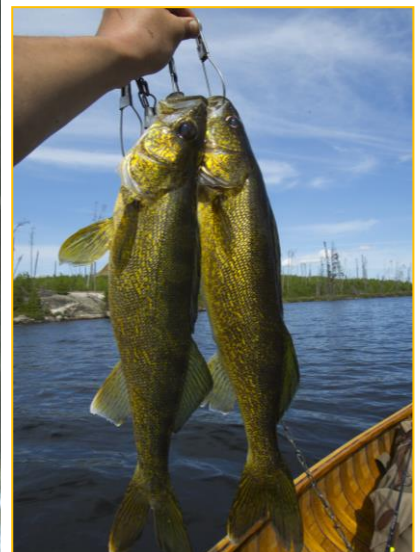
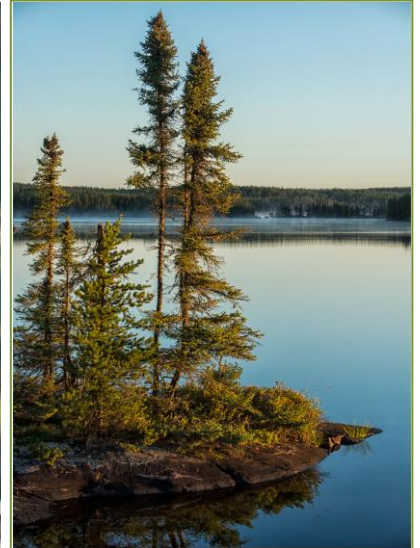


Woodland Caribou

Information Guide





Where nature still rules!

Contacts

Lori Skitt
Park Superintendent
@ (807) 727-2835

Claire Quewezence
Assist. Park Superintendent
@ (807) 727-1388

Mail

Woodland Caribou Prov. Park
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Red Lake, Ontario P0V 2M0

General Park Inquiry

(807) 727-1329

Fax

(807) 727-2861

E-Mail

woodland.caribou.mnr@ontario.ca

Online

www.OntarioParks.com
www.facebook.com/ontarioparks
www.facebook.com/WoodlandCaribouPP
www.twitter.com/@OntarioParksNWZ
www.pinterest.com/ontarioparks

Our Office Location

227 Howey Street

Drive to the end of Highway 105, turn left at Red Lake's set of traffic lights, and locate the brick building, right hand side, 2 blocks away. Entrance is at the backside of the building which accesses the upper floor. The park office is the first you will see as you enter and our friendly staff the first to greet you. Drop in and let's chat about your trip.

Photo Credits: Rob Stimpson, Hidehiro Otake,
Gary & Joanie McGuffins

Superintendent's Message

Hello Everyone!

Many of you have had the privilege and opportunity to work with the previous Park Superintendent Doug Gilmore over the past 15 years. Doug retired in August 2016 and I now have the incredible task of trying to fill his shoes!

I feel extremely lucky to be walking into a role where WCPP staff have developed such great working and personal relationships/partnerships with clients, indigenous communities, tourism outfitters, local businesses, stakeholders and Ontario Parks staff throughout the province.

I come to the position of Park Superintendent with a background in biology. In recent years I have focused on species at risk and in particular caribou management and recovery in the boreal forest. I have lived in the Red Lake area since 2007 and during this time I have had the opportunity to experience the park on multiple occasions.

Moving forward, we do have some new ideas and would like to explore some new opportunities, but the intent and vision to maintain ecological and cultural integrity and provide a world-class backcountry experience remains unchanged.

If you are in town getting ready to head out into the park, or are just returning from a trip, please drop in to see us. We welcome your feedback and appreciate hearing about your adventures. I hope everyone has a memorable and safe experience in Woodland Caribou Provincial Park and I look forward to meeting you.

Lori – Park Superintendent



Embracing Change

I've been fortunate to hold my position at the park office for many seasons now. My love for the park and playing a role in keeping Woodland Caribou wild, healthy and a sanctuary to all who visit its boreal landscapes is gratifying. But we all know that change is inevitable. This year, we celebrated our friend Doug at his well-deserved retirement and soon after, we welcomed Lori as she settled in as the park's new superintendent.

And so it seems that Mother Nature commemorated this "changing of the guards" by turning a new page of her own. In May of 2016, lightning ignited Red 3 and soon grew to become the park's largest wild fire to date. What a transformation. Within weeks, fresh green growth dotted the charcoaled grounds and a new forest was already underway, just as nature's renewal cycle intended. Awe but change always comes bearing gifts. Out of this natural event come opportunities for research and monitoring just as wilderness parks are designed to do. To you, we extend the invitation to visit the area and witness the change, to seek its unexpected beauty, to photograph its unique sights, to marvel at how wildlife adapt with ease and thrive in their new environment. See you soon.

Claire – Assistant Park Superintendent

Red 003 – contributing factors

①

Large snow storm event in 2012 impacted the entire park, snapped many mature trees and created a high amount of dry fine and coarse fuel

②

With the accumulation of dead wood, white-spotted sawyer beetles numbers increased and spread to healthy trees, killing large stands of jack pine

③

Dry, windy spring, high fire indices, storm impacts and beetle kill created extreme and untypical fire behaviour



RED 003

Ecological and Recreational Impacts

Woodland Caribou Provincial Park supports a landscape that has adapted to large fire events, and moving forward as recreational users of the park, so can we! The large fire event this spring is by far the largest forest fire in WCPP in recent history – estimated total size of @ 100,000 ha and approximately 20% of the total park area. Although the effects of fire can be devastating, it is important to recognize that these large, stand replacing forest fires play an integral role in naturally functioning boreal ecosystems.



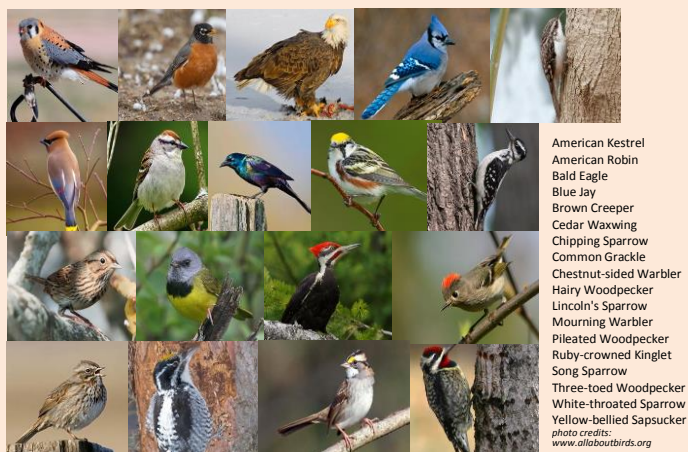
Fires produce a mosaic of different plant communities and can impact the function, composition and structure of an ecosystem. Fires can also stabilize insect and disease populations and recycle nutrients that are bound up in the litter and woody debris.

