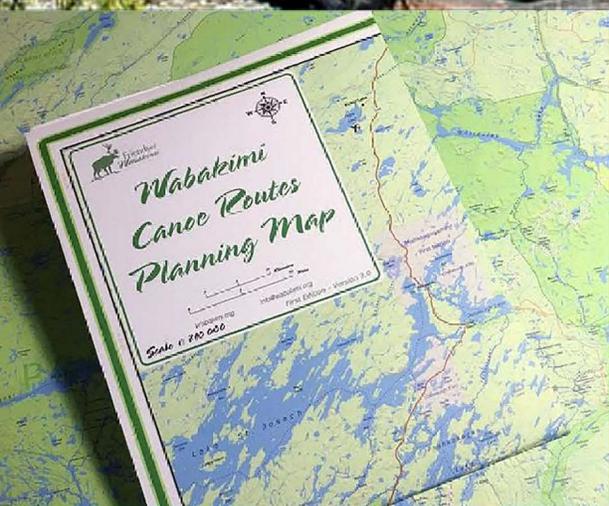


# Canoe Wabakimi!

World class canoeing in the boreal forest

Remote, yet accessible

Fabulous fishing & wildlife



254km north of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Wabakimi Provincial Park is the core of a large area that includes other smaller provincial parks, conservation reserves and Crown Land forests. Full of canoe routes!

The Friends of Wabakimi (an Ontario non-profit) is working to:

- Provide canoe route maps, guides & information
- Explore & maintain historic canoe routes
- Protect and conserve Wabakimi habitat and wildlife!



Join, contribute, volunteer, paddle to support FOW's Vision & Mission.

[Wabakimi.org](http://Wabakimi.org)

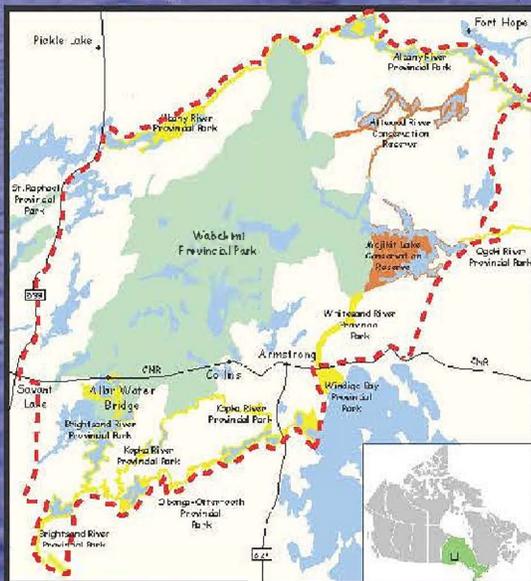
[Info@wabakimi.org](mailto:Info@wabakimi.org)



*Friends of Wabakimi* is an Ontario not-for-profit corporation to carry on the work of The Wabakimi Project to document canoe routes and advocate for the natural, cultural and historical resources in the Wabakimi Area.

### The Wabakimi Area

The Wabakimi Area is defined as the Crown lands in the Province of Ontario within the District of Thunder Bay that encompass 2,572,734 hectares (6,357,364 acres or 9,934 square miles). Within this vast, virtually-roadless wilderness are more than 6,500 kilometers (4,000 miles) of historically- and culturally-significant canoe routes. The Wabakimi Area includes all of Wabakimi Provincial Park, Attwood River Conservation Reserve, Mojikit Conservation Reserve, Whitesand Provincial Park, Kopka River Provincial Park, Obonga-Ottertooth Provincial Park, and Brightsand River Provincial Park, as well as parts of Upper English River Conservation Reserve between Pipo Lake and Metionga Lake and Albany River Provincial Park from Osnaburgh Lake to Abazotikichuan Lake, all of which are managed by Ontario Parks. It also encompasses portions of the Caribou, English River, Black Spruce, Lake Nipigon and Ogoki Forest Management Units managed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry.



