



ADIRONDACK WATERWAYS

A guide to paddling routes in the
Northeast's last great wilderness.

ADIRONDACK REGIONAL TOURISM COUNCIL
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Paddle the Waters of a Wilderness Like No Other



There are more than 3,000 lakes and ponds and 6,000 miles of rivers and streams in the Adirondacks. Paddling ranges from roiling whitewater chutes to glassy ponds where deer stop to drink; from a short circuit around a scenic lake to a multi-day river and lake trip.



Since we published the first edition of “Adirondack Waterways” in 1995, this booklet of canoe and kayak routes has grown with the Adirondack Forest Preserve. Acquisition of public lands has expanded paddling experiences.

Round Lake has been added to the William C. Whitney Area in the Central Adirondacks, which has been classified as a Wilderness Area. The launch site is on Little Tupper Lake; pass under the bridge to access the channel that connects Round Lake to Little Tupper Lake. You’ll find designated camping sites, several islands, and an old dam to explore. (*see pg. 11*).

For the first time in more than 175 years, the public will have fishing and paddling access on Henderson Lake and Lake Jimmy. The lake has been privately owned since 1826. Ambitious paddlers may embark on a challenging canoe trip from Henderson Lake to Preston Ponds and Duck Hole. (*see pg. 12*).

This book is a general guide to locations for paddling opportunities. Once you decide on a geographic location, get yourself a good topographic map and/or guidebook. Special usage regulations may apply along some routes, so refer to the appropriate Department of Environmental Conservation publications or call them for specific information (*see page 18*). If you lack experience or gear, knowledgeable guides and outfitters will be happy to make your outing memorable (*see pgs. 15-16*).

Universally Accessible Waterways in the Adirondacks

Improved recreational opportunities for people with mobility impairments can be found throughout the Adirondacks. Look for universally accessible facilities such as docks, outhouses and viewing platforms at places like: Ausable Marsh (pg. 8), Lampson Falls (pg. 10), Sand Pond-Mud Pond Area on the West Branch Oswegatchie River (pg. 13), Francis Lake (pg. 13) and Moss Lake (pg. 13). Scenic boat tours can be enjoyed on many Adirondack lakes. John Dillon Park, just north of Long Lake, is a new state-of-the-art facility (www.dillonpark.org) that does it all. Check with full-service outfitters (pg. 15-16) for more options.

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How to use the Descriptions & Maps

GET MORE INFORMATION

The descriptions are brief and the maps rudimentary—the information provided here is not intended to be used as a working field guide. The complex nature of the waterways found in the Adirondacks requires that you obtain a good map and guidebook before setting out. The guidebooks and maps will not only help make your outing a safer one, they will also enhance your experience by providing interesting background information on the areas you will be visiting. A list of guidebooks and maps is found on page 19. Area and regional information centers and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are also good sources of more information (see page 19).

WHITewater

Whitewater trips require special skills and equipment. See International Scale of River Difficulty below. It is essential to obtain good maps and guidebooks before venturing out to do any whitewater trips. If you don't have the necessary skills or equipment, consider taking a guided trip, see pages 15-16 for outfitters who provide these services.

WATER LEVELS

Adequate water levels are essential to running most of the river and whitewater routes in this brochure. Extreme water levels will change the difficulty classification of rivers (see below). Minimum and ideal levels are suggested in guidebooks. Most river routes are best done in the Spring (April to May), Fall or after periods of heavy rain.

Personal Floatation Devices: New York State Law requires all boats and canoes must carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation device (PFD) for each person on board.

INTERNATIONAL SCALE OF RIVER DIFFICULTY

Class I. Moving water with a few riffles and small waves. Few or no obstructions.

Class II. Easy rapids with waves up to three feet and wide, clear channels that are obvious without scouting. Some maneuvering is required.

Class III. Rapids with high, irregular waves often capable of swamping an open canoe. Narrow passages that often require complex maneuvering. May require scouting from shore.

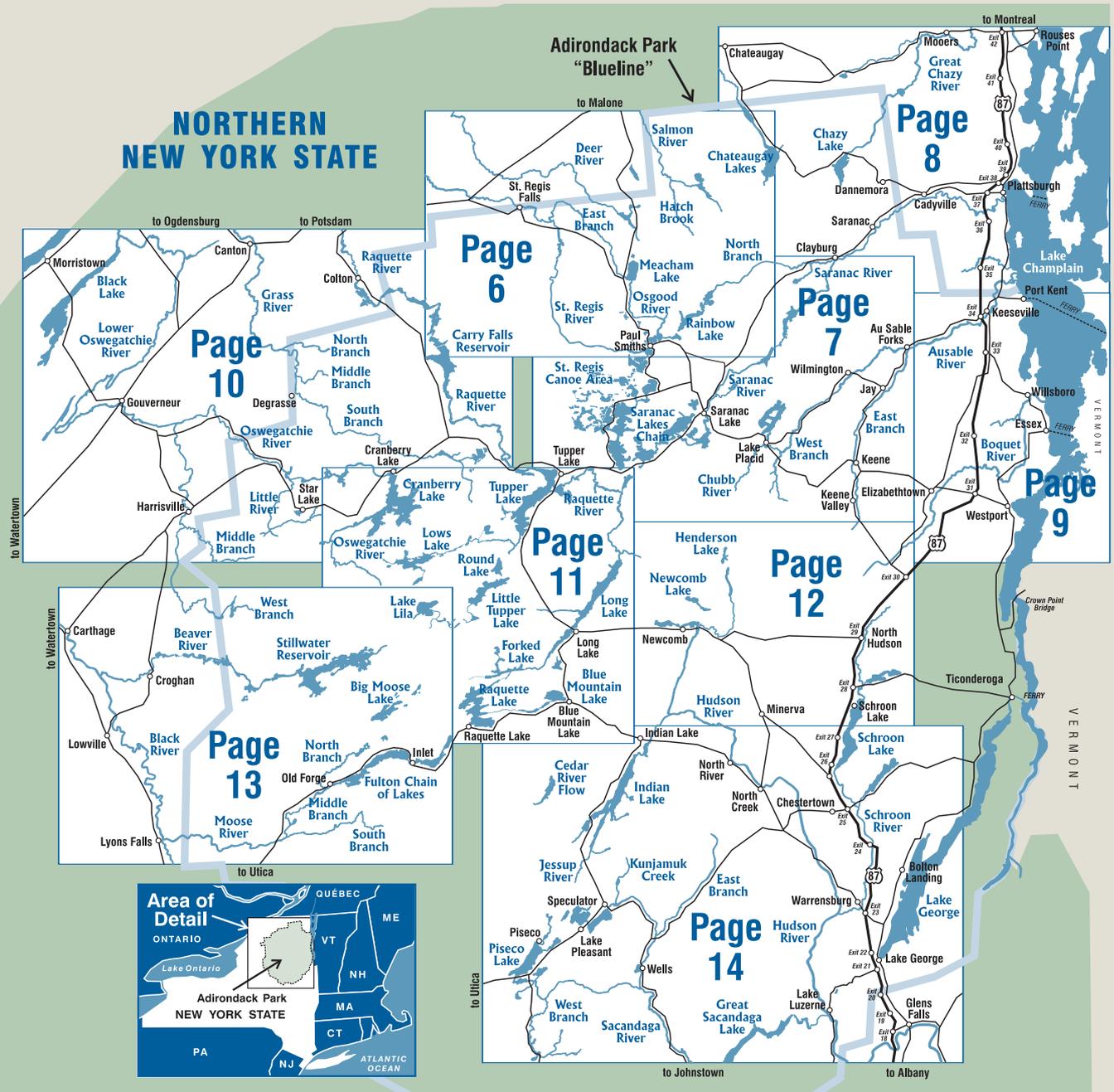
Class IV. Long, difficult rapids with constricted passages that often require precise maneuvering in very turbulent waters. Scouting from shore is often necessary, and conditions make rescue difficult.

Generally not possible for open canoes. Boaters in covered canoes and kayaks should be able to Eskimo roll.

Class V. Extremely difficult, long, and very violent rapids with highly congested routes which nearly always must be scouted from shore. Rescue conditions are difficult and there is a significant hazard to life in event of a mishap. Ability to Eskimo roll is essential for kayaks and canoes.

Class VI. Difficulties of Class V carried to the extreme of navigability. **Nearly impossible and very dangerous.** For teams of experts only, after close study and with all precautions taken.

Cold water temperatures below 50 degrees and extended trips in remote areas increase normal difficulty by one class level.