If you are planning to paddle routes within the fire boundary, expect to see large areas of burnt landscape. We challenge you to take a closer look and appreciate the hidden beauty that is unique to these large burns. Life and riches abound here. The land experiences a vigorous rebirth as first seen in the purplish glow of fireweed followed later by the lime green of dense jack pine regeneration. Turtles, frogs, and other small creatures not only survive the natural disturbance of fire but readily adapt to their new surroundings. Countless species of song birds soon nest and thrive here. Within a year or so, moose return to feast on tender new twigs, and many more wildlife species add sweetness to their diet by visiting the thick berry patches. There is much more here than meets the eye.

Long-term Monitoring



Wildfire can seem devastating, however life rebounds quickly and wildlife adapt remarkably well to the changed landscape. Red 003 offers biologists opportunities to monitor wildlife use of the forest over the years as the forest regenerates. For example, songmeters are used to record sounds of breeding birds during the spring in different types of habitats throughout the park. The songmeter shown below was positioned in an area of recent burn. It detected all of the bird species illustrated here. While some species are generalists, others are insectivores targeting insects in the dead wood.



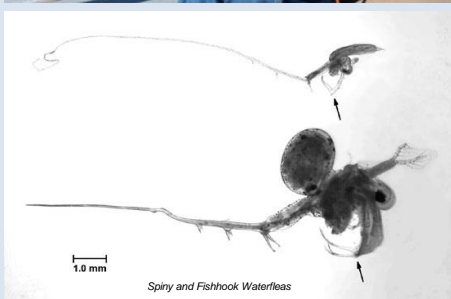
American Kestrel
American Robin
Bald Eagle
Blue Jay
Brown Creeper
Cedar Waxwing
Chipping Sparrow
Common Grackle
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Hairy Woodpecker
Lincoln's Sparrow
Mourning Warbler
Pileated Woodpecker
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Song Sparrow
Three-toed Woodpecker
White-throated Sparrow
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
photo credits:
www.allaboutbirds.org

Planning, Research & Monitoring

Invasive Species

At Woodland Caribou Provincial Park we've been watching range expansion maps of invasive species creep closer and closer to the park. Park staff survey for invasive species every year, with a focus on spiny water flea which has been confirmed in Red Lake. With only one known invasive species in the park currently (Smallmouth Bass), it is everyone's responsibility to prevent any further introduction. Some species may be native to where you live, but invasive to Woodland Caribou Provincial Park. Please take the time to clean your gear before tripping. Removing debris from inside tents, cleaning footwear, fishing gear, and washing canoes are all ways to prevent seeds, vegetation, and small organisms from spreading accidentally.

If you think you've encountered a species not native to Woodland Caribou Provincial Park, please report to park staff at woodland.caribou.mnr@ontario.ca. If possible, include a photo, description, and detailed location. For more information on invasive species lists and distribution maps, please visit EDD MapS Ontario at <http://www.eddmaps.org/ontario>



What's that Sound?

When you lay down in your tent, you may be lulled to sleep by the sound of chewing. White-spotted sawyer beetles play an interesting role in breaking down dead and weakened trees after a disturbance to the forest.

Woodpecker numbers increase following a disturbance, as they feed on beetle larvae. One woodpecker can eat thousands of larvae a day. Cavities created by woodpeckers then are used by many species for nests and homes.



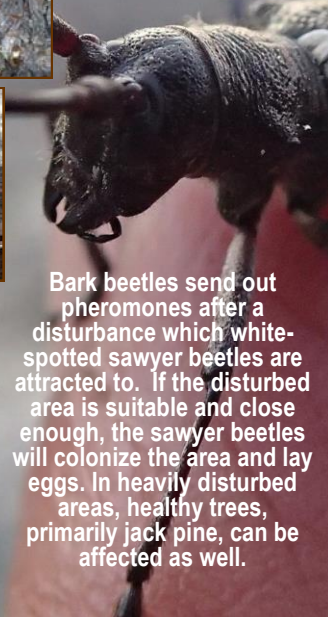
The tunnels within the wood created by larvae become pathways for fungi, which breaks down the wood, releasing nutrients. Increased nutrients help the regeneration of vegetation after the disturbance.



Female sawyer beetles lay eggs in stressed trees. Larvae hatch in one or two weeks, and stay within the tree for two years, feeding first on inner bark, then boring inside the wood.

White-spotted sawyer beetles (*Monochamus scutellatus*) are naturally part of the forest. Populations increase whenever there is an event creating a higher number of dead or stressed coniferous trees such as a wind storm or wildfire.

Bark beetles send out pheromones after a disturbance which white-spotted sawyer beetles are attracted to. If the disturbed area is suitable and close enough, the sawyer beetles will colonize the area and lay eggs. In heavily disturbed areas, healthy trees, primarily jack pine, can be affected as well.



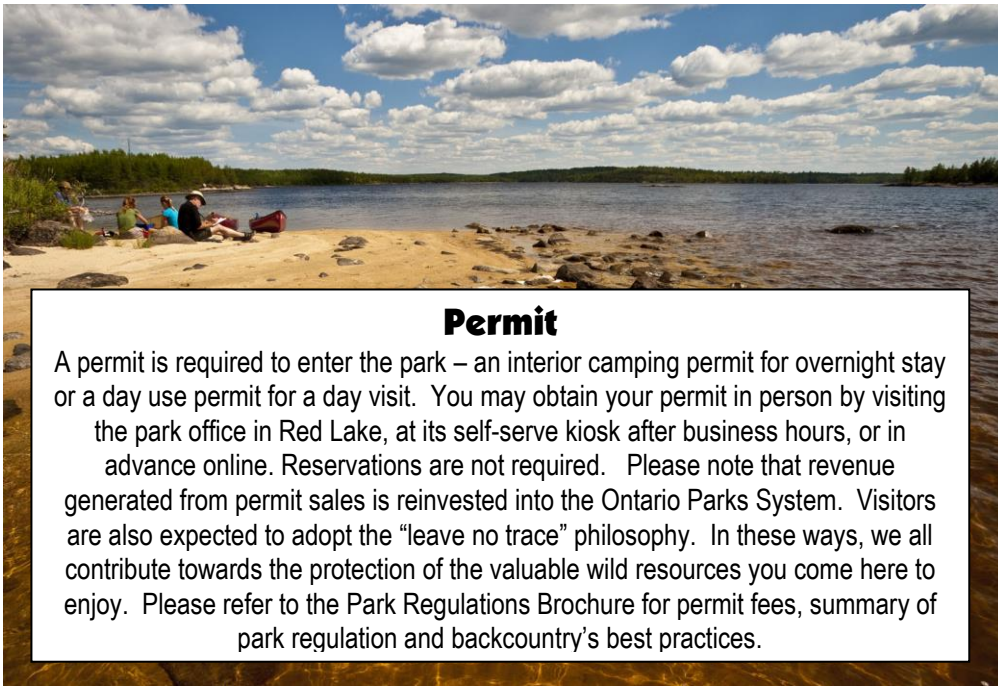
Ecological Integrity Message

The Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act became law in 2007. This act identified ecological integrity (EI) as the primary guiding principle in the planning and management of protected areas in Ontario. What does EI mean? EI occurs when an ecosystem (i.e. plants, animals, geology, and water) has the ability to remain intact and grow and reproduce naturally.