### Our Vision

The Wabakimi Area shall be an exceptional destination for wilderness recreation activities for the benefit of present and future generations of visitors.



### Our Mission

Through volunteer stewardship initiatives and in collaboration with government agencies, non-government organizations and other stakeholders, *Friends of Wabakimi* will participate in planning processes to advocate the protection and preservation of the diverse natural, cultural and historical resources of the Wabakimi Area.



### Our Objectives

The objects or purposes of *Friends of Wabakimi* set forth in its Letters Patent issued October 2, 2014 are to:

- advocate and actively campaign for the preservation and protection of the diverse ecological, cultural and historical resources of the Wabakimi Area;
- develop programs to further public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the natural, cultural and historical resources of the Wabakimi Area;
- encourage a broadly-based membership that will support the objects of *Friends of Wabakimi*;
- promote the Wabakimi Area as a world-class wilderness recreation destination;
- encourage and support volunteer stewardship initiatives to make self-propelled recreation opportunities in the Wabakimi Area safer, more inviting and user friendly;
- produce printed and electronic literature, maps and other materials to help visitors safely plan and successfully execute self-propelled recreational activities within the Wabakimi Area; and,
- raise funds and solicit donations, bequests, legacies, gifts and grants, and to enter into agreements, contracts and undertakings incidental thereto in order to advance and support the purposes of *Friends of Wabakimi*.

### Support the FOW

- become a member or sponsor of *Friends of Wabakimi*
- like and share our Facebook page
- visit our website to learn more about us
- explore Wabakimi canoe routes and report back!



friendsofwabakimi@gmail.com

Friends of Wabakimi, 1060 Riverdale Road,

Thunder Bay, Ontario P7J 1N2

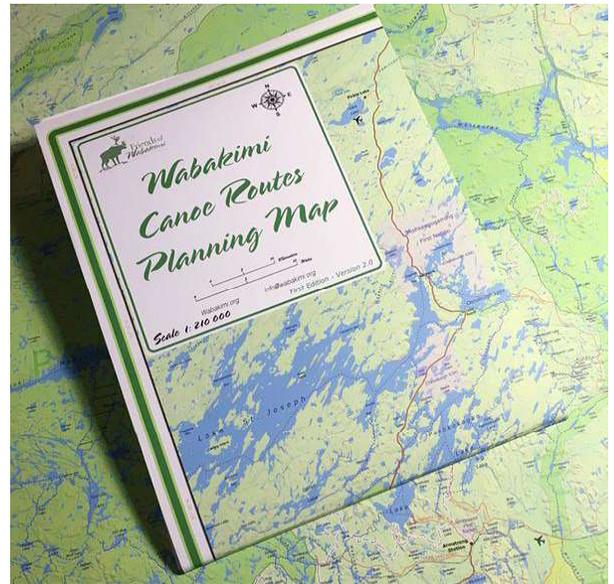
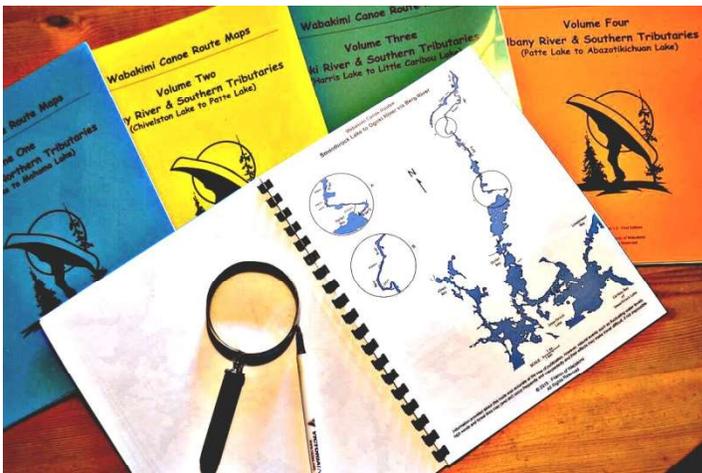
www.friendsofwabakimi.org



## [Wabakimi Area Maps](#)

The result of [The Wabakimi Project](#) and fourteen years of expeditions and portage clearing.