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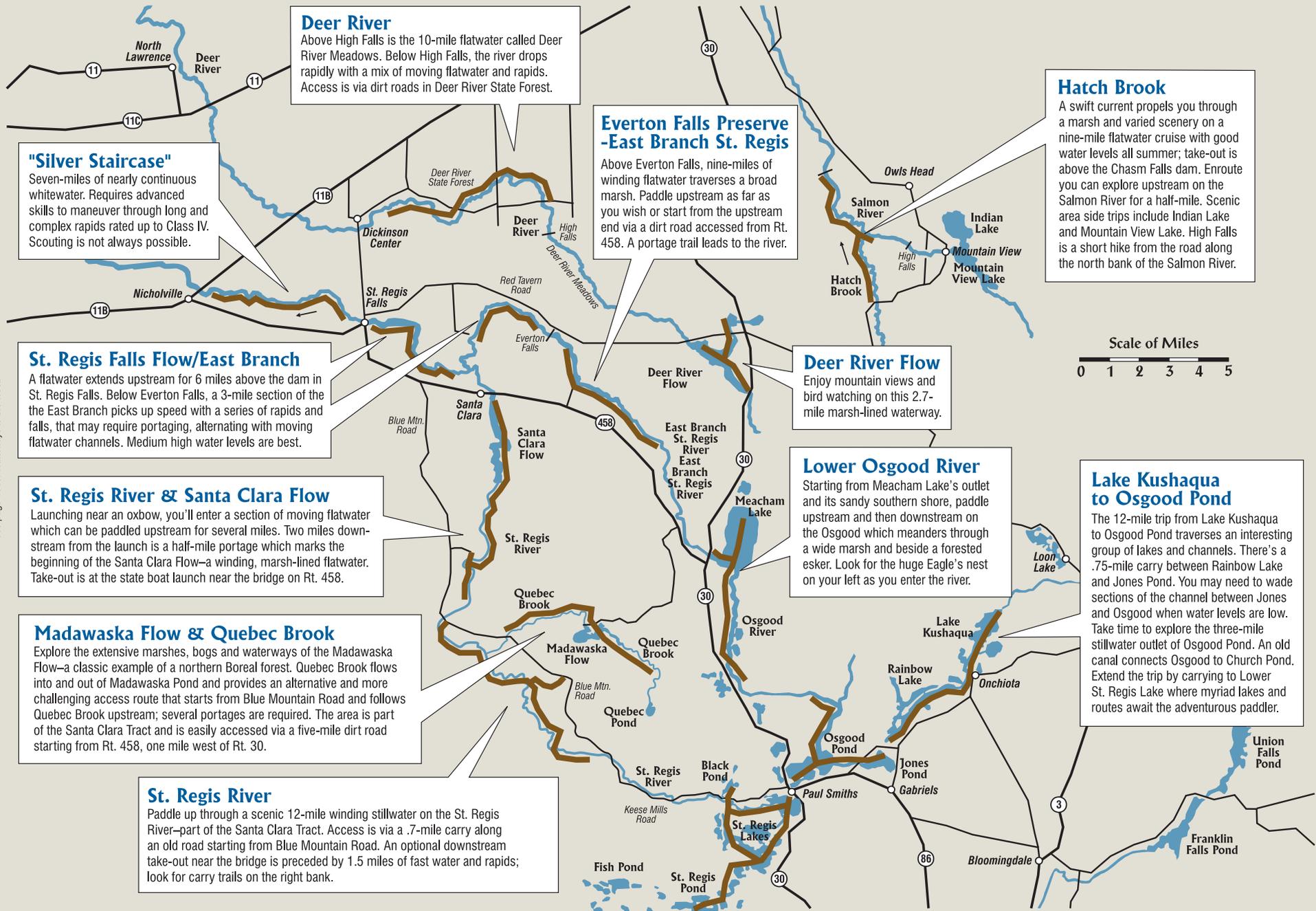


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Deer River, Hatch Brook, Lake Kushaqua, Osgood Pond & River, Madawaska Flow & Quebec Brook, Rainbow Lake, St. Regis River



"Silver Staircase"
Seven-miles of nearly continuous whitewater. Requires advanced skills to maneuver through long and complex rapids rated up to Class IV. Scouting is not always possible.

Deer River
Above High Falls is the 10-mile flatwater called Deer River Meadows. Below High Falls, the river drops rapidly with a mix of moving flatwater and rapids. Access is via dirt roads in Deer River State Forest.

Everton Falls Preserve -East Branch St. Regis
Above Everton Falls, nine-miles of winding flatwater traverses a broad marsh. Paddle upstream as far as you wish or start from the upstream end via a dirt road accessed from Rt. 458. A portage trail leads to the river.

Hatch Brook
A swift current propels you through a marsh and varied scenery on a nine-mile flatwater cruise with good water levels all summer; take-out is above the Chasm Falls dam. Enroute you can explore upstream on the Salmon River for a half-mile. Scenic area side trips include Indian Lake and Mountain View Lake. High Falls is a short hike from the road along the north bank of the Salmon River.

St. Regis Falls Flow/East Branch
A flatwater extends upstream for 6 miles above the dam in St. Regis Falls. Below Everton Falls, a 3-mile section of the the East Branch picks up speed with a series of rapids and falls, that may require portaging, alternating with moving flatwater channels. Medium high water levels are best.

Deer River Flow
Enjoy mountain views and bird watching on this 2.7-mile marsh-lined waterway.

St. Regis River & Santa Clara Flow
Launching near an oxbow, you'll enter a section of moving flatwater which can be paddled upstream for several miles. Two miles downstream from the launch is a half-mile portage which marks the beginning of the Santa Clara Flow—a winding, marsh-lined flatwater. Take-out is at the state boat launch near the bridge on Rt. 458.

Lower Osgood River
Starting from Meacham Lake's outlet and its sandy southern shore, paddle upstream and then downstream on the Osgood which meanders through a wide marsh and beside a forested esker. Look for the huge Eagle's nest on your left as you enter the river.

Lake Kushaqua to Osgood Pond
The 12-mile trip from Lake Kushaqua to Osgood Pond traverses an interesting group of lakes and channels. There's a .75-mile carry between Rainbow Lake and Jones Pond. You may need to wade sections of the channel between Jones and Osgood when water levels are low. Take time to explore the three-mile stillwater outlet of Osgood Pond. An old canal connects Osgood to Church Pond. Extend the trip by carrying to Lower St. Regis Lake where myriad lakes and routes await the adventurous paddler.

Madawaska Flow & Quebec Brook
Explore the extensive marshes, bogs and waterways of the Madawaska Flow—a classic example of a northern Boreal forest. Quebec Brook flows into and out of Madawaska Pond and provides an alternative and more challenging access route that starts from Blue Mountain Road and follows Quebec Brook upstream; several portages are required. The area is part of the Santa Clara Tract and is easily accessed via a five-mile dirt road starting from Rt. 458, one mile west of Rt. 30.

St. Regis River
Paddle up through a scenic 12-mile winding stillwater on the St. Regis River—part of the Santa Clara Tract. Access is via a .7-mile carry along an old road starting from Blue Mountain Road. An optional downstream take-out near the bridge is preceded by 1.5 miles of fast water and rapids; look for carry trails on the right bank.

See page 10 for Waterways to the West.

See page 7 and 8 for Waterways to the East.

See page 7 for Waterways to the South.

Ausable River, Chubb River, Saranac Lakes Chain, Saranac River, Saranac River Headwaters, St. Regis Canoe Area, St. Regis Lakes

St. Regis Canoe Area & the Saranac River headwaters

The St. Regis Canoe Area and the headwater lakes and ponds of the Saranac River are a pond-hopper's paradise. Many carries are short and most routes can be done as an unencumbered day trip. The classic "Seven Carries Route" is 9 miles from Little Clear Pond to Paul Smiths, traversing 10 lakes and ponds. You may need more time and a lightweight canoe for the "Nine Carries Route" which starts from either Hoel Pond or Long Pond (1.5 miles of carries) or Little Clear Pond (2.5 miles of carries); your ultimate goal is the cluster of ponds near remote Fish Pond. The area is bisected by a steep esker formation.

Just south of the St. Regis Canoe Area, the Saranac River headwater ponds—such as Follensby Clear, Floodwood and Fish Creek—provide the starting point for various short loop trips. Short carries connect the many small ponds and channels. Expand these loops by carrying north into Long and Hoel Pond.

See page 6 and 8 for Waterways to the North.

St. Regis Lakes Loop

The St. Regis Lakes—Lower St. Regis Lake, Spitfire Lake and Upper St. Regis Lake—are connected by wide channels; a loop tour would include a .6-mile carry from the Upper Lake to the outlet dam on the Lower Lake. Great Camps can be seen along much of this route. Be sure to explore beautiful Black Pond.

Saranac River

From Union Falls Pond, the Saranac River drops rapidly. Class I-II rapids in the first 4 miles are followed by a Class V drop at Tefft Pond Falls. The carry is adjacent to private property. The next five miles include a complex series of Class II-III ledges, drops and hydraulics which demand advanced skills and ample water. It is rocky and there is a wide fluctuation in the water level due to dam releases.

Saranac River

The Saranac River is a slow-moving flatwater with one section of up to Class III water at Permanent Rapids just before Franklin Falls Pond. Carry around the falls on the adjacent road. A .4-mile carry leads from the dam on Franklin Falls Pond to Union Falls Pond.

East Branch Ausable River

The East Branch has some great spring paddling with Class II water and a tricky Class III boulder patch. You'll pass quickly through a scenic valley lined with high peaks and meadows. In the summer, when the water is too shallow for paddling, you'll see mostly anglers on a deceptively quiet river.

