

Listing of Campsites on the Manigotagan River

This document lists and describes the campsites along the Manigotagan River between Highway #314 and the government dock in the community of Manigotagan. The descriptions were originally created in 2006. If you find any discrepancies, please let us know (e-mail to gistech@mbeconetwork.org). The descriptions start with the campsites closest to Highway #314. To find out more about the river, its history, environmental information and other information that may be of interest to paddlers, visit our website at www.mbeconetwork.org/canoemap.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: > 4

Campsite Toilet: 3 toilets – lawn chair, bench and pail toilets with seats

Campsite Exposure: Best on the east side

Campsite Access: Good, best on west

Campsite Staging: Yes

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone-ring fire

Campsite Privacy: Some boat traffic

Campsite View: Good scenery, stone men



Figure 1.1: Campsite view. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 1.2: Bench toilet with seat. Photo by L. Dykman.

Unnamed Campsite on Island

Number of Tents: > 4
 Campsite Toilet: Little privacy
 Campsite Exposure: West
 Campsite Access: Easy
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Good
 Campsite View: Very good view
 Campsite Description: Large flat campsite on an island, good swimming, good access, good isolation.



Figure 2: Take-out during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.

"S-Bend" Campsite

Number of Tents: 2
 Campsite Toilet: Fair
 Campsite Exposure: Breezy
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: Good
 Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Fair
 Campsite View: Good
 Campsite Description: Campsite with nice, flat ground

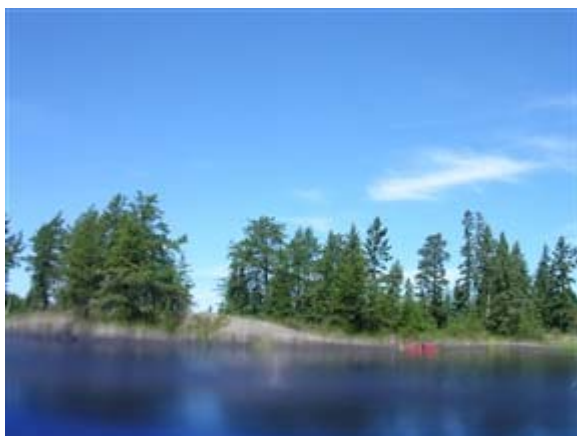


Figure 3: Campsite take-out during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.

Unnamed Campsite at Long Lake Rapids and Juniper Rapids

Number of Tents: 3-4
 Campsite Toilet: Fair
 Campsite Exposure: Protected
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: Good
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel – ***however, this is a very hazardous location for a fire due to the lichen underneath the fire pit and the old conifers that are very close.***
 Campsite Privacy: Fair, due to portage trail
 Campsite View: Treed in
 Campsite Description: Very nice campsite, but little privacy (boaters from Long Lake like to use the swimming hole below the rapids).



Figure 4.1: Campsite stove. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 4.2: Swimming hole downstream the rapids. Photo by A. Kirch.

Unnamed Campsite at Sloperock Falls

Number of Tents: >4
 Campsite Toilet: Very little soil
 Campsite Exposure: North-west exposure
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Yes
 Campsite View: Great view onto pool downstream.



Figure 5.1: Waterfall during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 5.2: Campsite view. Photo by A. Kirch.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: 2 - 3
 Campsite Toilet: Poor, no privacy from boaters
 Campsite Exposure: Shaded, North-West and South exposure
 Campsite Access: Steep
 Campsite Staging: Not much space, but possible
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit with chopped firewood
 Campsite Privacy: Not good
 Campsite View: Nice scenery
 Campsite Description: Mowed grass, fairly large, flat, little privacy



Figure 6.1: Campsite - empty. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 6.2: Campsite - full. Photo by A. Kirch.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: Up to 8 tents

Campsite Toilet: Mowed area in woods

Campsite Exposure: No

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: No

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit with chopped wood

Campsite Privacy: Fair due to boat traffic

Campsite View: Very good

Campsite Description: Large campsite



Figure 7.1: Designated canoe campsite sign. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 7.2: Campsite access during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 7.3: Campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.

Jackson's Caribou Lodge Campsite A

This campsite is operated by the lodge and needs to be reserved: PH: 1-866-775-8322.

Number of Tents: 3-4

Campsite Toilet: Green toilet

Campsite Exposure: Strong South and North exposure

Campsite Access: Fairly steep

Campsite Staging: Good

Campsite Fire-pit: Yes

Campsite Privacy: Fair (open to the lake)

Campsite View: Excellent

Campsite Description: Nice swimming area, raspberries, wild roses and pin cherries on the island



Figure 8.1: Campsite view. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 8.2: Green toilet facilities. Photo by A. Kirch.