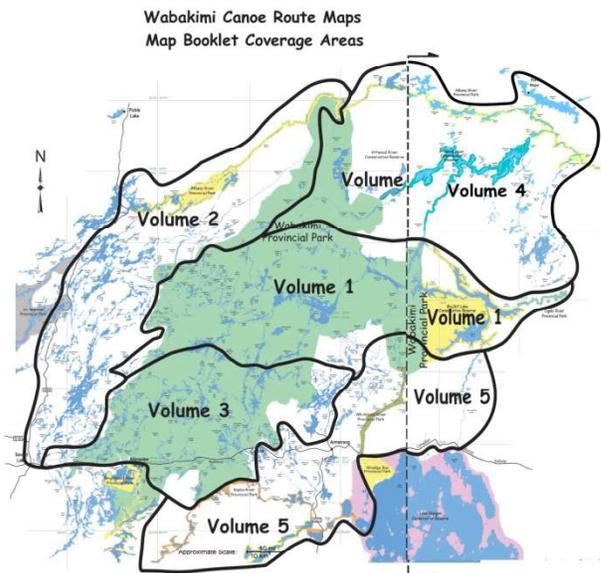
Sets of canoe route maps are bound in five separate volumes according to their location in a particular watershed as depicted here. Each volume contains a table of contents, a coverage map showing the routes included and detailed information about the Wabakimi Project and the Wabakimi Area. Our big Planning Map covers it all!



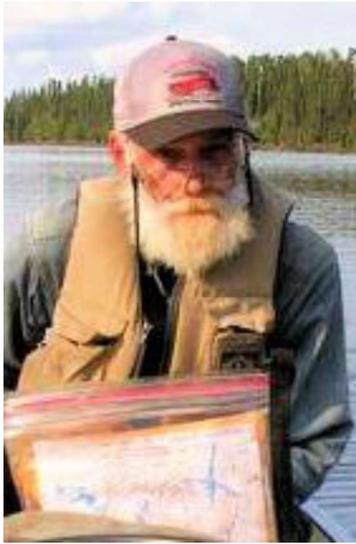
**[The Map Store is now Open!](#)** This will take you to our Wild Apricot interactive site. If you are a FOW member, go ahead and enter your email address. Likely you'll need to **[set your password](#)** to enter our membership system. Once logged in, you access the member pricing. If you're not yet a member, please **[Join Us](#)** first.

While you're logged in (as either a member or a contact) feel free to update your Profile in this system.

Any questions, drop us an email at [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org). We're still working on this, so comments and suggestions are welcome. *Remember, our prices are in Canadian!*



