

Trip Summary

Entry-Exit Lake/River	Entry - Maggotte Lk Exit - Little Caribou Lk
Length Of Trip	270 km
Trip Dates/# Days	31 Jul 2021 - 10 Aug 2021 = 11 days
Trip Leader Name	Jeff & Julie Dano (Bancroft, ON)
Number Of Paddlers	2
Portages	22
Portage Length Range	39 m to 1147 m
Topo Maps Used Other Maps Used	52I/5, 52I/6, 52I/7, 52I/11, 52I/14 FOW Volume 3 Paddler planner.com maps FOW canoe route planning map maps.me app
Access Points	Vehicle shuttle to access point
Route followed (provide map if possible)	Maggotte Lk north to Kenakskanis Lk to Boulder Lk to Shawanabis Lk to Onamakawash Lk to Lookout R to Spring Lk to west arm of Smoothrock Lk to Outlet Bay to Berg R to Ogoki R to Whitewater Lk to McKinley Lk to Laurent Lk to Lonebreast Bay (Smoothrock Lk) to Caribou Bay (Smoothrock Lk) to Fungler Lk to Caribou R to Caribou Lk to Little Caribou Lk

Trip Arrangement Details

Route description (one way, circuit, paddle in/out)	Loop style however start & end at different locations.
Average distance traveled each day	15 km
Source of non-resident Crown land camping permit or provincial park interior (backcountry) camping permit	On Line reservation
Outfitter/provider used	Clement Quenville
Outfitter services provided (lodging, canoe rental, outfitting, licenses, permits, shuttles, flight)	Shuttle to access point. Secure vehicle parking Drop off vehicle at end point.
Mode of shuttle to entry/from exit (road, rail, float planes)	Road
Location of vehicle left behind	At outfitters residence until 1 day prior to trip conclusion when vehicle was shuttled to end point at Little Caribou Lk
Primary road used, if any, to access Wabakimi Area (Hwy 527, Hwy 599, Graham Road)	Hwy 527
Secondary road(s) used, if any, for access/egress to/from your trip insertion/extraction locations	Obonga Lake Rd to access point Caribou Lk Rd to end point

Day 1**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Start at Maggotte Lk. Paddle north to portage between Maggotte & Kenakskanis Lk. Portage was in decent shape. We trimmed a few small trees along trail. Camped on small lake between 127 m & 857 m portages on north shore. Not a marked site on our maps. Small island with exposed rock with nice west view; however tent site was poor. (not level)

Day 2**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Paddled north to 104 m portage around Boulder Creek to Boulder Lk. This portage was in good shape. Paddled through Boulder Lk to 747 m portage into Shawanabis Lk. This portage also in good shape. The south bay on Shawanabis Lk was shallow but navigable. Paddled north to site at n/w corner of Shawanabis Lk just south of CNR line where we camped for the night. Caught a couple of nice walleye off shore at this site.

Day 3**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Portaged over CNR line using the 124 m portage. No issues. Caught walleye in rapids at end of portage. Paddled through n/e arm of Onamakawash Lk passing several unoccupied cabins. No evidence of recent use at these cabins. Portage 173 m into Lookout R. Remaining portages into Spring Lk were all in decent shape. We did some trimming of small trees along the way. Good walleye fishing at most current areas/rapids on the River. Camped at the site at end of 105 m portage. Good site with small rapids close by however low volume of water.

Day 4**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Continued north through Spring Lk to Lookout R. Noted boat cache at beginning of 1147 m portage from Spring Lk to Lookout R. This portage was in surprisingly good shape. Lots of blueberries. We did trim a few small trees/saplings/alders along the way. Paddled the west arm of Smoothrock Lk to a proxy 1/2 way to Outlet Bay where we camped at a great site on west shore (main land point).

Day 5**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Continued north on west arm of Smoothrock Lk through Outlet Bay to campsite at end of Bay approx 75 m s/e of 397 m portage into Berg R. Saw 5 river otters during our travels as well 2 paddlers from Waterloo, ON. There was some garbage at this site including a 20 lb propane tank attached to a hose & burner. Saw many bald eagles on Smoothrock Lk.

Day 6**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Portaged into Berg R via 397 m portage. Paddled Berg R to Ogoki R. We easily ran the rapid at the 75 m portage. Also ran two sets of rapids at the 275m portage. Noted two derelict aluminum boats along the river (neither appeared sea worthy). One was at the beginning of the 102 m portage and the other was along the shoreline between the 102 m & 58 m portages (appeared as though it came to rest at that location when spring flooding subsided). We camped on the north shore of the Ogoki R just downstream from the junction with the Berg R. Caught walleyes at most rapids/swifts along the Berg R.

Day 7**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Paddled the Ogoki R to portage into Whitewater Lk. We ran the rapids at the 426 m portage on the Ogoki R. The 888 m portage into Whitewater Lk had some recent large trees across the trail however caused no real issues (ground level). The walleye fishing was very good at the rapids where the Ogoki R spilled into Whitewater Lk. We met another group of 4 trippers (from Toronto) at the end of this portage. They were travelling upriver on the Ogoki & Berg Rivers. There was no evidence of recent activity at Whitewater Lodge. We paddled to the north central portion of Whitewater Lk where we camped. Had a visit from three indigenous people staying at a small community of buildings near the portage to McKinley Lk. They were setting gill nets & jigging for walleye in the narrows near our site.

Day 8**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Paddled the remainder of Whitewater Lk to the McKinley Lk portage. Saw moose, bear, wolf & Caribou tracks on several beaches on Whitewater Lk.

The first 187 m was in good shape. The 2nd portage (286 m) was decent. We could not find the 3rd portage (62 m) so we lined up the narrow section & lifted over on east side. The first half of the 4th portage (278 m) on west side was heavily grown in due to recent fire although we were able to find the old portage. There was evidence that people were getting out on the east side and portaging over the height of land into the small pool before paddling across the pool to the west to catch the remaining half of the west side portage. The second half of the west side portage was in good condition. We camped at the north end of McKinley Lk on east side. Great elevated site with s/w exposure.

Day 9**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Paddled McKinley Lk to the 393 m portage into McKinley R. This portage was in good shape with a boat cache at the upriver end. The next two portages into Laurent Lk were in good shape with each having a boat cached at the upriver end. We were greeted by a black bear at the end of the last portage into Laurent Lk. The next portage from Laurent Lk to Lonebreast Bay (Smoothrock Lk) doesn't appear to be used as heavily grown in. We paddled up river to the narrows to a beaver dam where we lifted our gear & canoe over into Lonebreast Bay. There was evidence that other paddlers have done the same. We camped on Lonebreast Bay seeing a mature bull moose during our travels.

Day 10**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Paddled the remainder of Lonebreast Bay and Caribou Bay into Fungler Lk. Saw 2 pelicans on Caribou Bay. Walleye fishing was excellent where Caribou R spilled into Fungler Lk. We camped on the Caribou R just north of Outlet Bay of Caribou Lk.

Day 11**Narrative of daily travel/activities, overnight stays and exploration
(include highlights, hazards and gems):**

Paddled the Caribou R to Caribou Lk to portage into Little Caribou Lk. The 254 m portage was in good shape. We met another group of 4 canoes near this portage. They were just starting their trip. We finished our trip at the bridge on Caribou Lk Rd. We did not find/do the last 50 m portage as it was not necessary. We simply paddled the narrow shallow section however you need to be alert for rocks.