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Deux Rivieres, Twin Lakes, Dore Lake, Pickerel Lake, Pickerel Narrows, Batchewaung Bay, Batchewaung Lake, Nym Lake

**Route Description:** This route has a nice variety of waterways, including the long, narrow, glacially-formed lakes of the "Kahshapiwi Creek" (Kahshapiwi Lake, Sark Lake, and Cairn Lake), which are more common in this region. There are also numerous scenic falls along this route, such as Chatterton, Split Rock, and Snake. Other than the famed "Yum Yum Portage" of 220 rods, only the final portage is longer than 1/2 mile in length.

**Route Name: Sarah Lake- North**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Sarah Lake (52)

**Shuttle:** From Nym Lake to the Atikokan Base. Fee: \$18.00 US per person

**Distance:** 95 miles

**Longest Portage:** 288 rods (0.9 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 33

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F18, F17, F24, F25, F29

**Main Features:** Large variety of scenery, very remote, very few other paddlers

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Burke Lake, Basswood Lake (North Bay), Nest Lake, Point Lake, Unnamed Ponds, Side Lake, Sarah Lake, McIntyre Lake, Brent Lake, Suzanette Lake, Conmee Lake, Unnamed Creek, Delahey Lake, Veron Lake, Unnamed Creek, Camel Lake, Nan Lake, Cutty Creek, Fred Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Deux Rivieres, Twin Lakes, Dore Lake, Pickerel Lake, Pickerel Narrows, Batchewaung Bay, Batchewaung Lake, Nym Lake

**Route Description:** This route takes groups through the heart of the most remote and lightly traveled section of the park. This is partly due to the number of portages, although the longest is less than one mile in length. There are wonderful variations in scenery, with large and small lakes, ponds, creeks, and rivers. There are also many options on this route for side trips, or for extending the length of the trek.

**Route Name: "The Far Northland" Route**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Agnes Lake (61)

**Shuttle:** From Nym Lake to the Atikokan Base. Fee: \$18.00 US per person

**Distance:** 80 miles

**Longest Portage:** 193 rods (0.6 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 16

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18, F25, F29

**Main Features:** Large lakes, pictographs, petroglyphs, fewer portages

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay, Sunday Bay), Sunday Lake, Meadows Lake, Agnes Lake, Keewatin Lake, Kawnipi Lake, Montgomery Lake, Shelley Lake, Keats Lake, Chatterton Lake, Russell Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Deux Rivieres, Twin Lakes, Dore Lake, Pickerel Lake, Pickerel Narrows, Batchewaung Bay, Batchewaung Lake, Nym Lake

**Route Description:** This itinerary is considered to be the easiest Ely-to-Atikokan route, as it follows some larger bodies of water, such as Agnes and Kawnipi. Although you will need to be wary of possible progress-slowng winds, you will likely see a number of other paddlers on this route, as it is the easiest way into the interior of the park. There are also numerous scenic falls along this route, such as Chatterton, Split Rock,



Bay, Sunday Bay), Sunday Lake, Meadows Lake, Agnes Lake, Unnamed Lake, Keewatin Lake, Kawnipi Lake, Shelley Lake, Keats Lake, Chatterton Lake, Russell Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Maligne River, Tanner Lake, Maligne River, Minn Lake, Darky River, Darky Lake, Argo Lake, Crooked Lake, Basswood River, Basswood Lake, Wind Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** This is an excellent trek for a more experienced crew. The route isn't very difficult, but it does cover quite a few miles, mostly through very remote sections of the park. This route covers all of the types of waterways in the region (large and small lakes, ponds, creeks, and rivers). There are also numerous scenic falls along this route, such as Chatterton, Split Rock, Snake, and Louisa. You will have a chance to view pictographs and the only known petroglyphs in the park (on Agnes Lake). The longest portage of this route is Horse Portage, a mile in length. This route begins with the route of "The Far Northland": "From Lake Agnes, by Louisa, to Kawnipi we will go..."