West Branch Ausable River

Cruise through eight miles of mostly tranquil water with some Class I riffles and one carry. Spring water levels are best. **Don't miss your take out just prior to Monument Falls. An unrunnable boulder-filled gorge follows which is better viewed from Rt. 86.**

Chubb River

Take a wilderness cruise upstream through a winding channel into a remote mountain-ringed marsh. The nine-mile round trip has one short carry midway and you may find several beaver dams along the way.

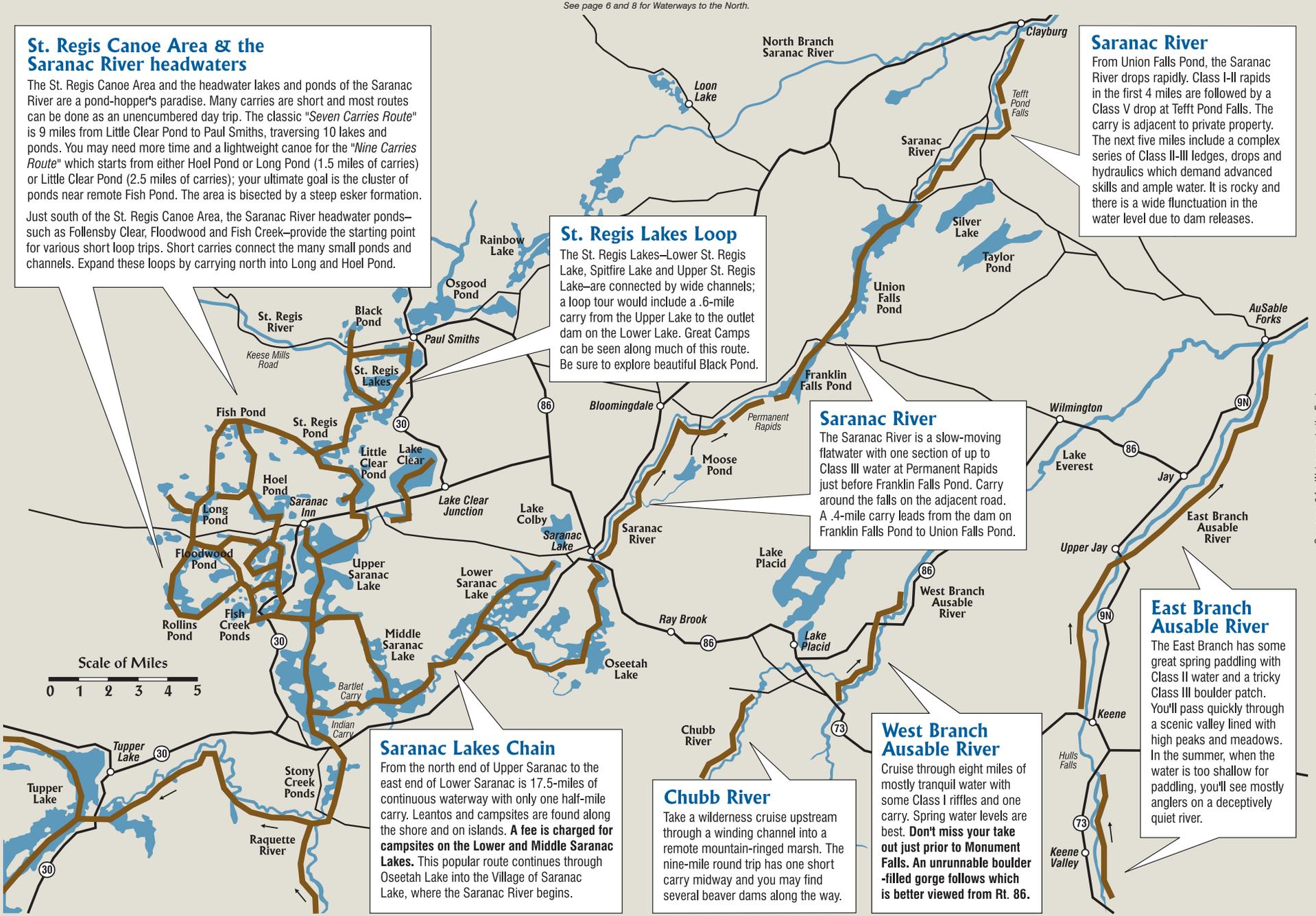
Saranac Lakes Chain

From the north end of Upper Saranac to the east end of Lower Saranac is 17.5-miles of continuous waterway with only one half-mile carry. Leantos and campsites are found along the shore and on islands. **A fee is charged for campsites on the Lower and Middle Saranac Lakes.** This popular route continues through Oseetah Lake into the Village of Saranac Lake, where the Saranac River begins.

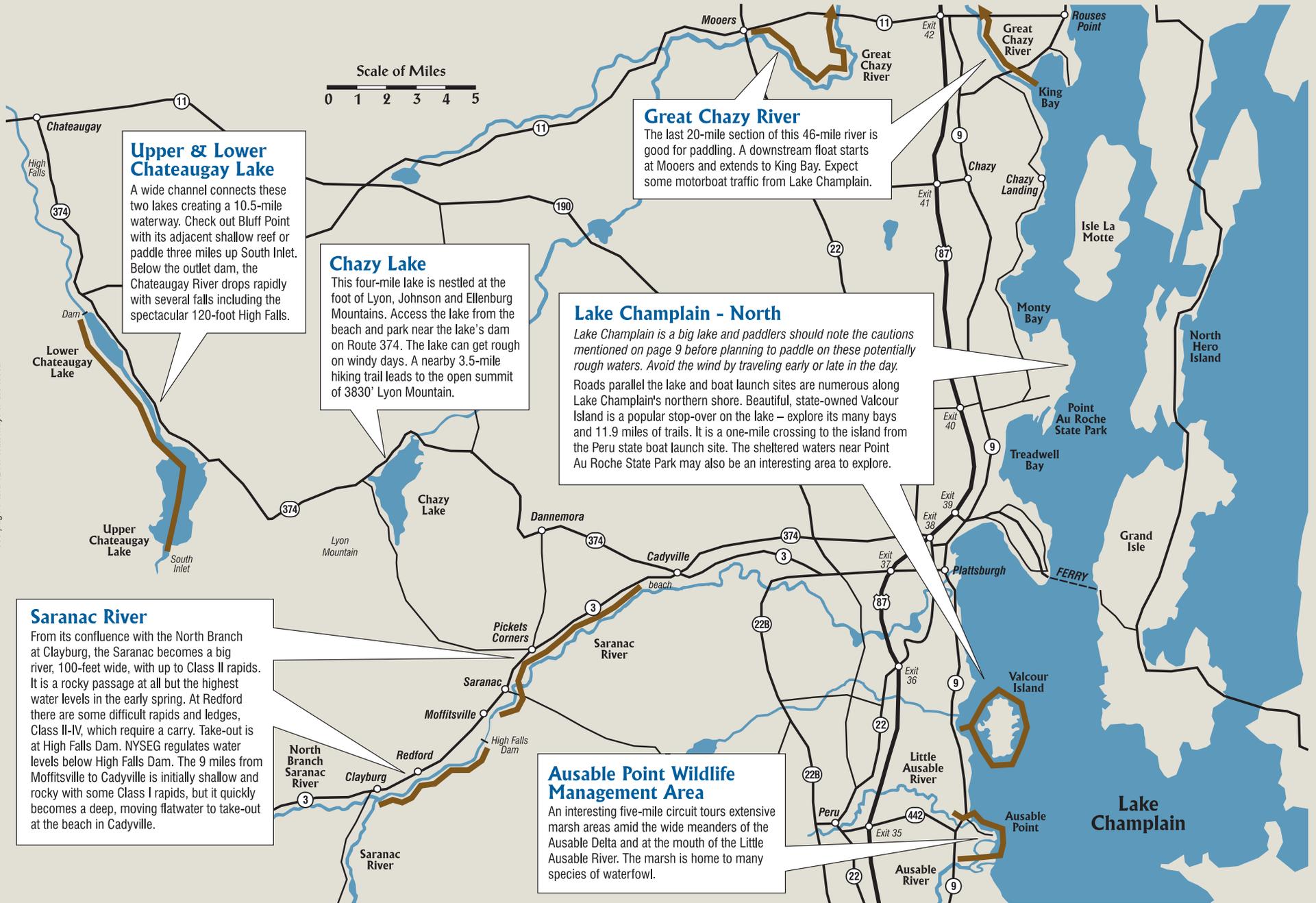
See page 10 for Waterways to the West.

See page 9 for Waterways to the East.

See page 11 and 12 for Waterways to the South.



Ausable River, Chateaugay Lakes, Chazy Lake, Great Chazy River, Lake Champlain North, Saranac River



See page 7 and 12 for Waterways to the West.

See page 9 for Waterways to the South.

Boquet River, Lake Champlain, Silver Lake, Taylor Pond

See page 8 for Waterways to the North.

Silver Lake & Taylor Pond

These secluded lakes are great places to camp, fish or just paddle around. Dense woods and mountains surround the lakes. Take a short hike to the top of Silver Lake Mountain or Catamount for great views.