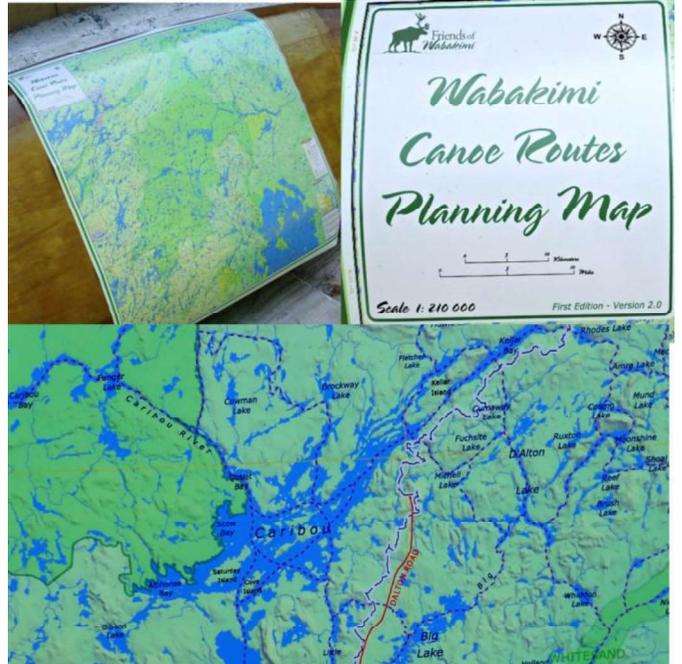
# Wabakimi Canoe Routes Planning Map



Produced by the late "Uncle" Phil Cotton working with a Thunder Bay cartographer, this is the only map of its kind to depict all known canoe routes in the Wabakimi Area, which includes Wabakimi Provincial Park, surrounding parks and Crown Lands in a readable scale of 1:210,000 km.

The map is 36" tall x 35" wide (or larger upon special request) and covers over 43,000 square kilometers (16,500 square miles) of pristine wilderness.

This map is ideal for planning a canoe trip, as a conversation piece to recollect memories of past adventures or as the perfect gift for the consummate wilderness paddler in search of new canoeing opportunities.



Information about primary and secondary heights of land, lakes and rivers and provincial park and conservation reserve boundaries are drawn from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) data set. It now comes in two versions: 1) The Rolled version is printed in full color on sturdy high quality Satin glossy paper, 2) The Folded full color on 24# paper.

This is the only map of its kind to depict all known canoe routes in the Wabakimi Area in a readable scale of 1:210,000. Grid lines every 30 minutes of longitude and every 15 minutes of latitude define the coverage of the 1:50,000. Provincial Series of topographical maps over the entire extent of the map. Topo map index numbers are provided at the grid intersection points.

Retail Prices: 1) The Folded 24# map is \$25 U.S. /\$34 CAD. The Rolled Satin glossy paper map is \$65 CAD or \$50 US, plus shipping. Shipping is included in the online prices. Online prices are stated in CND and will calculate for U.S. payments.

## Order online at [Wabakimi.org](http://Wabakimi.org)



Or send your check & request to:

**Friends of Wabakimi, 1060 Riverdale Road, Thunder Bay Ontario P7J 1N2 Canada**

Contact us at: [Info@Wabakimi.org](mailto:Info@Wabakimi.org)





## Re: Self-Guided Reconnaissance Expeditions

Our Vision for the Wabakimi Area is that it will be “*an exceptional destination for wilderness recreation activities for the benefit of present and future generations of visitors*”.

One of our objectives is to “*produce printed and electric literature, maps and other materials to help visitors’ safety plan and execute self-propelled recreational activities within the Wabakimi Area*”.

### **Wabakimi Canoe Guide**

With this objective in mind the Board of Directors initiated the writing of the **Wabakimi Canoe Routes** guidebook. This will be the first comprehensive guidebook for the Wabakimi Area.

Laurence Mills, an experienced Wabakimi paddler and map maker, is our author. Laurence is using his experience along our existing maps to document several routes in and around Wabakimi Provincial Park. The Wabakimi Canoe Routes guidebook will be available Spring 2021.

### **Self-Guided Reconnaissance Expeditions**

If you plan to take a trip into the Wabakimi or adjacent Crown Lands in 2021, you can help Laurence and FOW document and reconfirm these Wabakimi guidebook routes. Please note this is a self-guided trip and not at this time an “official” FOW sponsored trip.

**First**, we need you to document your trip by filling out our **Trip Report Outline**. It requests that you assess portages and document the current status of the route. We would like as much detail as you have time to provide.

**Second**, we need photos from your trip. Hopefully, you can capture important features like waterfalls, cliffs and rapids. We also want photos of people and wildlife.

**Third**, if you’re willing and able, some portages may need improvement, particularly Crown land routes. Please note, you can only use hand saws within the provincial park boundaries.