**Route Name: Tuck River Loop**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Sarah Lake (52). If you reverse the direction of this trip, you would use the Basswood River (51) entry point.

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 55 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 Rods (1.1 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 22

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F17, F18

**Main Features:** Basswood Falls, pictographs

**Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate (depending on length of trip)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Burke Lake, Burke Creek, Basswood Lake (North Bay), Isabella Creek, Isabella Lake, Side Lake, Side Creek, Sarah Lake, Tuck Lake, Robinson Lake, Tuck River, Crooked Lake (Moose Bay), Basswood River, Basswood Lake, Wind Lake, Moose Lake.

**Route Description:** This route is relatively easy if you are on an 8-day or longer trek, and moderate if you are on a 7-day trek. Some days will have a lot of portages and other days only a few. This short route gives a great amount of variety with rivers, big lakes, and small lakes and gives a good taste of Quetico Provincial Park. There are good fishing spots on the Tuck River and excellent pictographs on the U.S. side of Crooked Lake.



**ELY TO ATIKOKAN  
BASE TO BASE ROUTES**

If you are interested in paddling any of the base-to-base routes, please contact us for details. These are most suitable for 10-day or longer treks, as the routes will be at least 80 miles long. Crew members who complete one of these treks will be awarded a participation emblem from the C. L. Sommers and Don Rogert bases. The added benefit of these exciting treks is that you will be able to experience the extreme remoteness of the interior of Quetico Park, where few other people travel. Please note that we do not arrange transportation for your crew. If you have at least two crews, one may start at Ely and one at Atikokan and trade vehicles.

**Route Name: Kahshahpiwi Lake- North**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Kahshahpiwi Lake (53)

**Shuttle:** From Nym Lake to Atikokan Base. Fee: \$18.00 US per person

**Distance:** 90 miles

**Longest Portage:** 220 rods (0.7 miles)



**ELY  
CHARLES L. SOMMERS  
CANOE BASE**



**Boundary Waters/Quetico Comparison Chart**

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness	Quetico Provincial Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must camp at designated campsites</li> <li>• Each site has a fire grate and latrine</li> <li>• "Leave no Trace" policies must be followed</li> <li>• Likely to see other wilderness users</li> <li>• Permits easy to obtain</li> <li>• Less cost for camping and permit fees (per trip rate)</li> <li>• Well maintained, well traveled portage trails</li> <li>• Motorboat access allowed on several border lakes (not allowed on interior lakes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May camp anywhere</li> <li>• No latrines or fire grates</li> <li>• "Leave no Trace" policies must be followed</li> <li>• Fewer wilderness users, less fishing pressure</li> <li>• Permits may be hard to obtain during peak season</li> <li>• Higher cost for camping and permit fees (per night rate)</li> <li>• More rugged, less traveled portage trails</li> <li>• Motorboat use not allowed (except on a few First Nations lakes at far western edge of park)</li> </ul>

# **ELY CANOE ROUTES**

## **C.L. SOMMERS CANOE BASE**

Following are some typical canoe routes both for the Quetico Provincial Park and for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Many other routes are possible. Both areas are beautiful and similar in terrain. One of your first choices to make is to decide in which area your crew wishes to travel. Please check the information in the Expedition Planning Guide and the Resource CD to help you make your choice.

### **Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Routes FROM ELY**

#### **Route Name: Bear Loop**

**Location:** BWCAW

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 55 miles

**Longest Portage:** 105 Rods (.3 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 27

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11

**Main Features:** Eddy Falls, Variety, July 4<sup>th</sup> blow down area, mostly short portages, Eagle's Nest on point between Newfound and Sucker Lake, Wisini Hilton campsite, pictographs on Jordan, Isle of Pines (Dorothy Molter's former homestead site)

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Itinerary:**

Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Splash Lake, Ensign Lake, Ashigan Lake, Gibson Lake, Cattyman Lake, Jordan Lake, Ima Lake, Hatchet Lake, Thomas Lake, Fraser Lake, Gerund Lake, Ahmakose Lake, Wisini Lake, Strup Lake, Kekekabic Lake, Pickle Lake, Spoon Lake, Bonnie Lake, Knife Lake, Carp Lake, Birch Lake, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:**

This is a popular route with our crews and has many variations. It is very suitable for shorter treks. The route can be reversed, changed, extended, or shortened in many ways. You will be likely to see lots of groups on this route and you should plan to get a campsite early. It is a pretty area and well suited for short trips or crews new to canoe tripping. This loop is very representative of the BWCAW and offers a lot of variety.