Park staff incorporates EI in park management on a daily basis. On a large scale it is encouraging a more natural fire regime, phasing out mechanized use, reviewing a new activity or development especially in known sensitive areas of the park. On a smaller scale it is leaving beaver dams intact as they play an important role in hydrology, keeping portages and campsites on durable surfaces where possible to prevent erosion, considering nests in shrubs and snags while clearing trails, etc...

For most park visitors, thinking about ecological integrity is already part of our 'light on the land' practices. What we pack in, we pack out. What we see, we treasure, and leave behind. We use existing campsites and trails to reduce impact. Are there other ways for you to modify your activities by simple actions to help maintain EI?

However small or large, everything has a part to play in the ecosystem. We all have a role in ensuring that the natural and cultural features that make WCPP special will remain intact for the education and enjoyment of future generations.



Permit

A permit is required to enter the park – an interior camping permit for overnight stay or a day use permit for a day visit. You may obtain your permit in person by visiting the park office in Red Lake, at its self-serve kiosk after business hours, or in advance online. Reservations are not required. Please note that revenue generated from permit sales is reinvested into the Ontario Parks System. Visitors are also expected to adopt the “leave no trace” philosophy. In these ways, we all contribute towards the protection of the valuable wild resources you come here to enjoy. Please refer to the Park Regulations Brochure for permit fees, summary of park regulation and backcountry’s best practices.

Maps - A canoe route map depicting portage trails for the purpose of trip planning is available at the park office, through your local canoe outfitter, MEC, and online via www.canoeing.com and www.chrismar.com. An overview map showing general campsites location may also be requested for your reference.

Canoe Routes 'n Portage Trails

Trail marking - Portage trails are marked in the least obtrusive manner possible... a simple blaze in the bark of mature trees. Seasoned woodsmen have marked their way through the wilderness in this manner for many years. With time, however, blazes will weather and no longer stand out, at least not to the untrained eye. Therefore, paddlers must remain observant and rely on their navigational skills to locate a portage marked on their map. Rock cairns may mark the path in areas where blazing isn't possible. The more problematic trails may be marked with a small yellow portage sign to steer you in the right direction. Flagging tape is frowned upon but it is used but crews to mark trails in areas of burn. We discourage visitors from placing their own.

Watch Your Footing – Here we rely on the placement of “rip-rap” or corduroy in wetter sections of trail helps minimize the greater impact of visitors walking around a wet or muddy obstacle as well as prevent boots from being sucked in completely. You must still step carefully, for despite our efforts, these crude boardwalks fall out of place, rot, or float away. Rip-rap or not, some trails are rugged and challenging. This is the wilderness after all. Exercise diligence in every step you take.



Access by Road

There are four points of entry in the park that are accessible by road.

Lund provides the most direct entry to the north half of the park and to the Bloodvein River, bypassing the large waters of Red Lake and shaving off a day's paddle from your trip.

Johnson and Onnie both provide entry to the center of the park and to the Gammon River system. Leano provides entry to the southern half of the park.

Each point of entry has parking and an information kiosk. Take a moment to read it as you prepare to portage your gear away from your vehicle to the water. Camping at entry points is not permitted.

A backcountry road map is available from the park office or from your outfitter. Small roadside signs will point you in the right direction along the way.



The forest access roads leading to the access points receive minimal maintenance. We recommend vehicles with generous bottom clearance to maneuver the inevitable rough spots. Better yet, you might consider utilizing a shuttle service from your outfitter. For updated reports on road conditions, please visit <http://www.canoeing.com/vb/forumdisplay.php?p?19-Woodland-Caribou-Provincial-Park>

Access by Air

Flying to the park provides a very unique experience and permits you to venture deeper in to its interior. Red Lake and surrounding locations have a number of float plane services that provide air taxi to your remote destination (see bulletin board section of this publication). Your outfitter can also assist you with float plane details and may be in the position of coordinating your flight with another client's flight for a shared cost, making flying an affordable option.

Campsites Online



Woodland Caribou Provincial Park is developing a designated campsite program. The purpose of establishing a designated campsite system is to minimize our overall ecological impact as well as reduce conflicts with wildlife, cultural values, and other users. We have inventoried all campsites found within the park to the best of our ability.

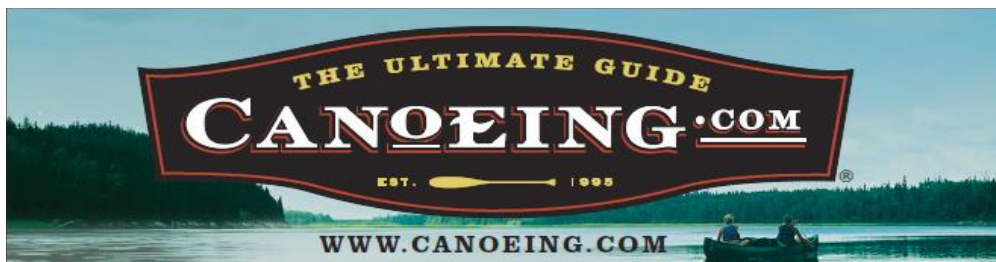
This has been a large undertaking spanning over several years by many staff members and volunteers. We are currently in the final stages of screening each site for ecological and cultural values, as well as site appropriateness. Please note that a designated campsite program will require campers to camp at established sites only... and not at their discretion, except in cases of emergencies. However, there will not be a reservation system and sites will not need to be pre-booked as they do in some other parks. Our aim is to eventually offer an online map showing approved designated campsite locations, including pictures, UTM's, and campsite information to assist paddlers in trip planning. Campsites will continue to be added or removed as values are found and natural disturbances occur. Until this online tool is available, a map with general campsite locations can be obtained at

www.canoeing.com/woodlandcaribou.

for your reference.

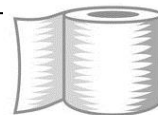
Please note that campsites are not signed and may not be easily spotted from the water. Unlike other parks with higher visitation, the campsites in Woodland Caribou are still quite primitive. This is still a wilderness experience!

Trail Clearing Efforts Post-Fire: Maintenance crews have many portage trails to re-visit following the aftermath of wildfires in the park. The new forest will bounce back quickly with thick fresh growth, the remnant trees from the fire event will continue to fall across trails, and crew members will be challenged to keep up. Trails in the burn will be heavily flagged in the first few years. Despite their efforts, visitors will encounter some overgrown trails ... and must be prepared to occasionally cut their way through. Trail clearing effort reports are posted in the park's dedicated message board on <http://www.canoeing.com/vb/forumdisplay.php?19-Woodland-Caribou-Provincial-Park>.