Lake Champlain

Small vessels of any kind should avoid this large lake on all but the calmest days. Getting caught on the water in a small kayak or open canoe on a rough, windy day is a life-threatening situation. Watch the weather and pick your day carefully. Remain close to the shore and in the sheltered bays of the western shore. Take advantage of the morning and evening calms, and paddle from south to north with the prevailing winds. Taking these words of caution into consideration, it is possible to find the perfect day to paddle along the Lake Champlain shore.

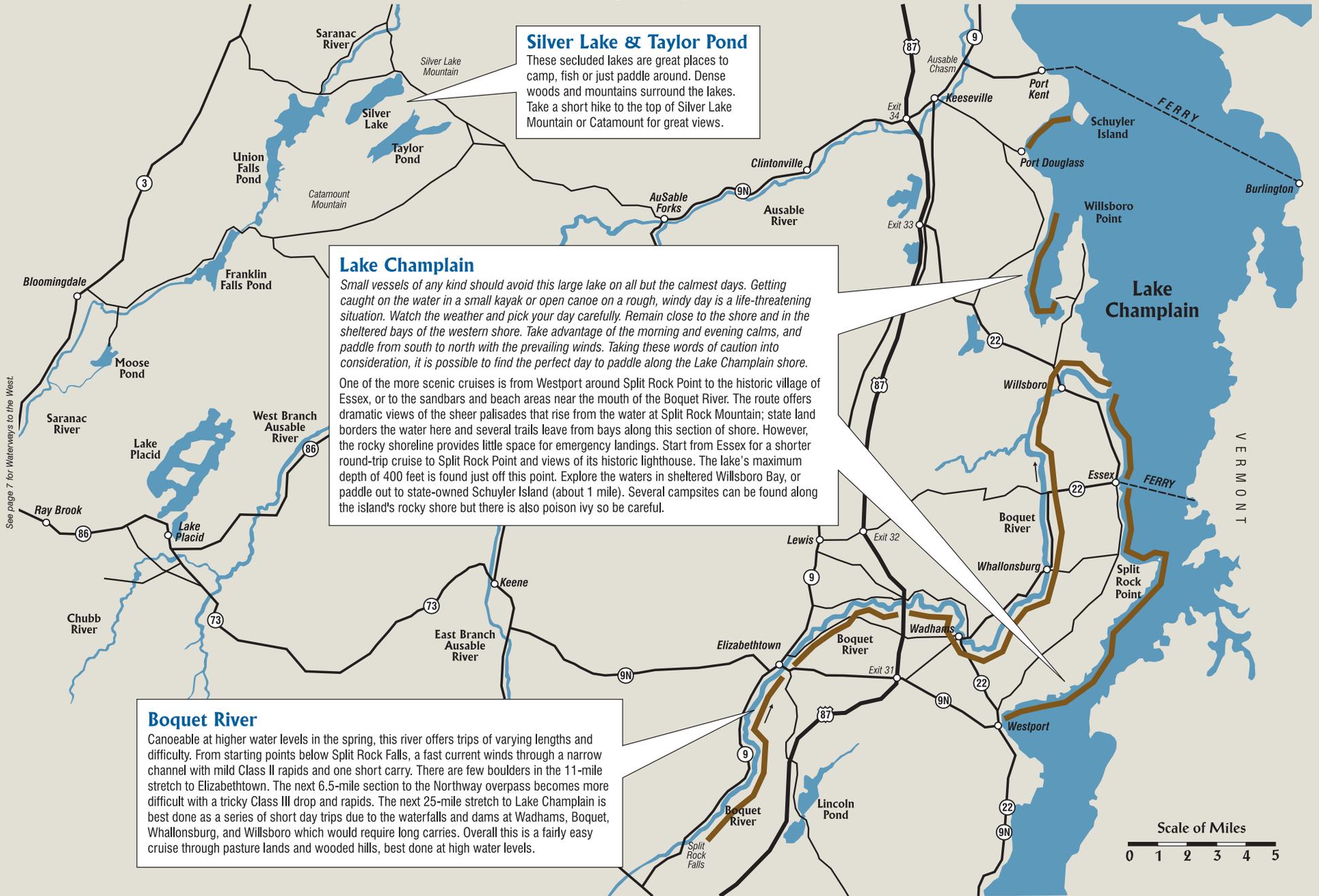
One of the more scenic cruises is from Westport around Split Rock Point to the historic village of Essex, or to the sandbars and beach areas near the mouth of the Boquet River. The route offers dramatic views of the sheer palisades that rise from the water at Split Rock Mountain; state land borders the water here and several trails leave from bays along this section of shore. However, the rocky shoreline provides little space for emergency landings. Start from Essex for a shorter round-trip cruise to Split Rock Point and views of its historic lighthouse. The lake's maximum depth of 400 feet is found just off this point. Explore the waters in sheltered Willsboro Bay, or paddle out to state-owned Schuyler Island (about 1 mile). Several campsites can be found along the island's rocky shore but there is also poison ivy so be careful.

Boquet River

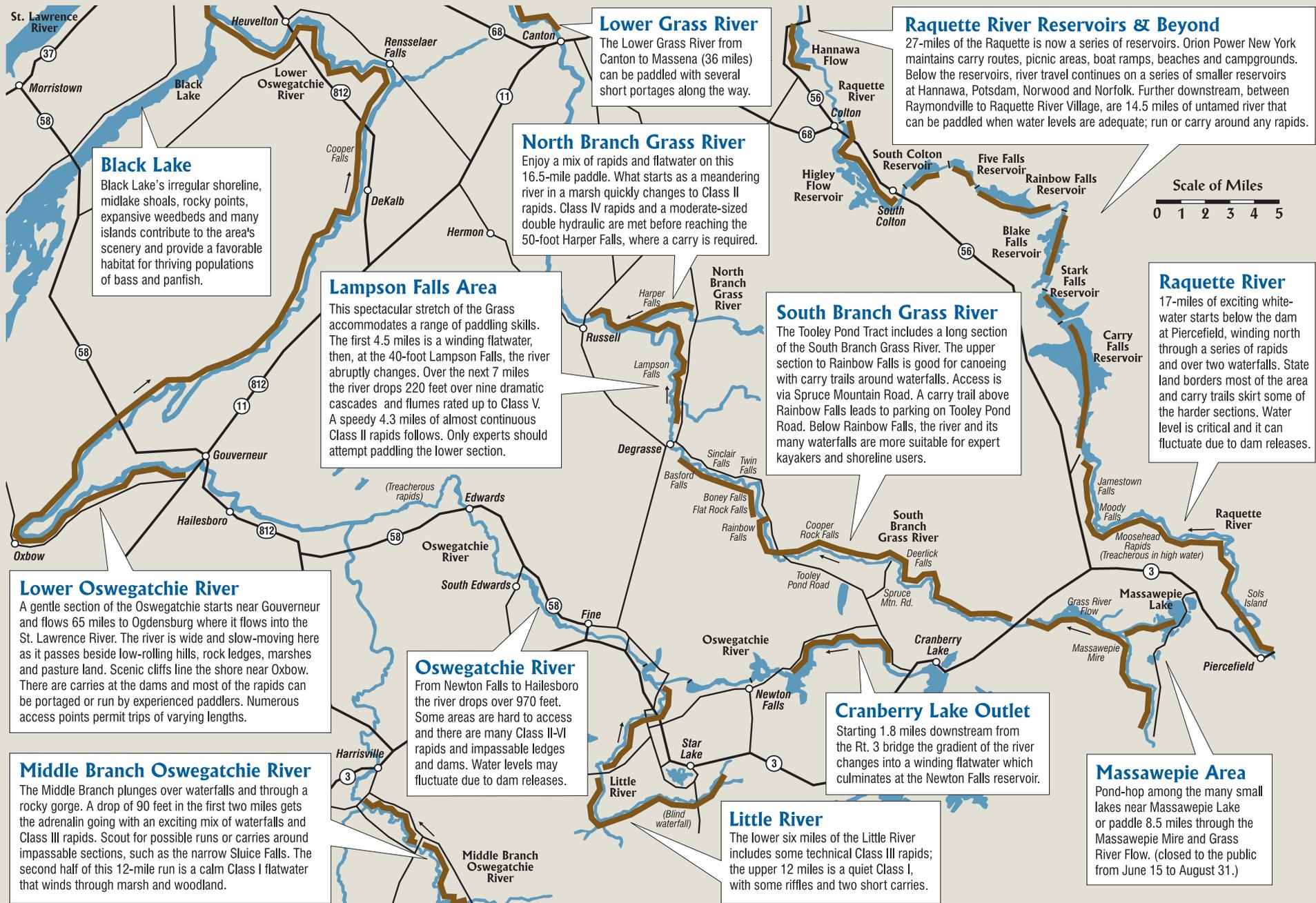
Canoeable at higher water levels in the spring, this river offers trips of varying lengths and difficulty. From starting points below Split Rock Falls, a fast current winds through a narrow channel with mild Class II rapids and one short carry. There are few boulders in the 11-mile stretch to Elizabethtown. The next 6.5-mile section to the Northway overpass becomes more difficult with a tricky Class III drop and rapids. The next 25-mile stretch to Lake Champlain is best done as a series of short day trips due to the waterfalls and dams at Wadhams, Boquet, Whallonsburg, and Willsboro which would require long carries. Overall this is a fairly easy cruise through pasture lands and wooded hills, best done at high water levels.