#### **Route Name: Bear Trap River Loop**

**Location:** BWCAW

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 90 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 Rods (1.1 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 22

**Maps Required:** Fisher F9, F10, F16, F17

**Main Features:** Pictographs, Waterfalls, and Rivers

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous (moderate for a 10 day trek, strenuous for 8-9 day treks)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Wind Lake, Basswood Lake (Wind Bay, Hoist Bay, Back Bay, Pipestone Bay, Jackfish Bay), Sandpit Lake, Mudro Lake, Fourtown Lake, Boot Lake, Fairy Lake, Gun Lake, Gull Lake, Thunder Lake, Beartrap Lake, Beartrap River, Sunday Lake, Beartrap River, Iron Lake, Crooked Lake, Basswood River, Basswood Lake (Merriam Bay, Bailey Bay, Inlet Bay), Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake



**Route Description:** This is well suited for a 7 or 8-day trek. The portages are mostly short. Stop for a picnic at the Isle of Pines, and look for Benny Ambrose's old homestead on Ottertrack Lake. Knife Lake was so named because of the outcrops of obsidian-like slate that the Native Americans used to make knives.

#### **Route Name: Old Pines Loop**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Kahshahpiwi Lake (53)

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 50 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 182 Rods (0.57 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 23

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F17, F18

**Main Features:** Old growth red and white pines on McNiece and Shan Walshe Lakes, pictographs on Shade Lake

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Burke Lake, Burke Creek, Basswood Lake (North Bay), South Lake, West Lake, Shade Lake, Grey Lake, Yum Yum Lake, Shan Walshe Lake, McNiece Lake, Kahshahpiwi Lake, Side Lake, Point Lake, Nest Lake, Basswood Lake (Ranger Bay, Wind Bay), Wind Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** On a 7 day trek, you will cross 18 or 19 portages by your third day. These aren't too difficult, but you need to be in good shape. On a longer trek you can break these up a bit. This is a good cross-section of Quetico Provincial Park. It is also good wildlife habitat, including moose. This is one of the lesser-used entry points into this part of Quetico Provincial Park.

#### **Route Name: "S" Chain**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Agnes Lake (61)

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 55 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 165 Rods (.52 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 19

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18

**Main Features:** Pictographs, Louisa Falls, Basswood Lake

**Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate (depending on length of trek)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Nest Lake, Point Lake, Isabella Lake, Isabella Creek, West Lake, Shade Lake, Noon Lake, Summer Lake, Sultry Lake, Silence Lake, Agnes Lake, Meadows Lake, Sunday Lake, Basswood Lake (Sunday Bay, Bayley Bay, Inlet Bay), Prairie Portage, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** Named for the number of lakes beginning with the letter "s", this is a fairly easy route (if on a 7 day or longer trek). This is a more challenging trip than the Louisa Falls Loop, but you may find more solitude because of that. There is a lot of variety on this route, with large and small lakes, ponds, and creeks.

#### **Route Name: Sturgeon Loop**

**Location:** Quetico Park

**Entry Point:** Agnes Lake (61)

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 140 miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 rods

**Number of Portages:** 33

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18, F25, F24, F17

**Main Features:** Variety of waterways, remote sections

**Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley



**Route Description:** This route has a couple of longer portages, but is not difficult if you are on a 10-day trek. You will see three pictograph sites, three waterfalls, and some beautiful lakes. Unique Argo Lake is a deep blue color. The pictographs on Darky Lake and Crooked Lake are among the best in the region. You should find solitude in the secluded McIntyre Lake area. This route has many variations that will shorten or lengthen it.