Jackson's Caribou Lodge Campsite B

This paid campsite is operated by Jackson's Caribou Lodge and needs to be reserved:

PH: 1-866-775-8322.

Number of Tents: > 4

Campsite Toilet: Green toilet

Campsite Exposure: SSE exposure

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: Good

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: Good

Campsite View: Very nice

Campsite Description: Campsite managed by lodge - reservations are required. No orange sign, picnic tables, nice bushes with little flowers.



Figure 9.1: Campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 9.2: Campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.

Campsite at Quesnel Lake Dam:

Number of Tents: >2
 Campsite Toilet: Good
 Campsite Exposure: South and East exposure
 Campsite Access: Good access from water, ATV access
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Fair
 Campsite View: Nice

Elbow Rapids Campsite

Number of Tents: 2 - 3
 Campsite Toilet: Good trail into woods, good privacy but beginning to be overgrown
 Campsite Exposure: All sides
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: Stone ring fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Moderate
 Campsite View: Good view
 Campsite Description: Campsite on river right, portage on river left. Can hear the waterfall, no motorboats. Take a special note of the oak trees, which are possibly a result of seeds left as a gift from aboriginal visitors.



Figure 10.1: Campsite view, making cowboy coffee. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 10.2: Elbow Rapids campsite. Photo by J. Avent.



Figure 10.3: An oak tree. Possibly a result of seeds left as a gift from aboriginal visitors. Photo by L. Dykman.

Rough Knuckle Rapids Campsite

Number of Tents: 3
 Campsite Toilet: Very wide
 Campsite Exposure: All except North-West
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: No steel fire case
 Campsite Privacy: Good
 Campsite View: Fair
 Campsite Description: Bedrock outcrop with some growth (overburden). River right.



Figure 11.1: Rough Knuckle Rapids campsite during high water. Photo by J. Avent.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: 1 - 2
 Campsite Toilet: Overgrown
 Campsite Exposure: Exposed except NNE
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: No
 Campsite Fire-pit: No steel fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Fair
 Campsite View: Good, but less exciting than other campsites
 Campsite Description: Uneven ground, facilities are overgrown, grass not mowed, obviously moose habitat.



Figure 12: Unnamed campsite. Photo by J. Avent.

Turtle Falls – Overflow Campsite

Number of Tents: ~ 2

Campsite Toilet: Not much privacy

Campsite Exposure: East exposure

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: Yes

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: Fair

Campsite View: Good

Campsite Description: This is a small overflow campsite on low grounds. The site was partially flooded in high water conditions.



Figure 13: Turtle Falls overflow campsite during high water. Photo by J. Avent.

Turtle Falls Campsite:

Number of Tents: ~ 3

Campsite Toilet: Green toilet facilities, not private

Campsite Exposure: East exposure

Campsite Access: Steep, slippery when wet

Campsite Staging: Yes

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: Good

Campsite View: Excellent

Campsite Description: Spacious campsite on high ground with excellent view.



Figure 14.1: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 14.2: Path to green toilet. Photo by A. Kirch.

Campsite at [13]

- Number of Tents: > 7
- Campsite Toilet: Green Toilet facilities
- Campsite Exposure: South-West Exposure
- Campsite Access: Good
- Campsite Staging: Yes, various staging areas
- Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
- Campsite Privacy: No, portage trail goes through campsite
- Campsite View: Great view of Pillow Falls
- Campsite Description: Campsite is beside the falls - great view. Watch out for poison ivy between the take-out and the campsite. There is a nature trail leading through the re-growth forest. Watch for blueberries, spruce, pine, pin cherries, junipers, blue bells, mosses, poplar, birch, strawberries, young oak trees and lichen on bedrock outcrops.



Figure 15.1: Take-out. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 15.2: Looking back to the falls and campsite during low water. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 15.3: Put-in during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.

Campsite at [14]

Number of Tents: 1

Campsite Toilet: None

Campsite Exposure: South-West exposure

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: No

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: None, on portage trail

Campsite View: Very good view

Campsite Description: Nice campsite overlooking Steep Rock Falls, poor facilities.



Figure 16.1: Campsite along portage trail. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 16.2: Campsite view during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.

Sand River Falls Campsite

Tents: 5

Toilet: Green toilet

Exposure: South-West exposure, open and protected areas

Access: River right

Staging: Multiple staging areas

Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Privacy: Fair (due to portage trail)

View: Excellent

Description: This is a spacious campsite with a lovely view onto the rapids. We saw lots of birds, including kingfishers fishing in the rapids. Nighthawks were swooping and catching insects in the air at dusk and a bald eagle was sighted.



Figure 17.1: Campsite view during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 17.2: Morning mist. Photo by T. Lutz.



Figure 17.3: Campsite. Photo by T. Lutz.

