

Lake Superior Water Trail

Two Harbors to Caribou River

Map 2 of 4

MINNESOTA
**STATE PARKS
AND TRAILS**
ESTABLISHED 1891



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INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Information Center

Metro (651) 296-6157
1-888-MINNDNR (646-6367)
TDD Metro (651) 296-5484
TDD MN toll free 1-800-657-3929

DNR Parks & Trails
(651) 259-5666

mndnr.gov

Assistance Provided By:

Lake Superior Water Trail Association of Minnesota

Matt Kania Map Illustrations

This map is not intended as a sole source for navigational information.



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LAKE SUPERIOR Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake on our planet, containing 10% of all the fresh water on earth. The lake's 32,000 square mile surface area stretches across the border between the United States and Canada; two countries, three states, one province and many First Nations surround Superior's magnificent shoreline. The diverse natural history and cultural heritage of the Lake Superior region offers paddlers a unique experience on this remarkable global resource.

THE LAKE SUPERIOR WATER TRAIL

Established by the Minnesota Legislature in 1993, the Minnesota portion of the Lake Superior Water Trail extends from the St. Louis Bay in Duluth to the Pigeon River on the Canadian border, a distance of approximately 150 miles. Cooperative efforts in Ontario, Wisconsin, Michigan and First Nations will develop a Water Trail completely around Lake Superior, primarily for use by sea kayakers. The development and maintenance of the Water Trail is a joint effort of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Lake Superior Water Trail Association of Minnesota.

This map covers approximately 40 miles of Lake Superior's shoreline in Lake County. Spectacular high cliffs dominate the shoreline in this portion of the water trail. There are areas where there are a limited number of public access points, particularly from Stewart River to Castle Danger and from and paddlers traversing this area need to plan ahead with an eye on the weather and personal needs.

THE LAKE SUPERIOR EXPERIENCE

Lake Superior, born in fire and ice, has offered adventuresome travelers endless miles of discovery for thousands of years. The geological history and features of the northwestern shoreline reveals some of the oldest rock formations on earth and are a testimony to the great forces of nature which created this great lake.

Although the North Shore of Lake Superior is located on the southern fringe of the boreal forest, the cold, harsh conditions created by Superior's cold waters resemble a subarctic ecosystem. Brilliant lichens, mosses, wildflowers, and rare plants like lignonberry, butterwort or cloudberry together with spruce, white pine, aspen and birch soften the rugged shoreline.

The North Shore's cultural history and diversity is no less impressive. The North Shore offers the paddler an opportunity to learn about the people and traditions of the First Nations of the lake and the European influence of early explorers, missionaries and fur traders. Evidence of the history of the lumber, mining, shipping, and commercial fishing industries are found all along the shore.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

The many shipwrecks along the North Shore are tragic reminders of the power and fury of Lake Superior. That power is something every paddler must respect and not underestimate. The same dramatic features that enrich the shoreline experience, such as lake cliffs, can pose serious hazards to unwary paddlers; placid summer waters can change in minutes to life-threatening conditions and cliff areas can prevent paddlers from seeking safety on shore.

A paddler needs to be prepared mentally and physically to deal with these conditions and possess the paddling skills necessary to assure their own safety and that of others. Local marine weather forecasts should be monitored before and during any trip on the lake. A paddler needs to understand the implications these forecasts have on overall lake conditions, as well as the shoreline area you plan to travel. Wave heights can be greatly increased by shoreline features and currents.

- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device.

- Be familiar with dangers of hypothermia and dress appropriately for the cold water (32 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit).