### **Route Name: Falls Chain**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Agnes Lake (61). If you reverse this route, you would use the Carp Lake (62) entry point.

**Shuttle:** None

**Distance:** 90 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 193 Rods (0.6 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 27

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18, F19, F25, F26

**Main Features:** Falls Chain, Louisa Falls, Agnes Lake, Man Chain Lakes

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Sunday Lake, Meadows Lake, Agnes Lake, Agnes River, Anubis Lake, McVicar Lake, Kawnipi Lake, Falls Chain, Saganagons Lake, Slate Lake, Fran Lake, Bell Lake, Bit Lake, Other Man, This Man, No Man Lake, That Man Lake, Sheridan Lake, Carp Lake, Birch Lake, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** Suitable for a 10 day trek, this route takes you through a beautiful part of Quetico Provincial Park and past a number of nice waterfalls.



### **Route Name: Louisa Falls Loop**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Agnes Lake (61)

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 50 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 212 Rods (0.66 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 14

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18

**Main Features:** Louisa Falls, Agnes Lake, Pictographs

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Burke Lake, Burke Creek, Basswood Lake (North Bay), South Lake, West Lake, Jeff Creek, Jeff Lake, East Lake, Agnes Lake, Meadows Lake, Sunday Lake, Basswood Lake (Sunday Bay, Inlet Bay), Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** This route is ideal for a 7 day trek into Quetico Provincial Park. The route from West Lake to Jeff Lake is up a shallow creek and the portage may be difficult to find. There are lots of Moose in this area of the park. Don't miss taking a dip in Louisa Falls!

### **Route Name: The Man Chain**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Carp Lake (62)

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 65 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 136 Rods (0.43 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 24

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18, F19

**Main Features:** Silver Falls, Ottertrack Lake, historic border route, Dorothy Molter's Isle of Pines site

**Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate (depending on length of trek)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Birch Lake, Carp Lake, Knife River, Seed Lake, Knife River, Knife Lake, Ottertrack Lake, Jasper Lake, Lilypad Lake, Silver Falls River, Saganagons Lake, Slate Lake, Fran Lake, Bell Lake, Other Man Lake, This Man Lake, No Man Lake, That Man Lake, Sheridan Lake, Carp Lake, Birch Lake, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake



**Route Description:** This popular 9 to 10 day trek returns along the U.S. Canadian border and takes your crew past famous Curtain Falls, Basswood Falls and Wheelbarrow Falls, as well as seeing a large portion of the immense Basswood Lake. There are many ways to vary the route, especially in the Beartrap River section. Most of the portages are quite short, except the long but relatively easy 340 Rod portage around Basswood Falls. Plan to get your campsite early, as you will most likely see other people along this route.

### **Route Name: Grand Portage**

**Location:** BWCAW

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake (25)

**Shuttle:** From Grand Portage back to Sommers. Fee: \$320.00.

**Camping Fees:** Required at Grand Portage Campground.

**Distance:** 125 miles (9-10 days recommended for this route)

**Longest Portage:** 8.5 MILES

**Number of Portages:** 31

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F19, F20, F12, F13, F14, E115

**Main Features:** Very historic route, many scenic spots, ends at National Monument

**Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Birch Lake, Carp Lake, Melon Lake, Seed Lake, Knife Lake, Ottertrack Lake, Swamp Lake, Saganaga Lake, Granite River, Gneiss Lake, Granite Bay, Clove Lake, Pine River, Gunflint Lake, North Lake, Height of Land Portage, South Lake, Rat Lake, Rose Lake, Rove Lake, Watap Lake, Mountain Lake, Fan Lake, Vaseux Lake, Moose Lake, North Fowl Lake, South Fowl Lake, Pigeon River, Grand Portage, Lake Superior

**Route Description:** This very historic route was the highway for the 'voyageurs,' who traveled these waters with their trade goods several centuries ago. There are numerous scenic bluffs along the route, as you cover such portages as "Monument Portage," the "Height of Land," and of course, the grand finale, the 8.5 mile Grand Portage. This route is strenuous, as there are several longer portages. It works well from the point that the longest portages are at the end of the route, when the packs are lightest and the legs are strongest. The trek ends at the Grand Portage National Monument, where your crew can sign the register for crossing the portage, and then tour the monument area, which has a lot of historic information about the area.