See page 7 for Waterways to the West.

See page 12 for Waterways to the South.



Black Lake, Cranberry Lake, Grass River, Little River, Massawepie Area, Oswegatchie River, Raquette River



See page 6, 7 and 11 for Waterways to the East.

Bog River, Blue Mtn. Lake, Cranberry Lake, Forked Lake, Lake Lila, Long Lake, Lows Lake, Oswegatchie River, Raquette Lake & River, Tupper Lake, Whitney Wilderness

See page 6, 7 and 10 for Waterways to the North.

Cranberry Lake

Flows and bays extend in every direction; great for exploration and refuge on windy days. Hiking trails originate from the lakeshore leading to remote ponds and overlooks. There are 46 designated campsites.

Oswegatchie River

Starting at Inlet, you must first paddle upstream on this scenic winding river. Stopping at a campsite along the way may be more enjoyable than staying in the High Falls area, which is often filled to capacity. Above the falls, you will leave the crowds behind as you lift over beaver dams, paddling deeper into a remote wilderness. The 40-mile round-trip paddle takes a minimum of three days—two days up and one day down. Several hiking trails are accessible from points along the river.

Lows Lake & Bog River Flow

Starting from the lower dam, this 11-mile paddle, with one short carry at the upper dam, traverses a beautiful narrow waterway. The wide expanse of Lows Lake opens up at journey's end with marshes to the south and a backdrop of rugged mountains to the north. Islands and bays provide refuge on windy days. 39 designated campsites are found on Lows Lake and along the access channel. For the ambitious, a three-mile carry at the west end of the lake leads to the Upper Oswegatchie River. Your efforts are rewarded with a good dose of wilderness and an 18-mile downstream cruise to your take-out at Inlet.

Tupper Lake

A shallow marsh connects Tupper Lake, Simon and Raquette ponds. State land on Tupper Lake's western shore has a leanto and campsites. Above Bog River Falls you'll find a 2-mile stillwater paddle.

Bog River

The lower Bog has 7 miles of technical Class III water which includes unrunnable drops at 6' Split Rock Falls and the 30' Pa's Falls. High water levels and expert level skills are required.

Raquette River

From Long Lake to Tupper Lake (30 miles) the Raquette meanders between sandy wooded banks with just one carry at Raquette Falls. Traveling with the current, you can easily enjoy some fishing and bird watching. Campsites and leanos are found along the way. Stony Creek Ponds outlet and Indian Carry provides access north to the Saranac Lakes Chain.

Little Tupper Lake & Round Lake

The William C. Whitney Wilderness includes Little Tupper Lake, Round Lake and Rock Pond—which are all connected via channels and have designated campsites. Explore the islands and old dam on Round Lake. Little Tupper is six miles long and also has several islands. Moderate winds can create rough water on these lakes. Anglers will enjoy catch-and-release fishing for native brook trout. A canoe carry route from Rock Pond to Lake Lila links a series of small ponds and carries to Shingle Shanty Brook.

Lake Lila

Lake Lila has 17 campsites, 7 islands, sandy beaches and tall white pines. A .3-mile carry leads from the parking area to the sandy launch site. Climb Frederica Mountain for a panoramic overview of the area. Explore the winding route of Shingle Shanty Brook.

Forked Lake

State land borders the southeast shore, and the east and west end of this 7-mile lake; the rest is privately owned and undeveloped. The downstream route to Long Lake is a mix of flat and fast water and carries.

Long Lake

The prevailing winds are usually to your back on this 14-mile "long" lake. Campsites and leanos are found on state land along the eastern shore, north of Long Lake Village.

Raquette Lake

The many bays of this large lake will provide hours of exploration; keep your eye out for some of the historic Great Camps. Explore the two-mile channel of South Inlet and Browns Tract Inlet where a one-mile carry connects to Eighth Lake on the Fulton Chain. To the north, an easy half-mile carry leads to Forked Lake.

Blue Mountain Lake

10 islands on this mountain-ringed lake are part of the forest preserve. Explore the islands before heading west to the outlet, under a bridge and into narrow Eagle and Utowana lakes. A half-mile carry at the west end of the lakes leads to the Marion River which flows gently through meadow and marsh to Raquette Lake and routes to the north and south.



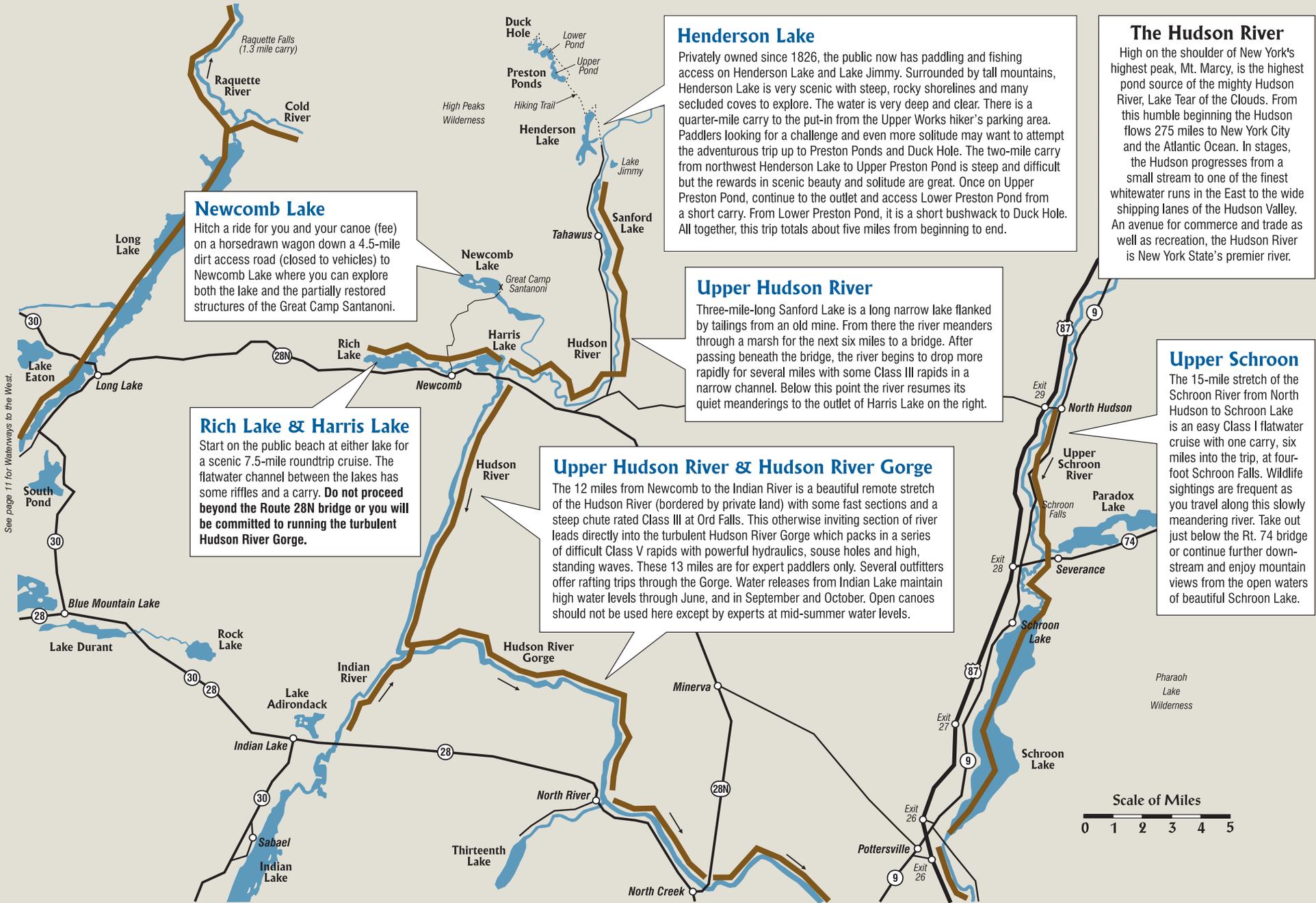
See page 10 and 13 for Waterways to the West.

See page 7 and 12 for Waterways to the East.

See page 13 and 14 for Waterways to the South.

Harris Lake, Henderson Lake, Hudson River, Newcomb Lake, Rich Lake, Schroon River & Lake

See page 7 for Waterways to the North.



Newcomb Lake
Hitch a ride for you and your canoe (fee) on a horsedrawn wagon down a 4.5-mile dirt access road (closed to vehicles) to Newcomb Lake where you can explore both the lake and the partially restored structures of the Great Camp Santanoni.

Rich Lake & Harris Lake
Start on the public beach at either lake for a scenic 7.5-mile roundtrip cruise. The flatwater channel between the lakes has some riffles and a carry. **Do not proceed beyond the Route 28N bridge or you will be committed to running the turbulent Hudson River Gorge.**

Henderson Lake
Privately owned since 1826, the public now has paddling and fishing access on Henderson Lake and Lake Jimmy. Surrounded by tall mountains, Henderson Lake is very scenic with steep, rocky shorelines and many secluded coves to explore. The water is very deep and clear. There is a quarter-mile carry to the put-in from the Upper Works hiker's parking area. Paddlers looking for a challenge and even more solitude may want to attempt the adventurous trip up to Preston Ponds and Duck Hole. The two-mile carry from northwest Henderson Lake to Upper Preston Pond is steep and difficult but the rewards in scenic beauty and solitude are great. Once on Upper Preston Pond, continue to the outlet and access Lower Preston Pond from a short carry. From Lower Preston Pond, it is a short bushwack to Duck Hole. All together, this trip totals about five miles from beginning to end.