**Finally, we would like a summary of your trip that we can post on our website.**

**Communications: Please get in touch. Easiest way is email to [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org)** We check this frequently and guarantee we ll get back in touch.

## Maps & Advice

If needed, we will provide a folded planning map and any route maps necessary for your trip (you may already have these), as well as any other information we're able to gather specific to your route plan.

## Potential Routes

Below is a list of potential routes. However, any route is fair game because it could be included in a future issue of the Wabakimi Canoe Route guidebook. This is a listing for discussion purposes. There are numerous options and variations on these routes.

- Allanwater River, with many options
- Flindt River
- Nemo River
- Lookout River
- Boiling Sand River
- Albany River
- Kopka River
- Brightsand River
- Kawaweogama/Brightsand loop
- Pashkokogan/Rockcliff Lake loop
- Little Caribou/Berg/Whitewater loop

## Wabadowgang Noopming (formerly Armstrong) Forest Routes:

- Little Caribou to McKinley Road (Big River routes)
- Caribou/Linklater Lake loop
- Vale Creek route
- Collins River

See Phil's Form next two pages



## Friends of Wabakimi Trip Report Outline



Please use this as a guide for your Wabakimi trip report. Please submit to [friendsofwabakimi@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwabakimi@gmail.com) (or [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org)). Credit to Phil Cotton for this extensive list.

1. Start/end dates of your trip
2. Number of trip days not including the start/end days
3. Description of your trip route (one-way, circuit or loop, paddle-in/paddle-out to a base-camp)
4. Average distance you covered each travel day
5. Total estimated distance you covered during your trip (Miles/km?)
6. Primary road used, if any, to access the [Wabakimi Area](#) (Hwy 527, Hwy 599, Graham Road)
7. Secondary road(s) used, if any, for access/egress to/from your trip insertion/extraction locations (Vista Road, Road 702, Caribou Lake Road, Airport/Pikitigushi Road, Obonga Road, Pishidgi Lake Road, &c.)
8. Number of full-time paddlers (excluding young children who may have paddled only occasionally)
9. Source(s) of your non-resident Crown land camping permits or provincial park interior (backcountry) camping permits
10. Services provided by outfitter(s)/provider(s):
  - Accommodation
  - Canoe rental
  - Full/partial outfitting
  - Licenses
  - Permits
  - Shuttles
  - Replenishment flight(s)
  - Other
11. Identity of outfitter(s)/service provider(s) used for insertion/extraction shuttles or replenishment flights, if any
12. Mode of shuttles to/from your trip insertion/extraction points, if any (e.g., road, rail, float plane)
13. Location of where you left your vehicle(s), if any, for the duration of your trip
14. Locations of the start/end points of your trip
15. Description of the route you followed (a map would be helpful but is not necessary if sufficient detail is provided)

16. **Map(s) used in planning and executing your trip:**
17. **Evidence of recent human activity on the portages and campsites used during your trip**
18. **Location(s) of portages or campsites in need of attention. (e.g., blow downs, washouts, trash, vegetative vandalism) Provide GPS location is possible**  
    **Portages:**  
    **Campsites:**
19. **Location(s) of sites other than portages or campsites in need of attention (e.g., trash, &c.) Provide GPS location is possible**
20. **Number of portages used during your trip with estimated total length expressed in yards, metres or rods**
21. **Number and location of campsites occupied during your trip. Provide GPS location is possible**
22. **Locations of sites of natural, cultural, or historical interest visited during your trip and their respective conditions. Provide GPS location is possible.**
23. **Locations & details of wildlife sightings (e.g., large mammals, fur-bearing animals, birds of prey, reptiles) Provide GPS location is possible.**
24. **Locations & details of human encounters (e.g., lodge/outpost clients, paddlers, portage crews, forestry employees, prospectors, government agents including MNRF & Ontario Parks personnel, First Nation area residents, &c.)**
25. **Location(s) of campsite(s) not currently shown on *Wabakimi Canoe Route Maps* that have a capacity to host two four-person tents. Provide GPS location is possible.**
26. **Errors/omissions on current *Wabakimi Canoe Route Maps* that require correction in future editions**  
    **Portages**  
    **Campsites**
27. **Information, if any, not included above**
28. **Digital photos you took to support your trip report.**
29. **Recommendations you have, if any, to improve our canoe route data collection program including this list**

None of the information you provide other than your trip route will be distributed or published without your express written consent nor will your identity be revealed under any circumstance.