Potty 101

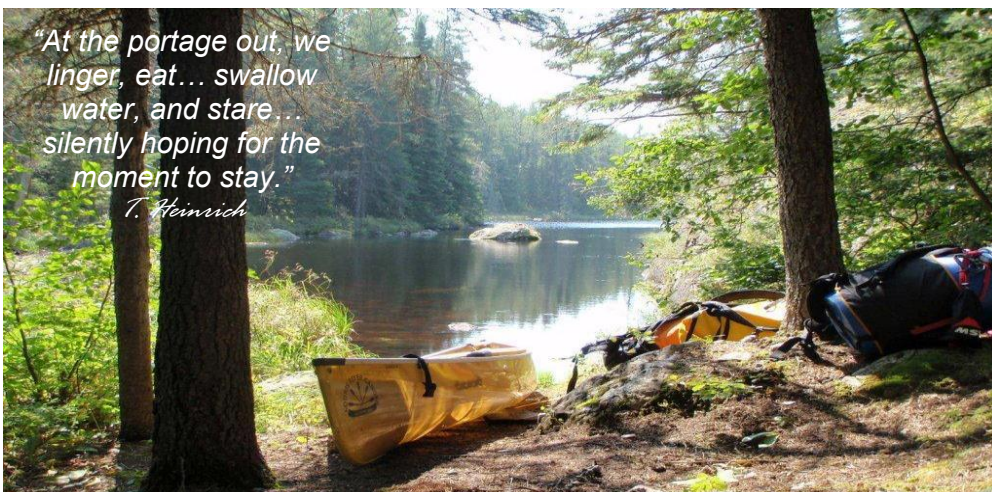
Bathroom management.... is not a pleasant topic, nor is finding human waste or used tissue within sight of your campsite. Let's "nipped this in the butt" before it becomes a bigger issue. Woodland Caribou Provincial Park's increased visitation and the boreal forest's exceptionally shallow soils may contribute to the problem. Let us all be informed and adopt more respectful practices when answering the "call of nature" by following these few simple steps:

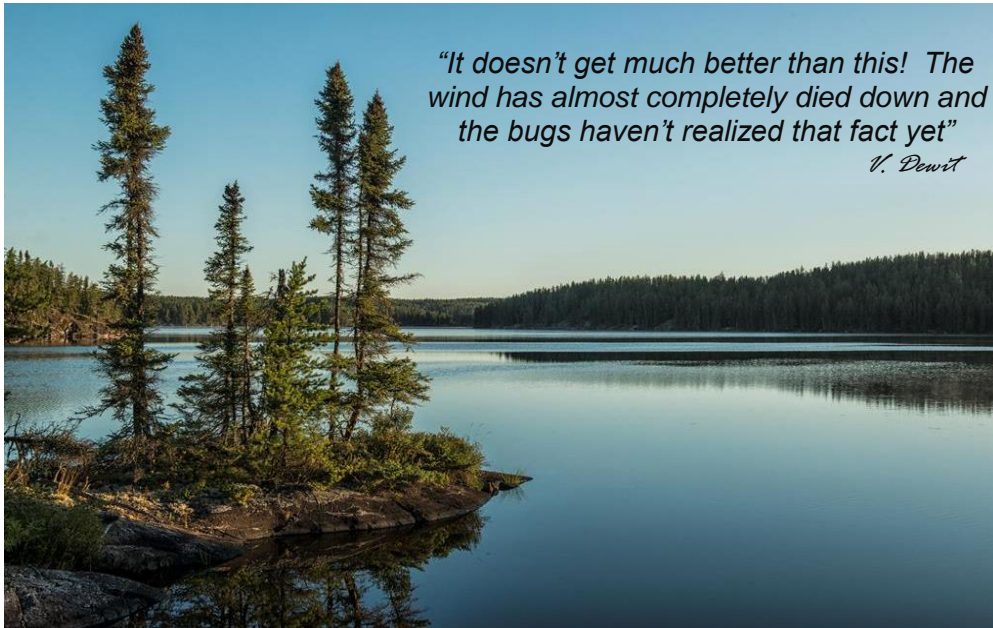


- Use the route less traveled, take your business a little further into the woods and away from the campsite, portage trail, lake, stream... disperse subsequent visits.
- Always bury your solid waste, if cathole is not possible, cover with moss and wood.
- Consider not leaving used tissue behind... small curious critters will dig it back up anyway. Either burn or pack out (tried and adopted practice by this writer and not as gross as first imagined).
- All feminine hygiene products and infant diapers should be packed out. These do not decompose or burn well.
- Refrain from creating structures to act as toilet seats...strive to leave very little trace of your passing

*"At the portage out, we
linger, eat... swallow
water, and stare...
silently hoping for the
moment to stay."*

T. Heinrich





"It doesn't get much better than this! The wind has almost completely died down and the bugs haven't realized that fact yet"
V. Dewit

Kayak you Ask?

If you are of the two bladed paddle group you might want to consider exploring Musclow Lake and segments of the Bloodvein River in the north with 615km (382mi) of shoreline to explore. Donald, Carroll, Craven and Obukowin Lks in the west offer up to 457km (284mi) of shoreline. The recent addition to the park opens up even more large waters in the south with Kilburn, Sydney and Rowdy Lakes. A few portages away from the Leano entry will get you there. These offer long views, exceptional fishing, and 400km (249 miles) of shoreline with bays and hidden lakes to explore. Check them out and contact us or your outfitter for additional information.



To "Snoop" or not

There are a number of camps in Woodland Caribou; some commercial tourism facilities, some private camps, some indigenous dwellings, and some cabins that are barely standing. While it is tempting to seek shelter under a roof during inclement weather, unless invited in, please respect others property and refrain from "snooping" and trespassing. There are however abandoned old cabins that may be of interest to our visitors and offer great photo opportunities. The park office or your outfitter may be able to identify their locations. Each site tells a story... visit with respect!

Top 10 Violations

There is one basic rule in Ontario Parks: Have respect and consideration for your fellow visitors and the park environment.

