

IV - NATURAL, CULTURAL/HISTORICAL, RECREATION, AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES

The experience of visiting the Allagash Wilderness Waterway is largely defined by the forests, wildlife, and unusual features encountered along the way: bald eagles nesting in towering eastern white pines; moose and deer feeding along the edges of the watercourse; ospreys soaring overhead; loons filling the evening air with their haunting cries; views of nearby mountains and of Katahdin from the larger lakes; or the ice cave on Allagash Lake.

THE WATER

There are eight lakes and four ponds along the Allagash watercourse; well over 100 tributary brooks and streams flow into them and into the Allagash River. Telos, Chamberlain, and Eagle Lakes provide extensive storage capacity that helps maintain suitable canoeing water levels on the river north of Churchill Dam.

Due to Telos and Lock Dams, a portion of the waters of Allagash, Chamberlain, and Telos Lakes flow south into the East Branch Penobscot River drainage. Prior to the creation of these dams in the mid-1800s, these headwaters flowed completely northward into the Allagash River. Today, waters from Allagash, Chamberlain, and Telos Lakes flow both northward into the Allagash River and southward into the East Branch of the Penobscot River.

Allagash Lake is the most remote lake in the Waterway. Its waters are cold and well oxygenated, favoring cold-water fish species such as brook trout, lake trout, and whitefish. The north shore is shallow and sandy, inviting emergent aquatic plants as well as wading moose, deer, and great blue herons. Along the west shore are ledges of rough, colorful volcanic rock. To the east near the outlet is an unusual shoreline edged by low glaciated ledges of Seboomook Slate. Islands provide nesting habitat for herring gulls and common terns. Allagash Stream, the outlet of Allagash Lake, flows through Little Round Pond and drops 20 feet over an outcrop of Seboomook slate, known as **Little Allagash Falls**.

Chamberlain Lake, the largest lake in the Waterway, is cold, clear, well oxygenated, and deep. Ospreys, eagles, loons, and gulls are found on and adjacent to the lake. Herring gulls nest on a small rocky island near the mouth of Leadbetter Brook.

The bridge between Chamberlain and Telos Lakes is the starting point for most canoeing and camping trips.



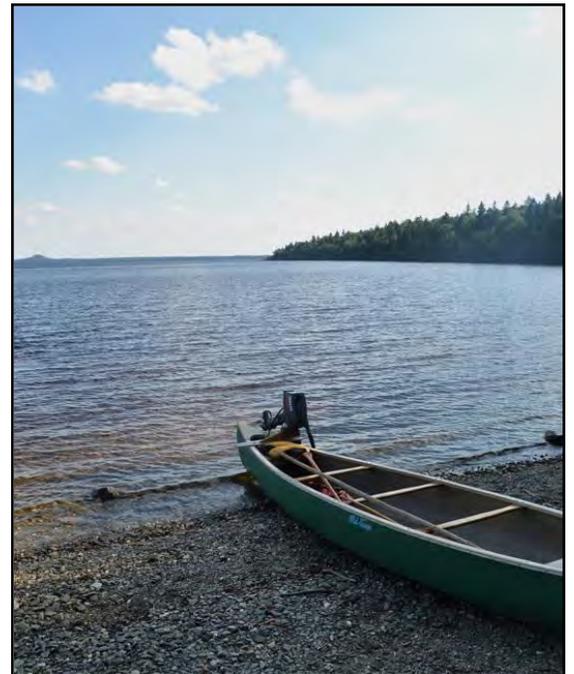
(Above) Looking Southward Across Round Pond and Telos Lake Towards the Mountains of Baxter State Park.

Eagle Lake is the second largest lake in the Waterway. Its two major islands, Pillsbury and Farm, add to the lake's diversity and beauty, as does Russell Brook Beach, two old-growth white pine stands, the Smith Brook inlet and fen, the marshy cove of Soper Brook, and the mile-long marsh at Snare Brook.



(Left) A Gentle Section of Chase Rapids.

(Right) A Camper's Canoe Rests on the Shore of Eagle Lake.



Churchill Lake is the fourth largest lake in the Waterway. Its special attraction is Churchill Ridge, which rises 400 feet above the northern shore. A paddle up Pleasant Stream leads to a secluded, marshy area. A spit of sandy beach leads into **Heron Lake**, which is at the head of the Allagash River. Churchill Dam is located at the north end of the lake at the head of Chase Carry Rapids. Chase Carry Rapids, known for its white water, is a 9-mile stretch of mostly Class II rapids. Traditional river users long ago created and maintained a channel through rapids and shallows, and other rapids on the Allagash River, through which they could maneuver “flat boats” and canoes upstream or downstream with horses, by poling, or use of a small motor.