Sand River Falls Overflow Campsite

Tents: No data available – new campsite
Toilet: No data available – new campsite
Exposure: North-East exposure
Access: River left
Staging: No data available – new campsite
Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
Privacy: Fair
View: Good
Description: No data available – new campsite

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: 2 - 3
 Campsite Toilet: Dense woods
 Campsite Exposure:
 Campsite Access: Good
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Excellent, no cover from river
 Campsite View: Nice, view of Alligator
 Campsite Description: Close to Alligator

Polly's Point Campsite

Number of Tents: 2 – 3 on flat ground, more sites available on uneven surface
 Campsite Toilet: Fair privacy
 Campsite Exposure: East exposure
 Campsite Access: Good, better in high waters
 Campsite Staging: Yes
 Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit
 Campsite Privacy: Good
 Campsite View: Nice, but less exciting view than other campsites
 Campsite Description: No sign, just an orange diamond, which is hidden. The undergrowth is mossy and we encountered a nice breeze due to the lack of underbrush
 Name/History: "There used to be a logging camp here. There was a guy named Paul Swain, then they started calling him Polly. He was born here." Charles Simard, River Steward.



Figure 18.1: Polly's Point campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 18.2: View of campsite from (low) water. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 18.3: View from the campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.

Emma Janes Campsite

Number of Tents: 0

Campsite Toilet: N/A

Campsite Exposure: N/A

Campsite Access: N/A

Campsite Staging: N/A

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone ring fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: N/A

Campsite View: N/A

Campsite Description: Campsite does not exist as it has been overgrown with underbrush.
Firewood left behind from before it was overgrown.



Figure 19.1: Overgrown campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: 2

Campsite Toilet: No

Campsite Exposure: South-West exposure

Campsite Access: Fair

Campsite Staging: No

Campsite Fire-pit: No

Campsite Privacy: Good

Campsite View: Good

Campsite Description: Overgrown



Figure 19.1: Overgrown campsite. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 19.2: Young oak tree. – Possibly a result of seeds left as a gift from aboriginal visitors.
Photo by L. Dykman.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: ~ 5

Campsite Toilet: Good

Campsite Exposure: North-West exposure

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: Yes, starting to become overgrown, though.

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: Good

Campsite View: Good

Campsite Description: Very dense poplar re-growth with some small pines, vegetation is very dense and low. The area was burned by the forest fire in 1999.



Figure 20.1: Campsite layout. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 20.2: View from campsite. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 20.3: Approach during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.

Rifle Rapids Campsite

Number of Tents: 2 (maybe more)

Campsite Toilet: Good

Campsite Exposure: North-East exposure, but pretty well protected by shrubs

Campsite Access: Necessary

Campsite Staging: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Fire-pit: Good

Campsite Privacy: Good

Campsite View: Nice view of rapids

Campsite Description: Campsite right next to rapids on bedrock with some grassy spots.
Typical forest re-growth in background with strawberries, some oak.
The campsite is located on a spit, but protected by shrubs.



Figure 21.1: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 21.2: View of campsite from (very low) water. Photo by A. Kirch.

Onion Patch Campsite

Number of Tents: 3

Campsite Toilet: No facilities, except on portage path

Campsite Exposure: North exposure

Campsite Access: Difficult during low water

Campsite Staging: No

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No, on portage trail

Campsite View: Good

Campsite Description: Near rapids



Figure 22.1: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.
Note: Picture taken in low water.

Big Eddy Rapids Campsite

Number of Tents: 1 - 2

Campsite Toilet: Little privacy

Campsite Exposure: All sides

Campsite Access: Steep

Campsite Staging: Yes, very good

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No, very open

Campsite View: Great view

Campsite Description: Campsite on top of rock outcrop that towers over the area and provides a great view of the valley.



Figure 23.1: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 23.2: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 23.3: View of the valley during low water. Photo by A. Kirch



Figure 23.4: The approach on river left during very low water. Photo by T. Lutz



Figure 23.5: View of campsite and take-out from (very low) water. Photo by T. Lutz.

Big Eddy Rapids Campsite (In Centre of Rapids)

Number of Tents: 3, on sloped land

Campsite Toilet: No

Campsite Exposure: All sides

Campsite Access: Steep

Campsite Staging: No

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No

Campsite View: Great

Campsite Description: Small site on top of pink granite ledge in the centre of the rapids. After you come down the first chute, you need to avoid being pushed into the rock across the eddy. Nice view, but very sloped.



Figure 24.1: View from campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.

Note: Picture taken in low water.



Figure 24.2: Garbage left behind by campers. Photo by A. Kirch.