### **Route Name: Horse River Loop**

**Location:** BWCAW

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake (25)

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 55 miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 rods (1.1 miles)

**Number of Portages:** 17

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10

**Main Features:** Large Lakes, 2 rivers, scenic waterfalls

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Wind Lake, Basswood Lake (Wind Bay), Indiana Lake, Good Lake, Basswood Lake (Hoist Bay, Back Bay, Pipestone Bay, Jackfish Bay), Unnamed Creek, Tin Can Mike Lake, Horse Lake, Horse River, Basswood River, Basswood Lake, Wind Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** An easy route for a shorter treks, this route has numerous large lakes and bays. Please note that many of the large bays do allow motorboat use. This scenic route, traveling down the Horse River and up the Basswood River has many excellent fishing locations along the way.



### **Route Name: Height of Land Route**

**Location:** BWCAW and Superior National Forest

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 135 Miles



**Longest Portage:** 100 Rods (0.3 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 38

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F13, F19, F20

**Main Features:** Following the traditional Fur Trade Route, crossing the Height of Land portage, Isle of Pines (“Root Beer Lady” Dorothy Molter’s former homestead), eagle’s nest on point between Newfound and Sucker Lakes, Benny Ambrose homestead’s site on Ottertrack Lake.

**Difficulty:** Strenuous (because of distance)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Birch Lake, Knife Lake, Ottertrack Lake, Saganaga Lake, Granite River, Gneiss Lake, Cove Lake, Magnetic Lake, Gunflint Lake, North Lake, Gunflint Lake, Magnetic Lake, Cove Lake, Gneiss Lake, Granite River, Saganaga Lake, Ottertrack Lake, Knife Lake, Birch Lake, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** This long route is fairly easy as far as portaging goes. This is suited for experienced crews on 10-day trips wanting to paddle long days on big lakes and to follow the U.S. – Canadian border and the historic fur trade route to the Height of Land. Voyageurs crossing the height of land portage were allowed to dip their paddles in red paint and to take part in a special ceremony, signifying they were “true” Voyageurs. This route takes you through some scenic lakes both in and out of the BWCAW (expect to see a few motorboats and cabins). Although the route begins and returns the same way, it always looks different in reverse. The trip can be altered to return by several different routes, but these all require more portaging.

### **Route Name: Little Saganaga Loop**

**Location:** BWCAW

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 80 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 240 Rods (0.75 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 54

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F12

**Main Features:** Variety (Rivers, Small Lakes, Big Lakes), uncrowded, beautiful scenery

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous (because of number of portages)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound, Sucker, Splash, Ensign, Ashigan, Gibson, Cattyman, Jordan, Ima, Thomas, Cacabic, Alice, Kawishiwi River, Kivaniva, Anit, Pan, Panhandle, Makwa, Elton, Little Saganaga, Mora, Tarry, Crooked, Gillis, Fern, French, Peter, Gabimichigami, Agamok, Mueller, Ogishkemuncie, Annie, Jenny, Kekakabic Ponds, Eddy, South Arm Knife, Sema, Spoon, Dix, Skoota, Missionary, Trader, Vera, Ensign, Splash, Sucker, Newfound, Moose.

**Route Description:** This route is best for a crew on a longer trip that wants a degree of challenge in return for traveling in a beautiful and remote area of the BWCAW. There is one 240 rod portage and several 180 rod portages, but most are relatively short. As with most canoe routes, there are many ways to alter this main loop to make it shorter, lessen the number of portages, or make it even more challenging. For example, a crew could return by way of Knife Lake from the South Arm, cutting out seven portages although this would put you back on the main traffic route. Many people consider the Gabimichigami and Ogishkemuncie Lakes area to be one of the most beautiful in the BWCAW.