The following lists some of the more common violations encountered by park wardens in Woodland Caribou:

- 1- Creating new campsites or trails – please seek out designated sites and do not cut nor mark new trails.
- 2- Altering your campsite – de-limb trees for firewood or stripping moss off the forest floor to create a soft tent pad are old practices and unlawful.
- 3- Littering – not only the obvious plastics and tins but also the biodegradable onion peels, apple cores, pistachio shells. These do not originate from the Boreal Forest. Not only do they compromise the ecological integrity of the area, they have a huge impact on the minds of other visitors.
- 4- Drinking and driving – for guests at tourism facilities, know that consuming alcohol while out boating on the lake is unlawful.
- 5- No Personal Floatation Device (PFD) – required by law that each occupant of a vessel (boat and canoe) must have a PFD on board.
- 6- No fishing licence on person – have your licence on your person for possible inspection by fisheries officer/park warden. Why not store it to your tackle box?
- 7- Collecting natural treasures – all objects such as shed antlers, arrowheads, rocks, driftwood, etc... are protected in a provincial park. Capture images and leave it for others to enjoy.
- 8- Day use permit – guests at tourism facilities must obtain a day use permit when portaging to another lake. So do paddlers who enter WCPP for a day en route to a destination outside the park.
- 9- Creating structures – campsites are managed as primitive sites. Do not create lean-tos, stone-lined path, or permanent benches at the fire ring.
- 10- Oversized groups – maximum of nine campers per campsite only... why not extend this rule to when traveling on the water and across portage trails?

This bulletin board of local services will put you in contact with friendly folks who are eager to help you realize a carefree vacation so you can best enjoy all of the natural treasures of our north country. Planning a camping, fishing, and/or canoe trip is a breeze when the right contacts are made. We take this opportunity to thank each of the advertisers on this bulletin board for their financial support toward the printing costs of this publication.



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RIVERAIR

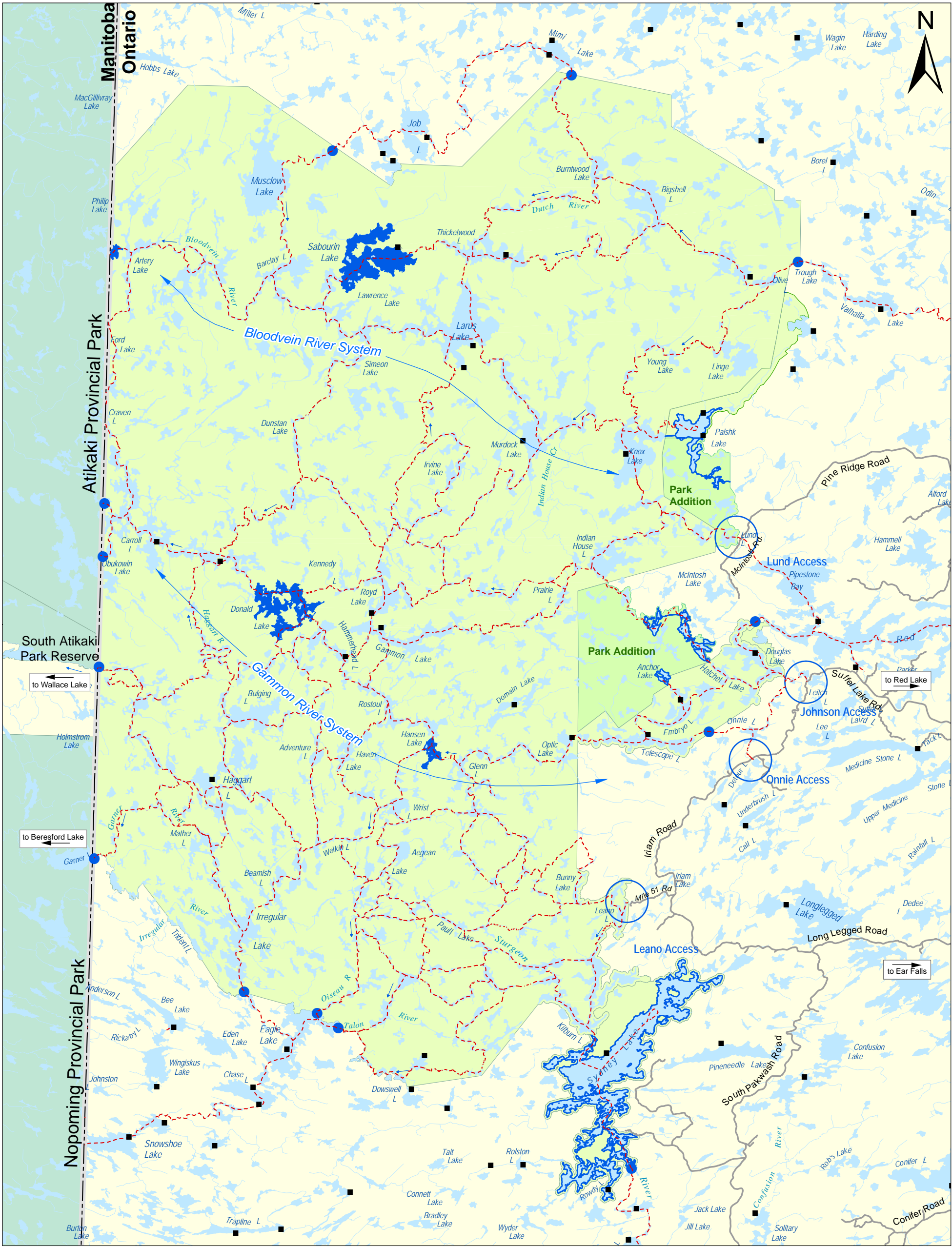
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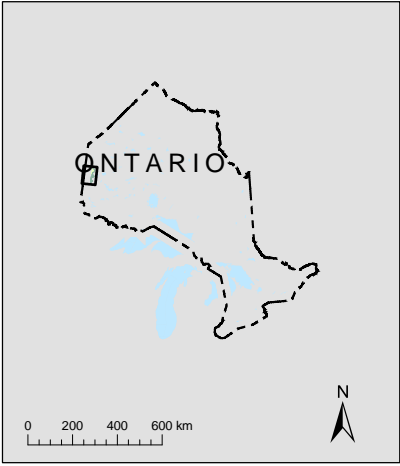
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ACCESS & CANOE ROUTES



Woodland Caribou Provincial Park

0 5 10 15 km
Scale: 1:350,000

Notes:
This map is illustrative only. Do not rely on it as being a precise indicator of routes, locations of features, nor as a guide to navigation.