Table IV-A: Major Allagash Waterway Lakes and Ponds

Name	Size In Acres	Length In Miles	Greatest Depth In Feet
Allagash Lake	4260	4.5	89
Telos Lake	1821	4.8	86
Round Pond (T6 R11)	455	1.2	42
Chamberlain Lake	11084	13.0	154
Eagle Lake	9500	10.0	124
Churchill Lake	3720	5.5	62
Umsaskis Lake	1222	3.6	58
Long Lake	1203	6.5	48
Round Pond (T13 R12)	697	2.5	36

Upon leaving Chase Carry Rapids, a paddler soon enters **Umsaskis Lake**, with its steep ledges on the east shore, and then **Long Lake**. A bridge, on the road linking Clayton Lake and Ashland (American Realty Road), spans the narrow thoroughfare between the two lakes. Several miles down the west shore of Long Lake a sand beach protrudes into the lake and a short distance beyond is the mouth of Ross (Chemquasabamticook) Stream. At the end of Long Lake, the river resumes its swifter flow. Near **Round Pond** the river breaks into three channels. The backwater near the north channel is a special place for observing birds and other wildlife.

The sound of rapids announces the outlet of Round Pond. Silver maples, approximately five miles below Round Pond, signal the mouth of Musquacook Stream and the three-mile long Musquacook Deadwater. Three miles above **Allagash Falls** the

river separates into several channels. At the Falls the river plunges 30 feet over a series of ledges created by upturned, thinly-bedded slate. At the foot of the Falls, the rock is polished and contoured with many potholes. Below Allagash Falls large boulders, slate ledges, two islands, and numerous island-like sand bars direct the river's channel. The Waterway officially ends at the rapids of Twin Brook Ledges, the last major outcrop of Seboomook Slate. From Twin Brook Ledges it is approximately five miles to Allagash Village and the confluence of the Allagash and St. John Rivers.

Aquatic Invasive Plants

Compared to adjacent states as well as the greater continental United States, Maine is relatively free of aquatic invasive species such as Eurasian Milfoil or Hydrilla. However, there were 32 documented aquatic invasive plant infestations in Maine as of March 2011. All of these infestations are located in southern Maine. Significant habitat disruption, loss of native plant and animal communities, loss of property values, reduced fishing and water recreation opportunities and large public/private expenditures have accompanied invasive plant introductions nationwide.

Per state law (12 MRSA 13058), motorboats or seaplanes on the Waterway (and all Maine inland waters) must have a valid lake and river protection sticker, with proceeds from the sticker used for enforcing laws pertaining to invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species, inspecting watercraft for invasive aquatic plant and nuisance species materials, educational and informational efforts targeted at invasive aquatic plant and nuisance species prevention, eradication and management activities.

With over 40% of overnight campers in the Waterway coming from outside of Maine, there is risk that aquatic invasive plant fragments could be introduced into the Waterway via boat motors, trailers, or other means of transport. These fragments have the capacity to greatly spread once introduced into the water.

THE FORESTS

In the Allagash watershed, the northern hardwood transition forest meets the boreal spruce-fir forest that sweeps across Canada and the northern United States. The forest types that dominate are spruce-fir and northern hardwoods. In addition, there are pockets of black spruce bog, northern white cedar swamp, and silver maple floodplain forest.

Balsam fir and red spruce are the common trees found within the spruce-fir forest. Other trees include white spruce, black spruce, northern white cedar, tamarack (eastern larch), eastern hemlock, and eastern white pine. Most of the herbaceous species on the

floor of the spruce-fir forest survive the cold temperatures and drying effects of winter due to the insulating effect of snow.



(Left) Snowshoe Tracks in Woods Heading from Allagash Lake to Allagash Mountain.

The northern hardwoods forest is generally found in the warmer, drier, and better-drained soils of ridges and south-facing slopes, such as the lake side of Churchill Ridge. Key tree species include yellow birch, white birch, sugar maple, American beech, white pine, red pine, pin cherry, balsam poplar, and red spruce.

Black spruce bog is a peatland forest of trees and shrubs to wet, acidic, and nutrient-poor soils. A bog forest can be reached by canoe above

the mouth of Pleasant Stream on the east side of Churchill Lake. Key tree species include black spruce, tamarack, and northern white cedar. Pitcher plants and sundews can be found on the more sterile soils of bog forests.