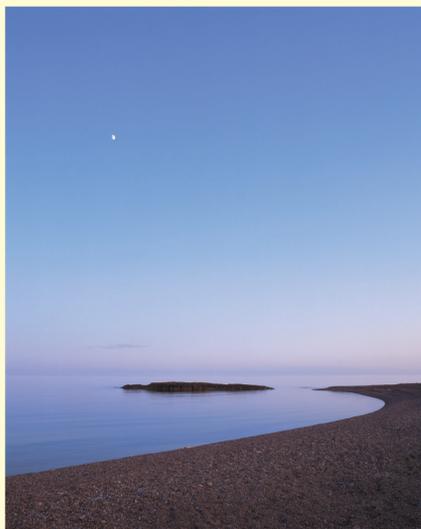
Cold water is a killer - wearing a wet or dry suit is strongly recommended.

- Seek instruction and practice kayak skills, including rescues, before paddling on Lake Superior. Be certain your boat has adequate bow and stern flotation and that you have access to a pump for emptying a flooded boat.

- Travel with a companion or group. Know the skill level of other paddlers in your group. Discuss safety issues before leaving shore.

- Study shoreline features on your chart and review exit points before launching. Remember, cliffs can cause additional water turbulence and prevent you from going ashore.

- Each paddler is required to have a wearable U.S. Coast Guard personal flotation device readily accessible and there must be a bright white light on board each kayak or canoe after sunset to be displayed in time to prevent a collision.



CRAIG BLACKLOCK



CRAIG BLACKLOCK



JOHN ANDERSON



CRAIG BLACKLOCK



CRAIG BLACKLOCK

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake on our planet, containing 10% of all the fresh water on earth.

The diverse natural history and cultural heritage of the Lake Superior region offers paddlers a unique experience on this remarkable global resource.



- All watercraft (including non-motorized canoes and kayaks over 9 feet in length) must be registered in Minnesota or the state of residence.

- Anticipate changes in weather, wind and wave by monitoring a weather or marine VHF radio, and using your awareness and common sense.

The National Weather Service broadcasts a 24 hour updated marine forecast on KIG 64, weather band channel 1 on the maritime VHF frequency, from Duluth; a version of this broadcast can be heard by calling 218-729-6697, press 4 for Lake Superior weather information.

- Choose your trip and daily travel distance in relation to experience, fitness and a 2-3 mph average kayak speed.

Changing lake conditions can greatly affect distances traveled.

- Fog frequently restricts visibility to zero. Bring a good compass and know how to use it.

- Other items recommended for paddlers to carry: A portable VHF radio to call for help in an emergency and monitor the weather channels; Spray skirt; Float for paddle; Whistle and emergency flares; Water, snacks and sunscreen; and compass.

- This map is not adequate for sole use as a navigational aid. USGS topographic maps and NOAA charts of the North Shore can be obtained from a variety of sources, such as kayaking or camping gear retailers. Learn how to use maps and a compass for navigation before setting out on the lake.

CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Camping is permitted at designated sites only. The following options are available:

- Campgrounds - state park, municipal and private campgrounds. These are generally located inland. They make a good base camp for day trips. Fees are charged and reservations are advisable.

- Kayak/backpack campsites in state parks. These primitive state park sites are accessible by water or foot trail only. Most of these sites have fire rings. Fee charged. Reservations are required. At these sites, all state park rules apply and all vehicles must have a state park vehicle permit.

- Water Trail kayak campsites. These primitive sites are accessible from the lake only. There is no parking allowed. They are available on a first-come, first-served basis, with no fee charged at this time. The campsites are intended for a one night maximum stay, weather permitting. Group sizes are limited to six paddlers; please be courteous to others sharing adjacent sites. Fires are not allowed. Please leave campsites as clean or cleaner than you find them and carry out all trash. For more information on individual site capacity, refer to the route description portion of this map.

- Low impact camping. Please tread very lightly when you are on land. Use only established trails. (Notice that even walking on what appears to be a "plain" rock surface there are many brightly colored lichens, mosses and tiny plants.) Avoid walking on mosses and lichens along the shore. The use of camp stoves at campsites is recommended. Within state parks campfires are allowed in fire rings only.