Projection: UTM Grid Zone 15
Datum: North American Datum 1983
Base Derived From: NRVIS (Natural Resource Values Information System)

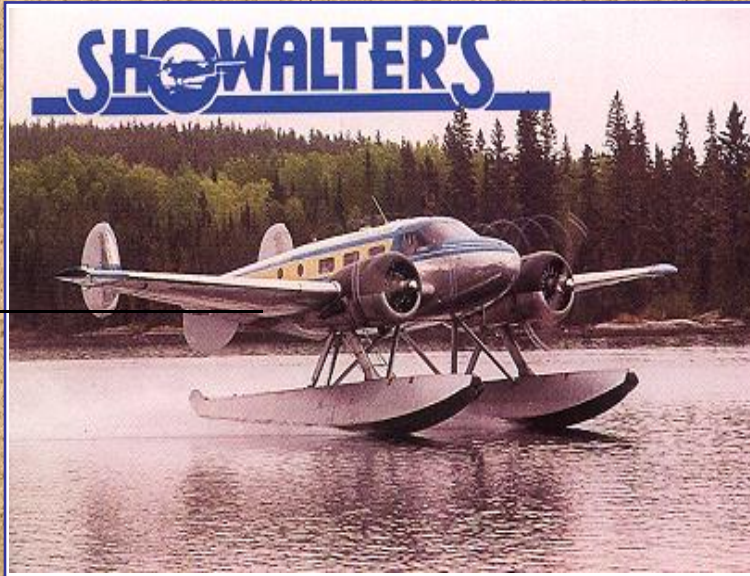
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Ontario

ONTARIO PARKS

Legend

	Provincial Boundary		Canoe Route		Flow Direction
	Primary Road		Tourism Facilities		Waterway Access
	River / Stream				Road Access
	Lake				Remote Fly-In Access (not yet in effect)
	Existing Provincial Park				Seasonal Remote Fly-In Access (September 15 to March 31 ONLY)
	Park Addition				
	Manitoba Parks				



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Paddle Inn
Bed & Breakfast

Call: 1-800-591-9282

Text: 807-728-2509 or 807-728-0395

Email: paddlinn@goldseekers.net

Water Safety – It's Your Responsibility

Many backcountry lakes offer exceptional beaches and deep water right offshore that are hard to resist on a hot summer day. But help is not so readily available if misfortune strikes. When taking a dip to refresh or washing please consider the following:

- 1) Learn to swim and **learn prevention**, water survival and rescue skills.
- 2) **Never swim alone.**
- 3) Wade out and swim in towards the shore.
- 4) **Protect your neck.** Never dive into shallow water from cliffs or docks.
- 5) If traveling with children, do not leave them unsupervised near water. Have them **wear a personal floatation device (PFD) or a lifejacket.**
- 6) When paddling or boating, **wear an approved PFD or lifejacket** at all times. These are of no help to you when used as a seat cushion or wrapped around the seat of your boat.
- 7) **Be responsible.** Avoid alcohol when involved in water related recreational activities. Consuming alcohol in a motor boat is unlawful.
- 8) If you suspect a drowning or any other type of water emergency, **respond with calm; assist only if it is safe to do so.** Contact the Park Office as soon as possible.



Waters in the
Backcountry
Are Unsupervised.
When Rough,
STAY OUT !



Available in Park Stores



*All proceeds from your purchase are re-invested in Ontario's provincial parks. Gift Certificates available.



Bears really hate surprises

Be **BEAR WISE**. Let the bears know you're coming and they'll avoid you. Be aware of your surroundings. Talk, whistle or sing, especially if you are in an area of thick vegetation or running water. For more information on camping and bears, visit ontario.ca/bearwise.



Always call 911 in an emergency
Call 1-866-514-2327 to report a sighting

ontario.ca/bearwise • 1-866-514-2327 • TTY 705-945-7641



Pitcher Plant



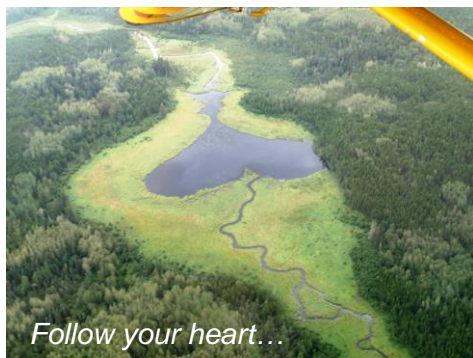


3RD FRIDAY OF JULY
FREE DAY-USE
 AT ALL PARKS
 OntarioParks.com/hphp #HPPH

CELEBRATE



A PROUD PARTNER OF
 ONTARIO PARKS



Follow your heart...

Ticks and Lyme Disease

Do ticks and Lyme disease make you wary of going outdoors this summer? By being aware of ticks and understanding the role they play in spreading Lyme disease you are taking the first step to protect yourself and your loved ones.

There are many different species of ticks and not all of them carry Lyme disease. The most common tick you may encounter is the American Dog Tick, which does not carry Lyme disease. The only tick that carries Lyme disease in Ontario is the Blacklegged (Deer) Tick, *Ixodes Scapularis*. Both ticks can be found in wooded areas or tall grass habitats. In Ontario, Blacklegged ticks are more commonly found in rural areas along the north shores of Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River. Blacklegged ticks are known to feed on migratory birds and as a result, they can be transported throughout the province. Therefore, while the potential is low, it is possible for people to encounter Blacklegged ticks, or to be infected with Lyme disease from the bite of an infected Blacklegged tick, almost anywhere in the province.

Ticks feed slowly, and an infected tick must feed on a person for at least 24 hours in order to infect them with the bacterium that causes Lyme disease. Because of this delay, prompt detection and removal of ticks is one of the key methods of preventing Lyme disease. If you become infected from a tick bite, symptoms usually begin within 1 - 2 weeks, but can take as long as one month to begin. The "classic" symptom is a bulls-eye rash that can develop anywhere on the body; however, this rash may not occur in all cases. Early symptoms of Lyme disease can include flu-like symptoms such as fever, headaches, stiff neck, jaw pain, and sore muscles. If untreated, problems with the heart, nervous system, and joints can occur months or years later. Lyme disease is easily treated in the early stages so seek medical attention if you feel unwell.

When you are out in tick habitat you can better protect yourself by taking a few precautions:

1. Wear long sleeves and tuck your pants into your socks.
2. Wear light coloured clothing so you can detect ticks before they attach.
3. Use insect repellent containing "Deet" (please follow manufacturer's directions). Apply it to your skin and outer clothing.
4. Conduct a tick check. Look on your clothes, body and pets. Pay close attention to your groin, scalp and armpits.



By following these simple suggestions you can have a safe and enjoyable time exploring Woodland Caribou Prov. Park

For more information please consult the Public Health Agency of Canada's website: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/disease/lyme.aspx>. You can also visit: www.ontario.ca/lyme. For more information on Ontario's biodiversity, visit www.ontario.ca/biodiversity

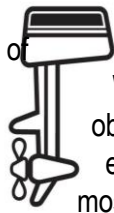
CARIBOU COUNTRY CLIMATE

Canadian Climate Normals 1981-2010, source - Environment Canada

	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Avg Daily High Temp. °C (°F)	16.0 (60.8)	21.1 (70)	23.8 (75)	22.7 (72.9)	16.0 (60.8)	7.8 (46)
Avg Daily Low Temp. °C (°F)	3.1 (37.6)	9.1 (48.4)	12.4 (54.3)	11.4 (52.5)	5.9 (42.6)	min. 0.4 (31)
Precipitation mm (in)	73.4 (2.9)	99 (3.9)	103.4 (4.1)	88.3 (3.5)	83 (3.3)	59.7 (2.4)
% of possible daylight hours	52.7	50	54.1	56.4	44.3	33
# Days of Measureable Sunshine	28	28	30	30	27	24
Wind Speed km/h (mi/h)	12 (7.5)	12 (7.5)	11 (6.8)	11 (6.8)	12 (7.5)	13 (8.1)
Wind Direction	SE	SE	SW	SW	W	NW
Blackflies	late May to early June and again in late Sept					
Mosquitoes	early June to late July and then some, out nearly every evening					
No See-Ums (sandflies, midges)	late June to early Aug, silent & almost invisible					