Thanks again for your support of our canoe route conservancy initiative. Your report will go a long way towards helping us monitor the condition and usage of the route you follow.

Please submit your trip report to [friendsofwabakimi@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwabakimi@gmail.com) (or [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org))

# Voluntary Assumption of Risk Agreement

## Statement of Risks

1. *I, the undersigned, understand that any outdoor activity, especially one that involves watercraft and potential wildlife encounters in remote, wilderness situations, is inherently dangerous and poses risks, dangers and hazards of both natural and human origins that could cause harm, serious or fatal injury to a participant, or loss of or damage to my/their personal property or that of any participant(s) in my charge.*
2. *I understand that lake and river waters may be very cold, portage landings and trails difficult to traverse and that constantly fluctuating water levels, weather and forest fire conditions may change without warning to unexpected extremes.*
3. *I understand that there may be water hazards such as large expanses of open water, swift currents, rapids or waterfalls and that portages and campsites may not be cleared of obstacles or hazards, clearly-marked or may not exist at all.*
4. *I understand that there may be other unforeseeable or unpredictable risks such as getting lost, stranded or delayed due to poor travel conditions with the potential consequence of failing a delay of a scheduled shuttle service rendezvous.*
5. *I understand the physical and emotional demands of wilderness travel and the need to be thoroughly prepared both physically and mentally and fully trained to undertake all aspects of such an activity including emergency measures procedures.*
6. *I understand that the careless or reckless behaviour, inexperience, lack of training or preparedness of a participant could jeopardize my personal safety and welfare and that of my travelling companions or any of them.*
7. *I understand that any equipment borrowed, rented or purchased from FOW may malfunction due to faulty design, human carelessness or inexperience in the use of same, or for any other unforeseeable or unpredictable reason.*
8. *I understand that any advice offered in good faith during the pre-activity route planning and orientation briefing about water levels, weather and forest fire conditions, the existence, location and condition of campsites, portages and water hazards or obstacles may not be accurate or current due to unforeseeable or unpredictable circumstances beyond the control of FOW.*
9. *I understand that FOW reserves the right, at any time and without penalty, to refuse as a participant in any of its activities any person who is or becomes a risk or hazard to himself or herself or to his/her travelling companions or any of them and to alter the itinerary perhaps causing delay, interruption or even cancellation of all or any part of an activity.*

## Assumption of Risks

1. *I acknowledge the specified and unnamed risks outlined in the Statement of Risks above that are inherent in any outdoor activity involving travel in remote, wilderness areas and in particular, in the activity specified herein.*
2. *I acknowledge that during this activity, I can help reduce and control these risks by paying close attention to the environment and to my own physical and emotional state, by the careful and considerate use of all equipment especially sharp edges and particularly when dealing with fire and flammable materials, by using the 'buddy system' while hiking, foraging, exploring, portaging, engaged in any aquatic activity and whenever separated from my travelling companions, by restricting my participation to those aspects of the activity that are well within the scope of my experience, training and physical and mental capabilities, by my alertness, constant vigilance and awareness of safety issues and potential risks, by developing a questioning attitude about any aspect of the activity with which I am uncomfortable or unfamiliar, by judiciously heeding the advice offered in good faith during the pre-activity route planning and orientation briefing, by following the safety precautions, directions and instructions of the trip leader to the best of my ability, and by exercising my own sound judgement and common sense.*
3. *Notwithstanding the risks outlined herein, I do freely, willingly and knowingly elect to participate in the activity and I accept full responsibility for the care and proper use of any and all equipment rented or loaned by FOW, for my behaviour and actions and those of any minor participant(s) in my charge, for choosing whether or not to heed the advice offered in good faith during the pre-activity route planning and orientation briefing and the safety precautions, directions and instructions of the trip leader, for navigating any moving water whether deliberately or not, and for my own personal safety and well-being and that of any minor participant(s) in my charge.*