- Camp in groups of 6 or less. Camp only in designated areas that are marked on the map.

- Respect private homes and property along the shore! Please take breaks and camp only at designated areas.

DRINKING WATER

Drinking water is not provided at most of the campsites. Be prepared to treat all water from the lake and rivers.

ENJOY

Lake Superior is a spectacular environment for a sea kayaker to experience the world's largest freshwater lake. The natural history and cultural diversity will provide additional dimensions to the experience. Enjoy all that Lake Superior has to offer, respect the lake and tread lightly on her shores. Have a great time!

HOW CAN I HELP?

For Association membership and information on becoming involved with the Lake Superior Water Trail Association (LSWTA), write to:

Lake Superior Water Trail Association of Minnesota

Waters of Superior
395 S. Lake Avenue
Duluth, MN 55802

Visit the LSWTA website:

LSWTA.org

Route Description

(continued from other side)

In Miles (0.0 at Minnesota Entrance -Duluth Lift Bridge)

- 56.2 **Crazy Bay.** Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Two watercraft campsites. West site is for kayakers only and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Pit toilet. [47° 11.075' N / 91° 23.975' W]. East site (backpack/kayak site #3) is shared-use by kayakers and backpackers. Reservations recommended. Fire ring and pit toilet. [47° 11.145' N / 91° 23.935' W]
- 57.0 **Split Rock Creek.** Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Backpack/kayak site #1. Shared-use by kayakers and backpackers. Reservations recommended. [47° 11.405' N / 91° 23.175' W]
- 57.7 **Little Two Harbors.** Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Access to park and lighthouse, a Minnesota Historic Site. Trailer access, parking, campground, picnic area and trails. [47° 11.865' N / 91° 22.620' W]
- 59.0 **Gold Rock Point.** Wreck of the Madeira, driven ashore in 1905, lies scattered on the bottom in 10 to 100' of water with portions clearly visible in calm water. A popular recreational diving site, please be alert to divers in the water. Rest area on small beach nearby. No facilities. [47° 12.410' N / 91° 21.520' W]
- 60.0 **Nadine Blacklock Lakeshore.** Blacklock Nature Sanctuary. Campsite is near N.E. end of cobble beach E. of cabin (which is on point), in from Gull Rock. The shallows leading out to Gull Rock give some protection to this otherwise exposed beach. Landing is on large cobbles, which can be difficult even in good conditions. Trail system will eventually lead up to road and into Split Rock State Park (check sign at campsite for current trail system). Note: the cabin is used by artists and writers doing residencies at the Sanctuary. Please respect their desire for solitude. [47° 13.070' N / 91° 21.025' W]
- Nadine Blacklock was one of the country's leading women nature photographers. As President of the Minnesota Parks and Trails Council, she presided over the addition of several North Shore parcels into our state park system, including Gold Rock Point. She died in an automobile accident in 1998 at the age of 44.
- 62.9 **Cove Point Lodge.** Private resort. Rest area. Contact resort for lodging and other information. [47° 14.795' N / 91° 18.775' W]
- 64.5 **Beaver Bay.** Rest area on beach only. No facilities. Food and other supplies can be purchased nearby. [47° 15.575' N / 91° 17.595' W]
- 65.7 **Bayside Park and Silver Bay Marina.** A city park with trailer access, parking, restrooms and picnic areas. [47° 16.280' N / 91° 16.570' W]
- 66.5 **Silver Bay Harbor.** Caution! Large commercial vessels transit this area 24 hours a day.
- 68.8 **Northshore Mining Access.** Carry-in access, rest area and parking.
- 68.8 **Northshore Mining.** Rest area and camping.
- 71.0 **Palisade Head.** Tettegouche State Park. Sea cliffs and caves. Caution! Wind and waves can quickly create potential hazardous conditions in this area. [47° 19.030' N / 91° 12.835' W]
- 71.8 **Palisade Head Campsite.** Four watercraft campsites and rest area. Pit toilet. No fires. First-come, first-served. [47° 19.725' N / 91° 12.340' W]
- 72.4 **Tettegouche State Park.** Walk-in site. Shared-use by kayakers and backpackers. Reservations required. Fire ring and pit toilet. [47° 20.075' N / 91° 11.900' W]
- 72.5 **Baptism River.** Tettegouche State Park. Trailer access, parking, picnic area and trails. State park campground is 1.5 miles inland. [47° 20.165' N / 91° 11.855' W]
- 73.0 **Shovel Point.** Tettegouche State Park. Dramatic cliffs plunge into Lake Superior at this exposed, projecting point.
- 73.6 **Crystal Bay.** Tettegouche State Park. Rest area. No facilities. One of the largest North Shore sea caves. [47° 20.830' N / 91° 11.075' W]
- 76.3 **Rest Area.** Beach area only. No facilities. [47° 22.765' N / 91° 09.360' W]
- Caution! There are currently no established public landing areas or facilities for the next ten miles. Be knowledgeable of current weather conditions. Plan accordingly.
- 80.0 **Fenstad's Resort.** Emergency landing only. Contact resort for lodging and other information. [47° 24.855' N / 91° 05.890' W]
- 82.7 **Manitou Falls and Arch.** Private property. No landing. [47° 26.565' N / 91° 03.805' W]