For daily weather forecast, bug report, and more please visit www.theweathernetwork.com

Motoring Down



Over time, changes will come into effect which will see the reduction of motorized vehicles (aircraft, motorboats, snowmachines) within Woodland Caribou Provincial Park. These changes are in line with the objectives for wilderness class parks and will help enhance backcountry experiences. Please note that the use of outboard motors in the park by most visitors is not permitted. Pending final legislative regulations, motor size restrictions will apply on lakes where commercial establishments and boat caches exist. Flying in the park with your aircraft will also only be permitted on approved remote access zones as shown on the centerfold map. Snowmobile use is now no longer permitted except in temporary access zones for which a phase-out schedule is in place. Off trail vehicles (quads) are not permitted. If you are motoring, be it by air, land, water or ice, please be informed about the current restrictions and those that are coming in the future. Contact us to obtain a copy of the park's management plan that addresses these activities. Muscle power driven vehicles will continue as before.



Smokey's Message



Many ecosystems on this land are influenced by wildfire but none is as dependent as the Boreal Forest for its natural renewal and health. Most of the fires are caused by lightning storms combined with hot, dry and often windy conditions. You will undoubtedly encounter evidence of a fire during your travels through the park. As you prepare for your trip, consider the following:

- Inquire about the fire conditions by phoning your outfitter, park office or viewing Ontario's current forest fire reports at <http://www.ontario.ca/law-and-safety/forest-fires>. On occasion, forest fire managers will declare a "Restricted Fire Zone" in Northwest Ontario that includes the park. When in "restricted fire zone" mode, open flame fires are prohibited and portable stoves must be used for outdoor cooking.
- Even if no fire restrictions are in place, a portable cooking stove should be part of your gear.
- Be alert and mindful of drying conditions (i.e. crunchy lichen), wind, hint of smoke in the air, water bombers or a recent lightning storm. Be prepared to forgo the traditional campfire should conditions warrant.
- Your safety and wellbeing may depend upon your ability to assess potential breathing or visual problems associated with thick smoke, ash and haze.
- Ensure you have detailed maps showing all your route options should you need to change your course of travel.

Remember you are venturing into a remote area and you must depend on your own skills for survival. When in trouble and with solitude in good supply, count on yourself first. Be aware, be prepared, be fire smart.

Fish 'n Reel

Fishing opportunities in Woodland Caribou are among the best anywhere due largely to a well managed fishery and remote setting. Hooking a walleye, a northern pike or a lake trout for the pan requires little effort for most anglers and definitely adds to the trip experience. Please note that smallmouth bass is not native to the park. A fish listing of lakes and the sport fish species found in each is available at this office. We ask you to not bring live bait into the park to prevent the introduction of exotic species or diseases. Besides, artificial lures are just as effective here. The use of lead-free sinkers and jigs is also recommended to help prevent lead poisoning of loons and other aquatic birds.


Gladly Go Glassless

... and try saying that five times quickly. A glass bottle ban, which includes jars and flasks, is in effect in Woodland Caribou. This is in keeping with the principles of low-impact camping. Glass bottles are prone to breakage. When left behind, they are unsightly, non-degradable, and create a safety hazard. Lighten your load a little by decanting food items purchased in glass bottles or jars into safe and reusable plastic containers.



Heinrich, Kehoe, Petersen

We have a small and young work team at Woodland Caribou to accomplish so much in too short of a season in a large wilderness landscape. No sooner have we cleared a trail or established a campsite, Mother Nature begins reclaiming. For so many reasons, we have come to appreciate our visitors' loyalty, those who return year after year and never seem to complain, who see beauty regardless of the storm damage or the fire, those who welcome the challenges of trekking and scouting forest and waterways less traveled and then take the time to provide detailed documentation and recommendations, those who write us and offer suggestions, who have a desire to contribute in some way, and many more who simply touch base with us after their trip to provide feedback. To you the Heinrich, Kehoe, Petersen, and the like, we sincerely thank you. You are all friends of Woodland Caribou.






Acknowledge a job well done




Help us select the next recipients of the Ontario Parks Partners Bursary program.

Each year, our corporate partners recognize outstanding young people who work in Ontario's provincial parks with an Ontario Parks Partners Bursary. Students who demonstrate exceptional customer service, initiative and leadership are eligible for the bursary. Recipients receive a grant of \$500 towards their education.

You can nominate any student working in Ontario Parks by completing a nomination form before September 15. Ask at the Park Office for details.

Thank you to our 2016 Bursary Partners:

A Word from an Interior Ranger

This is a very easy job and very fun, it has a few challenges but you will always come out on top and conquer it. There is nothing stopping you, not even that squirrel that glanced at you...I'm onto you squirrel. You may find it's hard and may just want to leave but once you get used to it you forget all about the challenges and realize how great this job is, this is how I overcame them. The biggest challenge...is loneliness. You might be thinking, Bobby, that's nothing, but once you start to talk to a volleyball and name it Wilson...it then turns to something. Sure you have your partner and all but some people prefer more company... so here are some tips to overcome that.

❶ Take a book with you, yes I know you might be thinking, why do that? Well it keeps your mind occupied and busy so you'll totally forget you're all alone in the deep dark bush where there is no soul.

❷ Bring a sketch pad. You might be thinking, but I can't draw. Big deal, all that matters is keeping your mind off of home and all drawings are considered art, even the...odd ones.

❸ Consider music. You must be thinking "consider?" yes because music may be nice but if you bring it, you have to risk ruining your device or not hearing something important like a bear coming. There are pro and cons to this one and they need to be taken into consideration.... only wear one earpiece, not so the bear can hear your fire mixtape but so you can hear the bear coming and act quickly. Have the volume low, so you can still hear the outside world and things coming. Turn off your music before going to bed.

❹ This one may seem incredibly silly but maybe consider bringing a stuffy... your own personal Wilson so when you lose it, you can scream its name... just don't pull Tom Hanks and start having conversations with it.

❺ The last tip... talk with your partner... take the time to check up on them or just randomly talk to them about just casual stuff. They may seem scary but Ontario Parks always accept friendly people.

I hope this helps you ...person, whoever you are? Now stay safe and I'll see you on the trail.