## Release of Claims & Waiver of Liability

1. *In consideration of acceptance of this Application to Participate in this activity, I hereby indemnify, hold blameless, release and forever discharge FOW, its directors, officers, servants, guides, instructors, volunteers, agents, employees or representatives and its or their heirs, successors, administrators and assigns (the 'releasees') from any kind of legal claim whether in contract, tort or otherwise and any or all liability for any harm, serious or fatal injury that may occur to my person or to that of any minor participant(s) in my charge, any delay, interruption or cancellation of all or any part of this activity, and any loss of or damage to my personal property or to that of any minor participant(s) in my charge arising out of, or in any way related to said activity however caused, notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the releasees or any of them.*
2. *I have read and understood the above Statement of Risks and Assumption of Risks sections and this Release of Claims and Waiver of Liability and I voluntarily and without reservation agree to the terms and conditions outlined therein.*
3. *In entering into this release, I am not relying on any oral or written representations or statements, including but not limited to those in any printed or electronic publications made by the releasees or any of them to induce me to participate in this activity.*
4. *I declare that I am eighteen (18) years of age or older, that I am not under the influence of alcohol or drugs and that this release of claims and waiver of liability is binding on myself, my heirs, successors, executors, administrators and assigns.*

Signature of Participant of the age of majority \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness of the age of majority \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# [Business Partners & Friends!](#)