Upper Hudson River
Three-mile-long Sanford Lake is a long narrow lake flanked by tailings from an old mine. From there the river meanders through a marsh for the next six miles to a bridge. After passing beneath the bridge, the river begins to drop more rapidly for several miles with some Class III rapids in a narrow channel. Below this point the river resumes its quiet meanderings to the outlet of Harris Lake on the right.

Upper Hudson River & Hudson River Gorge
The 12 miles from Newcomb to the Indian River is a beautiful remote stretch of the Hudson River (bordered by private land) with some fast sections and a steep chute rated Class III at Ord Falls. This otherwise inviting section of river leads directly into the turbulent Hudson River Gorge which packs in a series of difficult Class V rapids with powerful hydraulics, souse holes and high, standing waves. These 13 miles are for expert paddlers only. Several outfitters offer rafting trips through the Gorge. Water releases from Indian Lake maintain high water levels through June, and in September and October. Open canoes should not be used here except by experts at mid-summer water levels.

The Hudson River
High on the shoulder of New York's highest peak, Mt. Marcy, is the highest pond source of the mighty Hudson River, Lake Tear of the Clouds. From this humble beginning the Hudson flows 275 miles to New York City and the Atlantic Ocean. In stages, the Hudson progresses from a small stream to one of the finest whitewater runs in the East to the wide shipping lanes of the Hudson Valley. An avenue for commerce and trade as well as recreation, the Hudson River is New York State's premier river.

Upper Schroon
The 15-mile stretch of the Schroon River from North Hudson to Schroon Lake is an easy Class I flatwater cruise with one carry, six miles into the trip, at four-foot Schroon Falls. Wildlife sightings are frequent as you travel along this slowly meandering river. Take out just below the Rt. 74 bridge or continue further downstream and enjoy mountain views from the open waters of beautiful Schroon Lake.

See page 11 for Waterways to the West.

See page 9 for Waterways to the East.

See page 14 for Waterways to the South.



Beaver River, Big Moose Lake, Black River, Fulton Chain of Lakes, Francis Lake, Moose River, Moss Lake, Sand Pond-Mud Pond, Stillwater Reservoir

See page 10 and 11 for Waterways to the North.

Beaver River Canoe Route

Enjoy a 14-mile paddle through a series of reservoirs and channels which begins just below the Moshier Powerhouse and continues to the High Falls Pond take-out. Maintained by Orion Power New York, the route requires six portages totaling slightly more than two miles. There are designated campsites on the Soft Maple Reservoir. For more information and a detailed route brochure call 1-877-85-ORION.

Sand Pond-Mud Pond Area

Access to Sand Pond—part of the Croghan Tract—is via logging roads and a new .2 mile universally accessible trail and carry from the parking area. Its marshy shores support an abundance of waterfowl and wildlife. Long Pond, Rock Pond and Mud Pond are connected by narrow corridors of stream which are best paddled at high water levels. On the east end of Mud Pond is a handicapped accessible dock, outhouse and parking area. Below Mud Pond there are two waterfalls, a carry trail leads to the base of the first waterfall. Then there's a .7-mile paddle to takeout at a footbridge above the second waterfall.

Stillwater Reservoir

The nine-mile-long reservoir is surrounded by state land and 46 designated campsites are situated on scenic points and bays. Caution is advised on windy days as the water can get very rough. The area is known for its large loon population and great fishing. Summer weekends can be busy with motorboat traffic.

Big Moose Lake

Several interesting bays, marsh areas and trails. The trails start from the lake and lead into the Pigeon Lake Wilderness where there are campsites and lean-tos on Russian and Gull Lakes (half-mile carry) and the remote Sister Lakes (3 miles). Public access from Dunn's Marina for a fee.

Black River

From Lyons Falls to the Carthage dam are 44 miles of uninterrupted flatwater winding gracefully between the Adirondacks and the Tug Hill Plateau. There are a variety of access points and services along the way.

Francis Lake

Stillwater Road provides easy access to this beautiful lake. You'll find campsites near the put-in and on the southern shore. There is a universally accessible trail to the lake and small dock for water access.

North Branch Moose River

Along this slow-moving, meandering stretch of river you'll travel 11 miles in complete wilderness isolation. Wildlife and birds are abundant along this branch of the Moose.

Lower Moose River

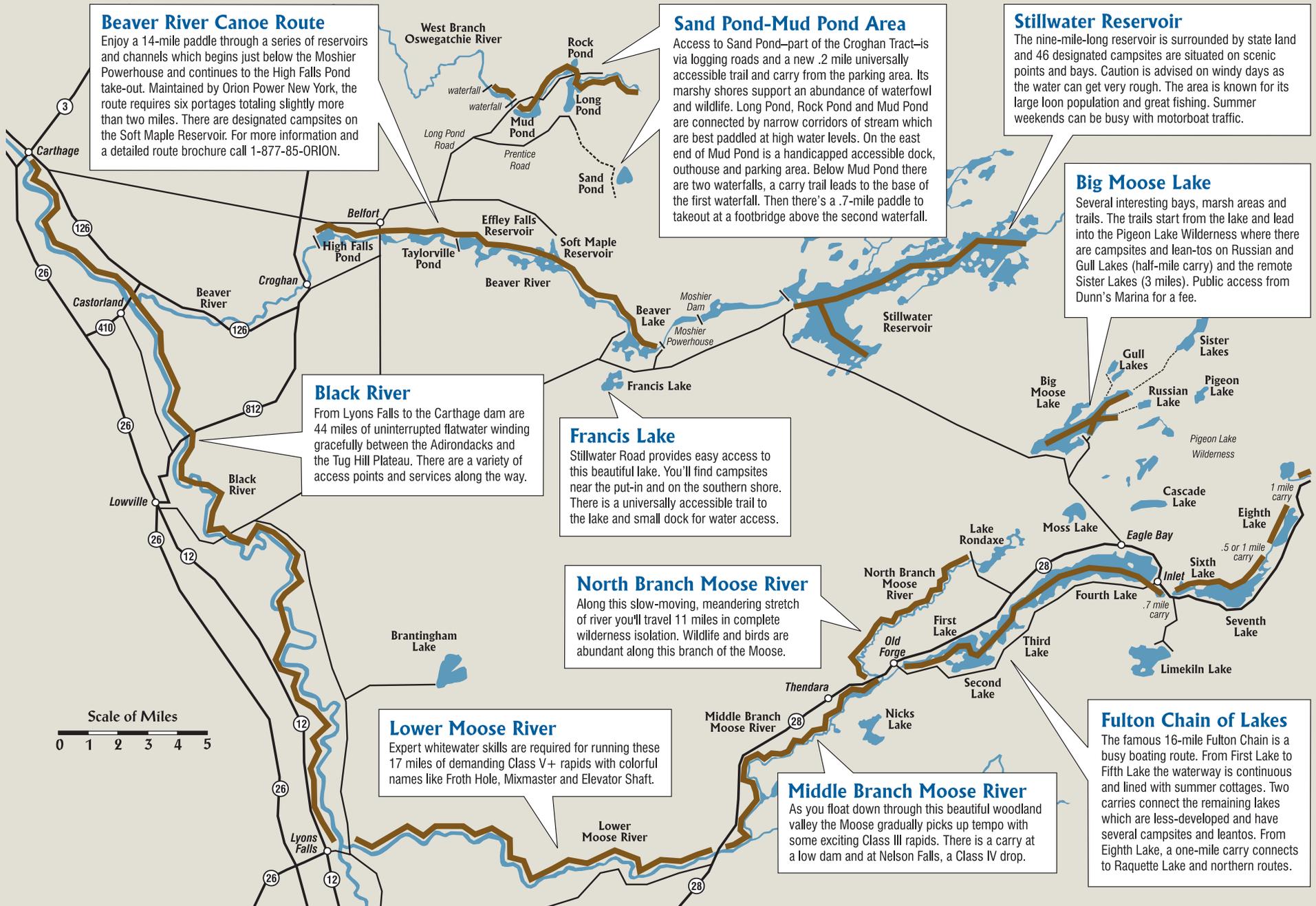
Expert whitewater skills are required for running these 17 miles of demanding Class V+ rapids with colorful names like Froth Hole, Mixmaster and Elevator Shaft.

Middle Branch Moose River

As you float down through this beautiful woodland valley the Moose gradually picks up tempo with some exciting Class III rapids. There is a carry at a low dam and at Nelson Falls, a Class IV drop.