End of Route



LAKE SUPERIOR WATER TRAIL



MAP KEY

- Private land (NO LANDING)
- City or town
- Public land
- Carry-in access
- Trailer access
- Rest area
- Watercraft campsite
- Backpack/kayak campsite
- Campground
- Fishing Pier
- Picnic area
- Parking
- Lighthouse
- Park office
- 765 ft. [▲] Peak elevation
- 800 Contour elevation
- 45 River Miles



WARNING: Land only at public landing areas. Landing on private property is trespassing!

Route Description

In Miles (0.0 at Minnesota Entrance - Duluth Lift Bridge)

- 34.8 **Agate Bay.** DNR trailer access inside breakwater. Parking. Toilets. Historic lighthouse and museum at point. [47° 00.875' N / 91° 39.975' W]
- 35.8 **Burlington Bay.** Municipal campground east of trailer access. Tourist information office nearby on State Highway 61. [47° 01.455' N / 91° 39.665' W]
- 37.8 **Superior Shores Lodge.** Private resort. Rest area. Contact resort for lodging and other information. [47° 02.060' N / 91° 38.525' W]
- 38.0 **Flood Bay.** State wayside. Carry-in access. Toilets. No overnight parking. [47° 02.270' N / 91° 38.520' W]
- 39.1 **Stewart River.** Rest area, carry-in access, parking. [47° 02.845' N / 91° 37.810' W]
- 41.5 **Silver Cliff.** Site of the longest highway tunnel in the Midwest U.S. [47° 03.895' N / 91° 35.680' W]
Caution! There are currently no established public landing areas or facilities for the next 7 miles. Be knowledgeable of current weather conditions. Plan accordingly.
- 48.0 **Grand Superior Lodge.** Private resort. Rest area. Contact resort for lodging and other information. [47° 07.135' N / 91° 30.265' W]
- 51.0 **Gooseberry River.** Gooseberry Falls State Park. Carry-in access, parking, campground, 2 watercraft campsites (available on a first-come, first-served basis), picnic area and trails. [47° 08.560' N / 91° 27.500' W]
- 53.0 **Thompson Beach.** Four watercraft campsites and rest area. 2 pit toilets. No fires. First-come, first-served. [47° 09.480' N / 91° 26.230' W]
- 53.8 **Twin Points.** Rest area. Trailer access, parking. No camping permitted. [47° 09.925' N / 91° 25.510' W]
- 55.0 **Split Rock Cabins.** Private resort. Rest area. Fee charged for use of boat ramp/docks. Contact resort for lodging and other information. [47° 10.545' N / 91° 24.650' W]
- 55.5 **Split Rock River.** Split Rock Lighthouse State Park. Rest area. No facilities. [47° 10.920' N / 91° 24.440' W]