### **Route Name: Scenic Lakes Loop**

**Location:** BWCAW

**Entry Point:** Moose Lake

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 70 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 180 Rods (0.56 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 28

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F19

**Main Features:** Waterfall, cliff-lined lakes, nice campsites, Isle of Pines (“Root Beer Lady” Dorothy Molter’s former homestead site), Benny Ambrose’s homestead site, Osprey Nest on Kekekabic Pond east of Kekekabic Lake, eagle’s nest on point between Newfound and Sucker Lakes

**Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Birch Lake, Carp Lake, Seed Lake, Knife River, Knife Lake, Ottertrack Lake, Ester Lake, Hanson Lake, Cherry Lake, Topaz Lake, Amoerber Lake, Knife Lake, South Arm Knife Lake, Eddy Lake, Kekekabic Ponds, Kekekabic Lake, Pickle Lake, Spoon Lake, Dix Lake, Skoota Lake, Missionary Lake, Trader Lake, Vera Lake, Ensign Lake, Splash Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** Fairly easy route, perfect for a 7 or 8 day trek. Expect to see people along this route, but solitude can be found in many locations by portaging away from the main route to camp.

## **QUETICO PROVINCIAL PARK ROUTES FROM EIY**

### **Route Name: Agnes Lake Loop**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Kahshahpiwi Lake (53). If you reverse this route you can use the Agnes Lake (61) entry point.

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 80 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 212 Rods (0.66 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 24

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F11, F18, F25,

**Main Features:** Pictographs, Louisa Falls, Agnes Lake, Kahshahpiwi Lake

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Burke Lake, Burke Creek, Basswood Lake (North Bay), Isabella Creek, Isabella Lake, Side Lake, Kahshahpiwi Lake, Keefer Lake, Stark Lake, Kahshahpiwi Creek, Cairn Lake, Kahshahpiwi Creek, Kawnipi Lake, Keewatin Lake, Agnes Lake, Meadows Lake, Sunday Lake, Basswood Lake (Sunday Bay, Bayley Bay, Inlet Bay), Prairie Portage, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake

**Route Description:** This popular 8 to 10 day route is the quintessential Quetico Route as immortalized in the “*Far Northland*” song of the Northern Tier (“... from Lake Agnes by Louisa to Kawnipi I will go...”). You will travel up the middle of Quetico Provincial Park and have the experience of sitting in the “bathtubs” under Louisa Falls. Although there are 24 portages, only four are longer than 100 rods. Some of these are a challenge however. You will find more solitude as you travel north. Don’t miss the pictographs on Agnes Lake, and the only known petroglyphs (carvings) in the park.

### **Route Name: Argo Lake Loop**

**Location:** Quetico Provincial Park

**Entry Point:** Basswood River (51). If you reverse the direction of the route you would use the Sarah Lake (52) entry point.

**Shuttle:** None Required

**Distance:** 85 Miles

**Longest Portage:** 340 Rods (1.1 mile)

**Number of Portages:** 27

**Maps Required:** Fisher F10, F17, F18

**Main Features:** Basswood Falls, Pictographs, Argo Lake

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous (depending on length of trip)

**Itinerary:** Moose Lake, Newfound Lake, Sucker Lake, Prairie Portage, Basswood Lake (Inlet Bay, Bayley Bay), Basswood River, Crooked Lake, Argo Lake, Darky Lake, Darky River, Brent Lake, McIntyre Lake, Sarah Lake, Side Creek, Side Lake, Point Lake, Nest Lake, Basswood Lake (North Bay), Burke Creek, Burke Lake, Basswood Lake (Bailey Bay, Inlet Bay), Prairie Portage, Sucker Lake, Newfound Lake, Moose Lake