Fulton Chain of Lakes

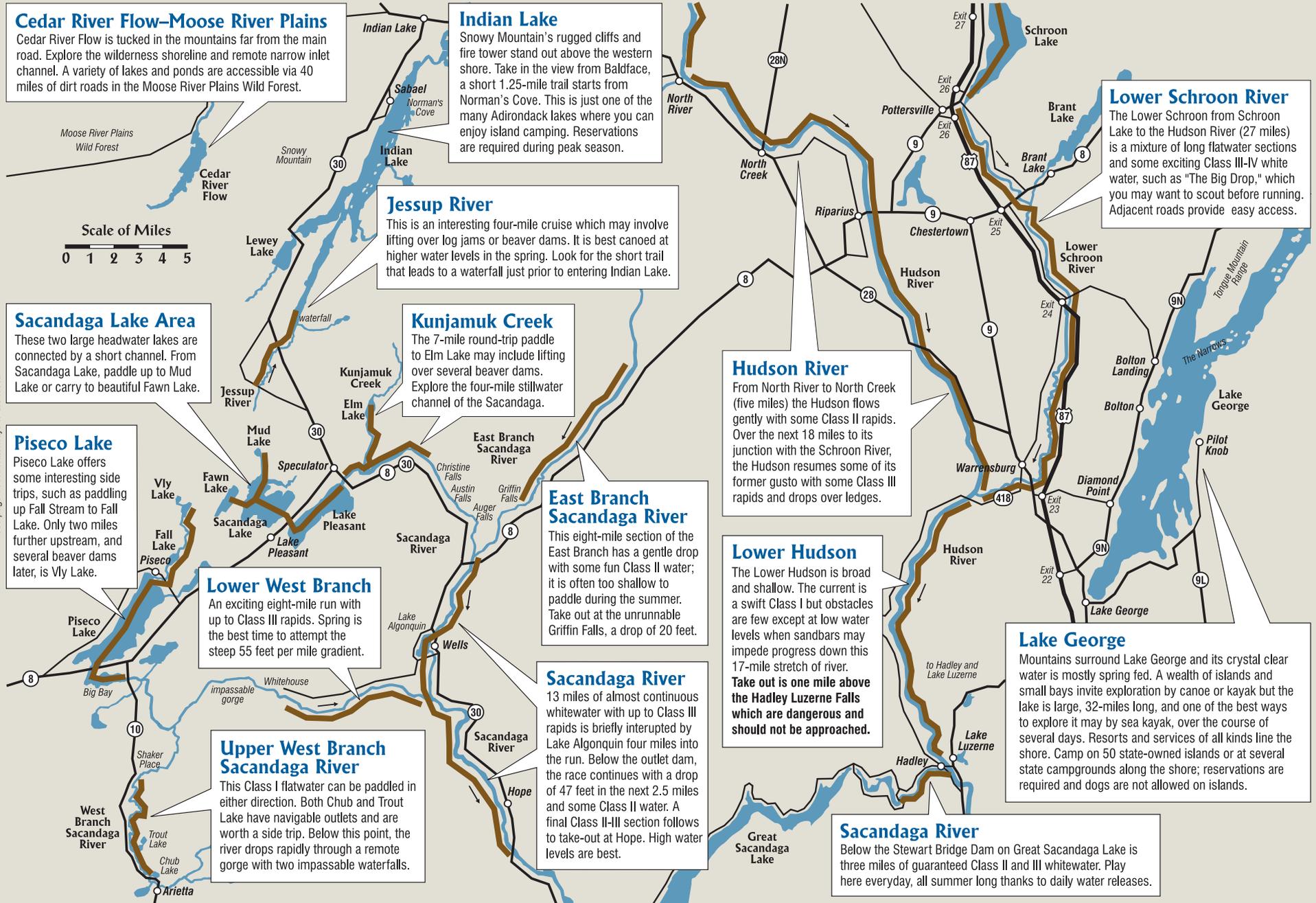
The famous 16-mile Fulton Chain is a busy boating route. From First Lake to Fifth Lake the waterway is continuous and lined with summer cottages. Two carries connect the remaining lakes which are less-developed and have several campsites and leantos. From Eighth Lake, a one-mile carry connects to Raquette Lake and northern routes.



See page 11 and 14 for Waterways to the East.

Cedar River, Hudson River, Indian Lake, Jessup River, Kunjamuk Creek, Lake George, Piseco Lake, Sacandaga River, Schroon River

See page 11 and 12 for Waterways to the North.



Cedar River Flow—Moose River Plains

Cedar River Flow is tucked in the mountains far from the main road. Explore the wilderness shoreline and remote narrow inlet channel. A variety of lakes and ponds are accessible via 40 miles of dirt roads in the Moose River Plains Wild Forest.

Indian Lake

Snowy Mountain's rugged cliffs and fire tower stand out above the western shore. Take in the view from Baldface, a short 1.25-mile trail starts from Norman's Cove. This is just one of the many Adirondack lakes where you can enjoy island camping. Reservations are required during peak season.

Jessup River

This is an interesting four-mile cruise which may involve lifting over log jams or beaver dams. It is best canoed at higher water levels in the spring. Look for the short trail that leads to a waterfall just prior to entering Indian Lake.

Kunjamuk Creek

The 7-mile round-trip paddle to Elm Lake may include lifting over several beaver dams. Explore the four-mile stillwater channel of the Sacandaga.

Hudson River

From North River to North Creek (five miles) the Hudson flows gently with some Class II rapids. Over the next 18 miles to its junction with the Schroon River, the Hudson resumes some of its former gusto with some Class III rapids and drops over ledges.

Lower Schroon River

The Lower Schroon from Schroon Lake to the Hudson River (27 miles) is a mixture of long flatwater sections and some exciting Class III-IV white water, such as "The Big Drop," which you may want to scout before running. Adjacent roads provide easy access.

Sacandaga Lake Area

These two large headwater lakes are connected by a short channel. From Sacandaga Lake, paddle up to Mud Lake or carry to beautiful Fawn Lake.

Piseco Lake

Piseco Lake offers some interesting side trips, such as paddling up Fall Stream to Fall Lake. Only two miles further upstream, and several beaver dams later, is Vly Lake.

Lower West Branch

An exciting eight-mile run with up to Class III rapids. Spring is the best time to attempt the steep 55 feet per mile gradient.

Upper West Branch Sacandaga River

This Class I flatwater can be paddled in either direction. Both Chub and Trout Lake have navigable outlets and are worth a side trip. Below this point, the river drops rapidly through a remote gorge with two impassable waterfalls.

East Branch Sacandaga River

This eight-mile section of the East Branch has a gentle drop with some fun Class II water; it is often too shallow to paddle during the summer. Take out at the unrunnable Griffin Falls, a drop of 20 feet.

Sacandaga River

13 miles of almost continuous whitewater with up to Class III rapids is briefly interrupted by Lake Algonquin four miles into the run. Below the outlet dam, the race continues with a drop of 47 feet in the next 2.5 miles and some Class II water. A final Class II-III section follows to take-out at Hope. High water levels are best.

Lower Hudson

The Lower Hudson is broad and shallow. The current is a swift Class I but obstacles are few except at low water levels when sandbars may impede progress down this 17-mile stretch of river. **Take out is one mile above the Hadley Luzerne Falls which are dangerous and should not be approached.**

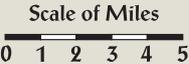
Lake George

Mountains surround Lake George and its crystal clear water is mostly spring fed. A wealth of islands and small bays invite exploration by canoe or kayak but the lake is large, 32-miles long, and one of the best ways to explore it may be sea kayak, over the course of several days. Resorts and services of all kinds line the shore. Camp on 50 state-owned islands or at several state campgrounds along the shore; reservations are required and dogs are not allowed on islands.

Sacandaga River

Below the Stewart Bridge Dam on Great Sacandaga Lake is three miles of guaranteed Class II and III whitewater. Play here everyday, all summer long thanks to daily water releases.

See page 13 for Waterways to the West.



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



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See map page 13.

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See map page 7.

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See map page 7.



The turbulent Hudson River Gorge.

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See map page 7.

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See map page 14.

Adirondack Scenic Railroad

Union Station, 321 Main Street, Utica, NY 13501 • 315-724-0700
800-819-2291 • www.adirondackrr.com
Route 28, Thendara, 315-369-6290.
Depot Street, Saranac Lake and Averyville Road, Lake Placid, 518-891-3238.



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See map page 7 & 13.

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The Four Corners, Routes 8 and 30, Speculator, NY 12164
518-548-7451 • 888-548-7455 • www.charliejohns.com



Supermarket, general store, deli, bakery. Year-round. An extensive section of Adirondack books and maps, over 300 titles, wide variety of subjects. Large camping and RV section, housewares and basic clothing. Summer outdoor living items, large display of inflatables.

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See map page 11.

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See map page 9.

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See map page 14.

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See map page 7.

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See map page 7.

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See map page 14.