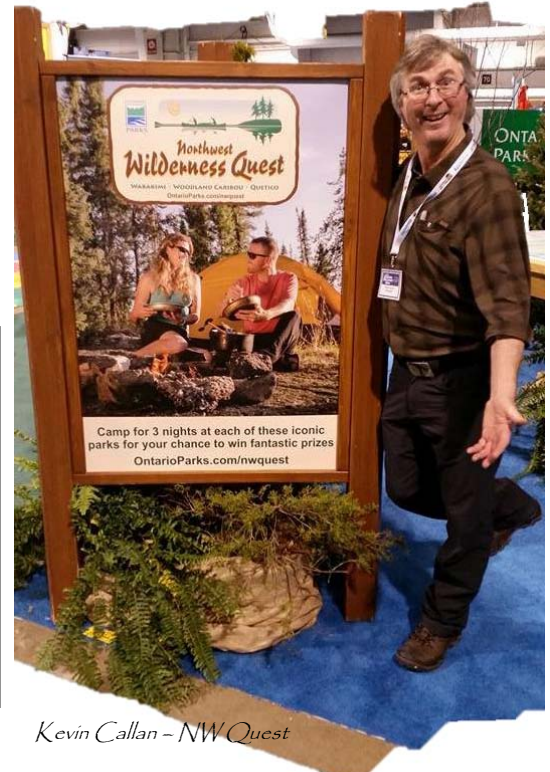
"If you see a luna moth in your travels, count yourself lucky. These moths only live for seven days. With no mouth, luna moths spend their entire adult life mating."



Northwest Wilderness Quest - Have you Registered Yet?

Make it your personal Quest to explore Ontario's Great Northwest! Dip your paddle in the backcountry waters of Wabakimi, Woodland Caribou and Quetico and boast of your experiences.

Oh, but there is more! Spend a minimum of 3 consecutive nights camping in each of these fine wilderness Parks and you can qualify to win a brand new Souris Kevlar canoe or designer paddles. The Quest ends October 15, 2019. Get right to it. For Quest details and registration form, visit ontarioparks.com/nwquest



Kevin Callan - NW Quest

Be Wise to Bears



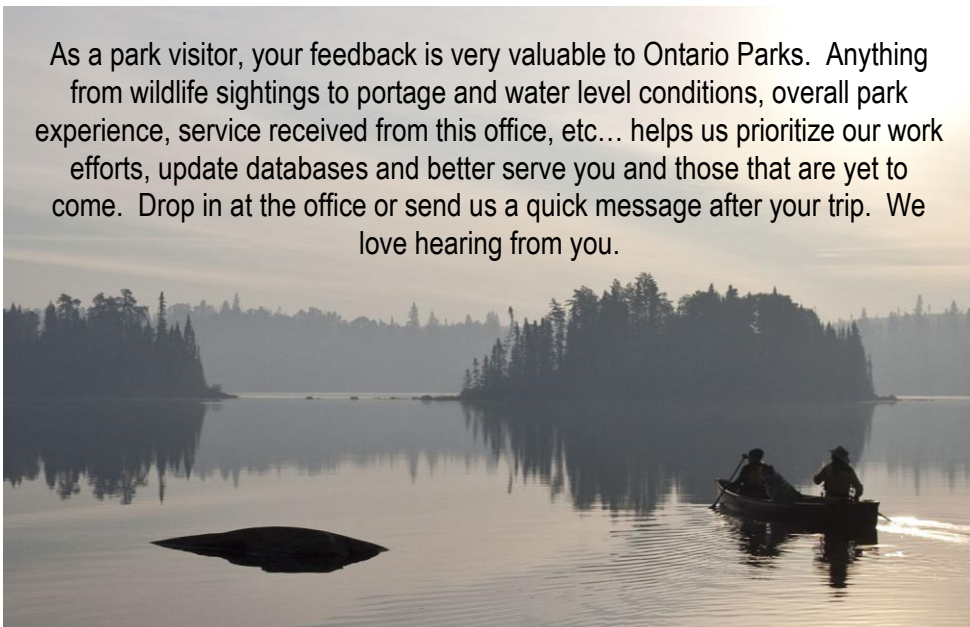
This is bear country... and their home. Black bears are most often sighted wandering about hunting for ants, berries and forage, but they will welcome an easy meal offering. If you plan to park your vehicle at one of the road access points, be wise and bear proof your vehicle before you leave town. Anything remotely related to food such as empty food wrappers, juice boxes or pet food, even air fresheners left behind in your parked vehicle offer a wandering bear a smorgasbord hard to resist. It also may result in the regular return of the bear to the site. Note that there are no waste disposal bins at road access points nor do we permit camping.



While you're in town...

Why not stay and visit for a while? The small frontier community of Red Lake offers much more than just a jump off point to your wilderness destination. Enjoy unique gift shops, a well-deserved dinner at one of the fine restaurants, a good night's rest at a cozy motel, a stroll through the Norseman Heritage and the Centennial Parks, a good game of golf, and more. Why not consider planning your trip around one of our popular events - Norseman Floatplane Festival (July) - Trout Forest Music Festival (August) - Canada Day Celebrations (July) - Fall Classic Catch 'n Release Fishing Derby (September).

Exciting news... not only is a visit to the Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre and its souvenir shop a "must do", you can plan on viewing the Woodland Caribou Provincial Park exhibit. It will be on display in the summer of 2017 only, so don't miss out. For more local events and attractions, please visit <http://www.tourismredlake.ca> and see you soon.



Pack, Paddle, and Play

Here's the Way ...



- **Road Map:** Good road maps are all you need initially to reach caribou country. However, finer directions may be required once you leave the pavement on your final stretch to the park boundary. Your outfitter and the park office have current backroad conditions and can assist you in reaching the access point of your choice.
- **Ontario Park Office:** 227 Howey Street, Red Lake, (807) 727-1329 – use main entrance at back of building
- **Manitoba Park Office:** in Lac Du Bonnet, (204) 345-1407 or Winnipeg's toll free number (800) 214-6497
- **Canoe Outfitters:** refer to the Bulletin Board in this guide
- **Park Permits:** soon available online... Permits can also be obtained at Red Lake's Ontario Parks Office, at its self-serve station after business hours or through your local canoe outfitter. Woodland Caribou is not on Ontario Parks' Reservation System. No advance reservations are required... only a permit.
- **Canoe Route Map:** available through your canoe outfitters, Red Lake Ontario Parks Office, MEC in Wpg, My CCR, <http://www.canoeing.com/destinations/woodlandcaribou/>, www.chrismar.com, and at a number of local outlets.
- **Ontario Fishing Licences:** available @ most sporting goods stores in Ontario. Fishing licences may also be obtained online at the following link: <https://www2.on.wildlifelicence.com/start.php>
- **Ontario Fishing Regulations:** for fishing seasons, limits, methods, licence costs – please consult the [Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary](#)
- **Current Forest Fire Conditions:** <http://www.ontario.ca/law-and-safety/forest-fires>
- **Current Weather Conditions:** <http://www.theweathernetwork.com/outdoors/parks/caon1535>
- **Border Crossing Info:** www.canadawelcomesyou.net