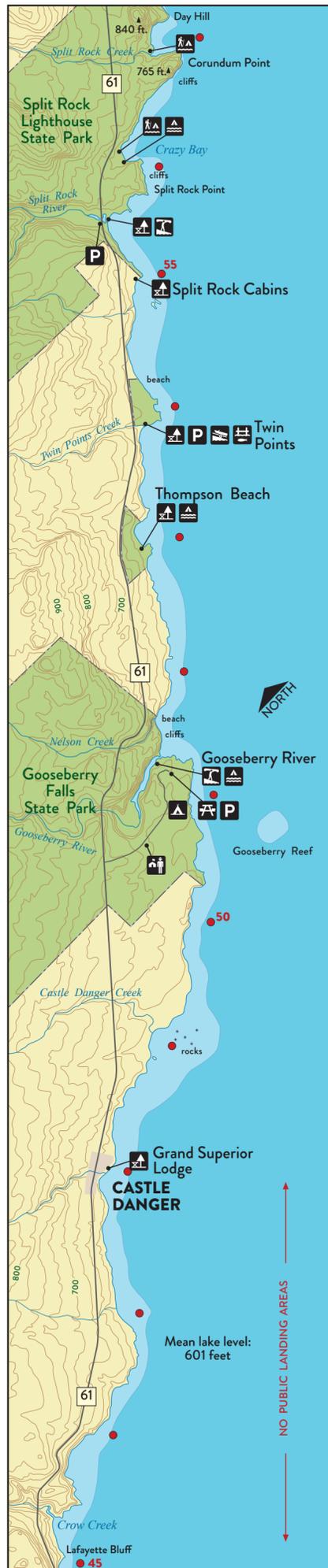
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Two Harbors to Crow Creek



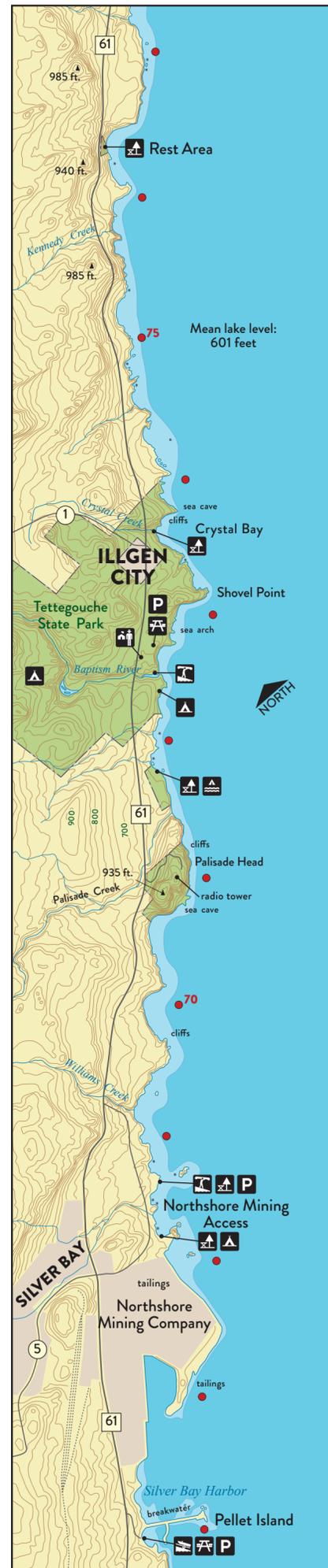
Crow Creek to Split Rock Lighthouse



Split Rock Lighthouse to Beaver Bay



Beaver Bay to Kennedy Creek



Kennedy Creek to Caribou River