*(and FOW members too!)*



*The Ultimate Guide to Canoeing  
Where to Go & What to Buy*



## **PaddlePlanner**

From Put-In to Take-Out

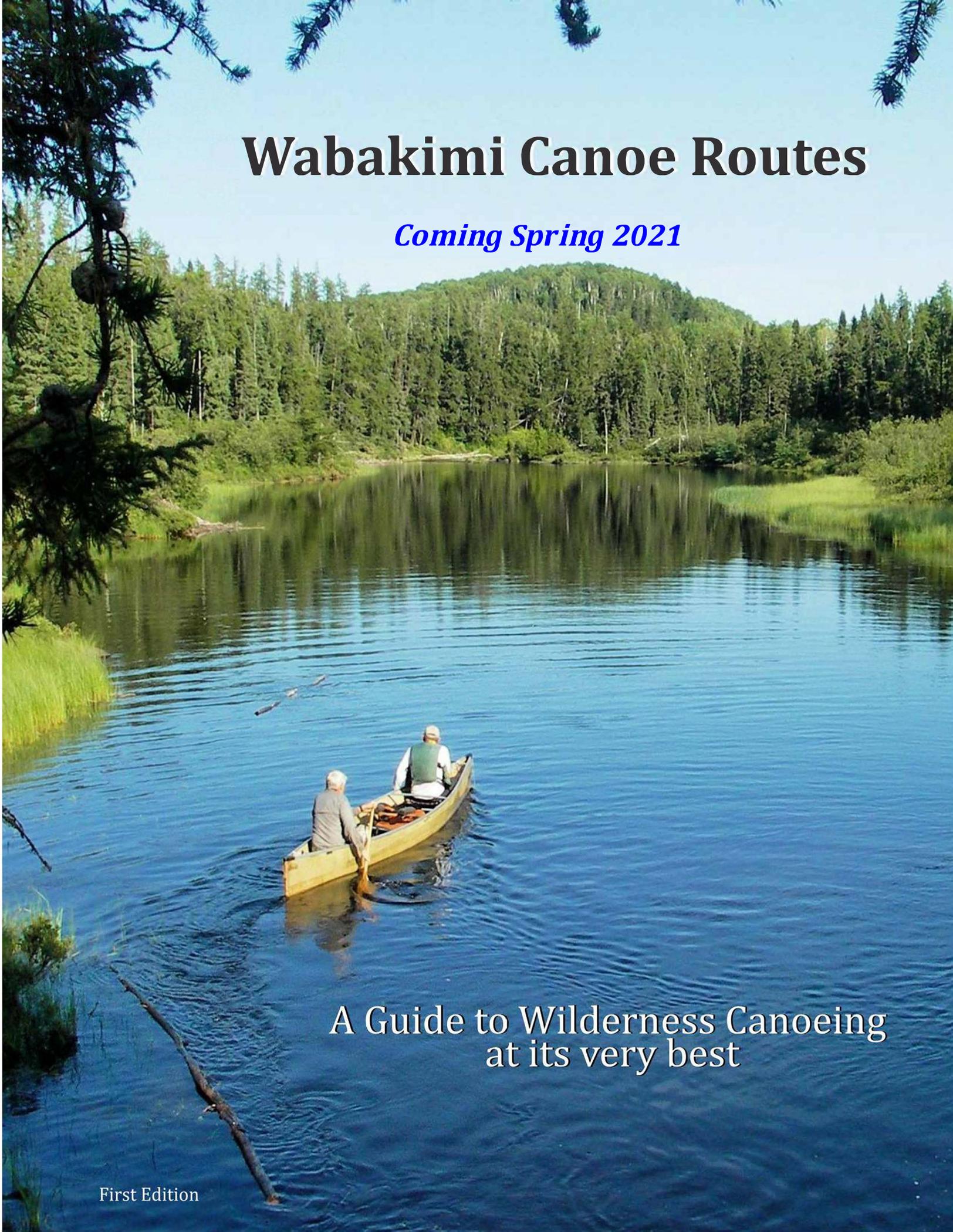
## [Wabakimimaps.com](#)

(Laurence Mill's site, nicely laid out route maps. Laurence is the author of the forthcoming Wabakimi Canoe Routes Guidebook)



## [Wabakimi Provincial Park](#)

## [Canoe Route Planning, Outfitter and Other Resources](#)



# Wabakimi Canoe Routes

*Coming Spring 2021*

A Guide to Wilderness Canoeing  
at its very best

Internationally recognised, Canada's pristine Wabakimi region is justly regarded as the jewel in the crown of wilderness canoe experiences. Where you can actually feel what it was like to be an early explorer or voyageur; where you can see the dramatic scenery of the Canadian Shield; and experience the natural state of a boreal forest.

Wabakimi Provincial Park itself borders and is situated in the centre of several other parks and waterways: The Albany River to the north that runs all the way to Hudson Bay; The challenging Kopka River to the south; and the scenic Brightsand River to the southwest. Many other rivers also thread their way through the region, linking hundreds of lakes; they provide an endless variety of canoe routes.

***Wabakimi Canoe Routes*** provides the key, offering a wealth of guidance and valuable information to help you select the route that best meets your needs. Whether you are an experienced white water enthusiast or seeking a less challenging route in this fabled canoeing paradise, this practical guide provides what you need to know to make the most of this once in a lifetime destination.

**Featuring:**

**Wabakimi – what to expect**

**Access – How best to reach the put-in**

**Planning your own trip**

**Featured canoe trip**

**Trip summaries, maps and alternatives**



**Routes Include:**

- Kopka River
- Allanwater River
- Flindt River
- Nemo River
- Lookout River
- Boiling Sand River
- Albany River
- Pikitigushi River
- Little Jackfish River
- Little Caribou, Berg River
- Pashkokogan Lake loops
- Brightsand River
- Collins River
- Vale Creek route