Unnamed Campsite

Number of Tents: 2

Campsite Toilet: Good at this level of forest growth

Campsite Exposure: South, once forest grows

Campsite Access: Difficult

Campsite Staging: Fair

Campsite Fire-pit: No

Campsite Privacy: Fair

Campsite View: Good view

Campsite Description: Campsite not used often, no fire-pit. Orange marker river right in the middle of nowhere. The exposure will be to the south, once the forest grows up again.



Figure 25.1: View of campsite. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 25.2: View of campsite from (very low) water. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 25.3: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.

Engineer Rapids Campsite

Number of Tents: 5 tents, on very sloped land

Campsite Toilet: Good

Campsite Exposure: All sides, will be west once forest grows

Campsite Access: Difficult, very steep. Fun rock climbing

Campsite Staging: Yes

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: Yes

Campsite View: Good

Campsite Description: This campsite is located 200m upstream from the rapids on an island. It is starting to overgrow with pine (the entire area is fire regrowth).



Figure 26.1: Campsite layout. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 26.2: Stone Men. Photo by L. Dykman.

Unnamed Campsite – we dubbed it “Camp Disappointment” (Overflow from Old Woman Falls)

Number of Tents: 3, but no good spots

Campsite Toilet: No

Campsite Exposure: West

Campsite Access: Poor

Campsite Staging: Yes

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No

Campsite View: View of Old Woman Falls Campsite

Campsite Description: Not a very nice campsite. Uneven ground with lots of saplings – hard to find a good place for a tent



Figure 27.1: View of campsite during very low water. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 27.2: View of campsite during very low water. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 27.3: Stone Man. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 27.4: Sunset. Photo by T. Lutz.

Unnamed Campsite (Overflow from the overflow campsite of Old Woman Falls)

Number of Tents: 0, no good spots

Campsite Toilet: No

Campsite Exposure: East

Campsite Access: Bad

Campsite Staging: No

Campsite Fire-pit: Stone ring fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No

Campsite View: Old Woman Falls Campsite

Campsite Description: Uneven ground where saplings were too high for tents

Old Woman Falls Campsite

Number of Tents: 6

Campsite Toilet: Well used, on mainland, river right

Campsite Exposure: All sides

Campsite Access: Easy

Campsite Staging: Yes, good

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No, campsite on portage path

Campsite View: Good

Campsite Description: This is one of the most popular campsites on the Manigotagan. It is a nice, spacious campsite on the island in the centre of Old Woman's Falls. Chipmunks live on island. However, one of our volunteers commented: "These are the worst toilet facilities of the canoe trip." - The facilities are actually on the mainland, river right because of extremely high use for portage and a fishing site. If you do camp here, don't use the island as a toilet.

History/Name: The rapids were named after an old woman drowned here. In fact, some people say that this is a haunted campsite - campers have reported noises and screaming at night. One group actually left the camp in the middle of the night. (Information from Charles Simard, River Steward)



Figure 28.1: View of campsite from river left. Photo by A. Kirch.
Note: The picture was taken during very low water.



Figure 28.2: Campsite layout. Photo by A. Kirch.

Jack Pine Rapids Campsite

Number of Tents: 4

Campsite Toilet: Good privacy

Campsite Exposure: East

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: Yes

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: Yes

Campsite View: Nice view from higher elevation

Campsite Description: Three camping spots at main area. An additional spot for one tent near put-in

Note: Building structures is prohibited in the park. Please do not build any structures while canoeing along the Manigotagan. Thanks!



Figure 29: Jack Pine Rapids campsite. Photo by J. Avent.

Poplar Falls Campsite

Number of Tents: 3 - 4

Campsite Toilet: Yes, well used but not well managed – there is no holding tank under the existing wooden box

Campsite Exposure: West

Campsite Access: Good

Campsite Staging: Yes, very good

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pit

Campsite Privacy: No, campsite on portage trail

Campsite View: Fair, blocked by trees

Campsite Description: Take-out was muddy and rocky in low waters



Figure 30.1: Campsite layout. Photo by L. Dykman.



Figure 30.2: Path to campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.



Figure 30.3: View from campsite. Photo by A. Kirch.

Manigotagan Community Campground

Number of Sites: 15

Campsite Toilet: Outhouses

Campsite Access: Downstream the waterfall and across the bridge at Highway #304 (on river left)

Campsite Fire-pit: Steel fire-pits

Campsite View: View of the river, but obscured by trees

Campsite Description: This campground is managed by the Community of Manigotagan. In 2006 the fee per tent was \$13.

Other: You can use this campsite to park your car while canoeing (\$5/day), contact the community's Administration Office to let them know that you are parked there. They will keep an eye on your vehicle (PH: (204) 363-7375). This service might be worth the cost as vehicles left unsupervised beside the highway have been vandalized in the past.



Figure 31: Entrance to the community campground. Photo by A. Kirch.