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Adirondack Regional Tourism Council

Comprehensive travel information for an eight-county region.
P.O. Box 2149,
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
518-846-8016 or 800-487-6867
www.visitadirondacks.com
info@visitadirondacks.com

Adirondack Region Information Centers

Franklin County Tourism

10 Elm Street, Suite 2,
Malone, NY 12953
518-483-9470 or 800-709-4895
www.adirondacklakes.com
info@adirondacklakes.com

Hamilton County Tourism

South Shore Road, P.O. Box 57,
Lake Pleasant, NY 12108
518-548-3076 or 800-648-5239
www.hamiltoncounty.com
info@hamiltoncounty.com

Lake Placid/Essex County Visitors Bureau

Olympic Center, 216 Main Street,
Lake Placid, NY 12946
518-523-2445 or 800-447-5224
www.lakeplacid.com
info@lakeplacid.com

Lewis County Tourism

7383C Ultica Blvd.,
Lowville, NY 13367
315-376-2213 or 800-724-0242
www.lewiscountychamber.org
info@lewiscountychamber.org

Plattsburgh/North County Chamber of Commerce

(Clinton County)
7061 Route 9, P.O. Box 310,
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
518-563-1000 or 877-242-6752
www.goadirondack.com
chamber@westelcom.com

St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce

101 Main Street, 1st Floor,
Canton, NY 13617
315-386-4000 or 877-228-7810
www.northcountryguide.com
slccoc@northnet.org

Warren County Tourism

Municipal Center, 1340 Route 9,
Lake George, NY 12845
518-761-6366 or
800-365-1050 ext. 908
www.visitlakegeorge.com

Town of Webb

Information Center,
P.O. Box 68, Old Forge, NY 13420
315-369-6983
www.oldforogeny.com



NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

For trail conditions, backcountry information and permits, fishing and hunting regulations and licenses, consult the DEC offices listed below. Normal office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 4:45pm.

DEC Headquarters

625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233 • 518-457-7433
www.dec.state.ny.us

DEC Region 5

Clinton, Franklin, Essex, Hamilton, Warren, Fulton, Saratoga & Washington Counties
DEC Region 5 Headquarters:
Route 86, Box 296, Ray Brook
518-897-1200

DEC Region 5 Sub-Offices:
701 South Main Street,
Northville 518-863-4545
232 Golf Course Road,
Warrensburg 518-623-1200

DEC Region 6

St. Lawrence, Lewis, Herkimer, Jefferson & Oneida Counties
DEC Region 6 Headquarters:
317 Washington St., Watertown
315-785-2263
DEC Region 6 Sub-Offices:
6739 Route 11, Potsdam
315-265-3090
225 North Main St., Herkimer
315-866-6330
7327 Route 812, Lowville
315-376-3521

DEC Publications On-line

www.dec.state.ny.us/website/locator/rec.html

Forest Reserve Campgrounds

Information: 518-457-2500
Reservations: 800-456-CAMP
<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/do/or2top.htm>
www.reserveamerica.com

Park-wide Emergency Search and Rescue or Fire Hotline: 518-891-0235

See map page 13.

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See map page 13.

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- Wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) at all times on the water.
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- Pack gear, clothing and supplies in separate re-sealable plastic bags.
- Carry and use a map and compass.
- Carry plenty of water (2 liters per person), high energy foods and necessary medications
- Carry a flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries.
- Pack extra non-cotton clothes, including a hat—take off and put on layers of clothing to regulate body temperature.
- Let someone know where you will be going and when you expect to return.
- Contact DEC Forest Rangers at 518-891-0235 to report lost or injured hikers.

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- Pack it in! Pack it out! — Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.

Leave What You Find

- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.

Respect Wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals purposely or accidentally—especially bears. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
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- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
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Adirondack Guidebooks and Maps

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Christine Jerome

Adirondack Waterfall Guide

Russell Dunn

Adirondack Canoe Routes?

William Howard

Bob Marshal in the Adirondacks

Writings of a Pioneering Peak-Bagger, Pond-Hopper and Wilderness Preservationist. Edited by Phil Brown

Canoe and Kayak Guide: East-Central New York State

Edited by Kathie Armstrong and Chet Harvey.

Canoe Guide to Western and Central New York State

Edited by Mark Freeman.

Canoeing the Adirondacks with Nessmuk

The Adirondack Letters of George Washington Sears. George Washington Sears, Dan Brennan (Editor)

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Fun on Flatwater

An Introduction to Adirondack Canoeing. Barbara McMartin

Longstreet Highroad Guide to the New York Adirondacks

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Quiet Water Canoe, New York

John Hayes and Alex Wilson

Reflections from Canoe Country: Paddling the Waters of the Adirondacks and Canada

Christopher Angus

MAPS

Adirondack Canoe Map

Old Forge to Upper Saranac Lake and the Saranac Lakes/Saint Regis Canoe Area. Available at local sporting goods stores. www.adirondackmaps.com

Adirondack Map Series

Series of five topographic trail maps: Central Mountains, High Peaks Region, Lake George Region, Northwest Lakes, West-Central Wilderness Area. Scale: 1:62,500 (approx. 1 inch = 1 mile). Available at area sporting goods stores. www.adirondackmaps.com

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Large waterproof topographic map. Includes the Saranac Lakes Chain and headwater ponds, St. Regis Lakes and St. Regis Canoe Area, Osgood River and Rainbow Lake area, Santa Clara Tract (St. Regis River and Madawaska Area), Five Ponds Wilderness and Oswegatchie River, William C. Whitney Wilderness (Little Tupper Lake, Round Lake and Lake Lila), Cranberry Lake Wild

Forest, Raquette River (Long Lake to below Tupper Lake), Bog River Flow and Lows Lake. Designated wilderness/wild forest areas, access and boat launch sites, parking, portage trails, campsites, lean-tos and hiking trails. Scale: 1:50,000. Paddlesports Press, P.O. Box 797, Saranac Lake, NY 12983 www.canoeoutfitters.com

National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map Series: Adirondack Park

Series of five topographic maps. Trails are marked with point to point mileage. Designated wilderness and wild forest areas, access and boat launch sites, parking, leantos and portage trails. Waterproof. Scale: 1:75,000.

Map 742: Lake Placid/High Peaks

Map 743: Lake George/Great Sacandaga

Map 744: Northville/Raquette Lake

Map 745: Old Forge/Oswegatchie

Map 746: Saranac/Paul Smiths

Northern Forest Canoe Trail Maps

Adirondack North Country (West): Fulton Chain of Lakes to Long Lake. Adirondack North Country (Central): Long Lake to Saranac River. Adirondack North Country (East): Saranac River to Lake Champlain. www.northernforestanoeatrail.org

NY State Atlas and Gazetteer

DeLorme Mapping www.delorme.com

U.S.G.S. Topographic Maps

Available at area sporting goods stores.

Annual Paddling Events

March/April

Icebreaker Canoe Race:

5 miles, Saranac Lake, 800-347-1992.

May

Hudson River White Water Derby:

North Hudson and North Creek, 800-896-5428.

Canton Canoe Weekend Rushton Races:

5-, 12-, and 14-mile events on the Grasse River, 315-379-9241.

'Round the Mountain Canoe & Kayak Race:

10.5 miles, Saranac Lake, 800-347-1992.

June

Tupper Lake Flatwater Weekend:

Tupper Lake 9-Miler and Long Lake to Tupper Lake Flatwater Challenge 40-Miler, 518-891-6565.

St. Lawrence County Flatwater Weekend:

6- and 12-mile races at Madrid (315-322-4041); 17- and 25-mile races at Huevelton (315-379-1252); on the Oswegatchie River.

No-Octane Regatta for Wooden Boats:

Blue Mountain Lake, 518-352-7311.

Old Forge Paddle Classic:

6- and 12-mile races, 315-369-6983.

July

Willard Hanmer Guideboat & Canoe Race:

Saranac Lake, 800-347-1992.

MAC's Sundowner Series:

Clinics and 6-mile races on Upper Saranac Lake, July and August, 518-891-1176.

Frederic Remington Canoe Race:

12-mile race on the Oswegatchie River, Huevelton, 315-393-1326.

August

RiverFest: Lyons Falls to Glenfield on the Black River, 315-376-2213

Saranac Flatwater Challenge: 1-mile sprint race, and 7-, 9-, 15-mile courses on the Saranac River in the Town of Saranac, 518-563-7231.

St. Regis Canoe Classic: 1-mile sprint, 5-mile river loop, 7- and 11-mile races, at Paul Smith's College, 518-327-6389.

Adirondack ARC Canoe Rendezvous:

30-mile marathon from Upper Saranac Lake to Tupper Lake, 518-891-6565.

Grasse River Race: 1-, 5-, 10-mile races, Massena, 315-769-5080 or 315-384-3717.

September

Remington II Canoe Race: 6-mile race on the Oswegatchie River between Rensselaer Falls and Huevelton, 315-379-9135.

Adirondack Canoe Classic: 3-day, 90-mile race from Old Forge to Saranac Lake, 800-347-1992.

Long Lake Long Boat Regatta: 20-mile marathon and other short races, 518-891-2744.

Help Protect Adirondack Waterways from Invasive Species

Invasive species are plants and animals that are introduced from other places. They grow out of control, degrade recreational opportunities, and displace native plants, fish, and wildlife.

Simple Steps to Stop the Spread

Before launching and when leaving

- Inspect watercraft for any clinging plant fragments, or animals such as zebra mussels.
- Remove all visible plant and animal material and mud.

- Never discard live bait fish into the wild.
- Rinse watercraft and gear before traveling between waterways.

Find out more information on www.adkinvasives.com



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