Northern white cedar and other wetland forest types can be found throughout the Waterway. Trees and shrubs in this forest are adapted to a cool, damp, mossy environment. Key tree species include northern white cedar, balsam fir, eastern hemlock, brown ash, red maple, white birch, tamarack, and black spruce.

Silver maple floodplain forest is a floodplain, lowland forest. Key tree species include American elm, green ash, red maple, silver maple, and balsam poplar. Examples of this forest are especially noticeable from the watercourse above Allagash Falls.

Figure IV - A : Deer Wintering Areas, AWW Visible Areas (Visible from the Watercourse North of Churchill Dam), and Division of Parks and Public Lands Ownership and Interests.

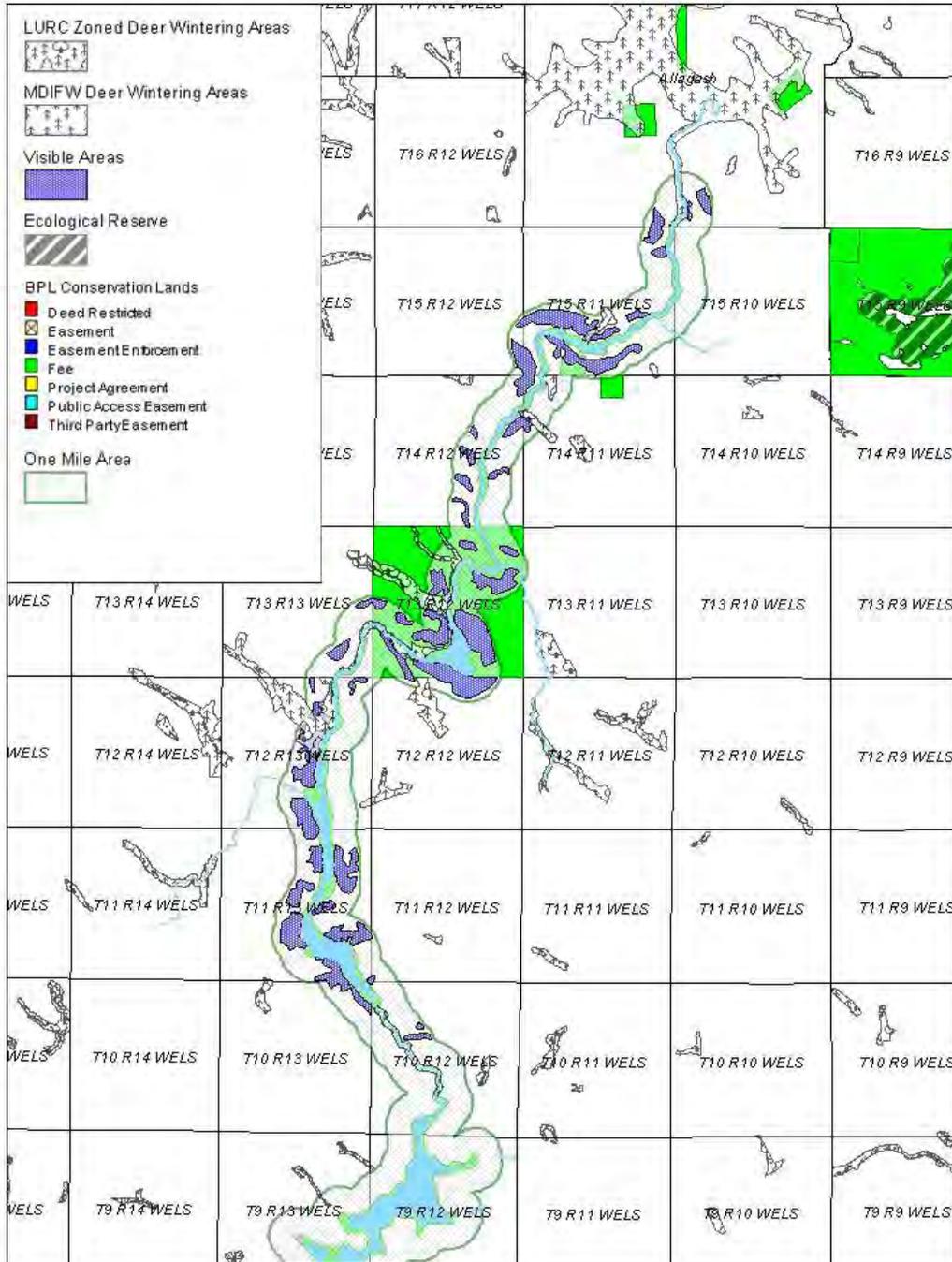
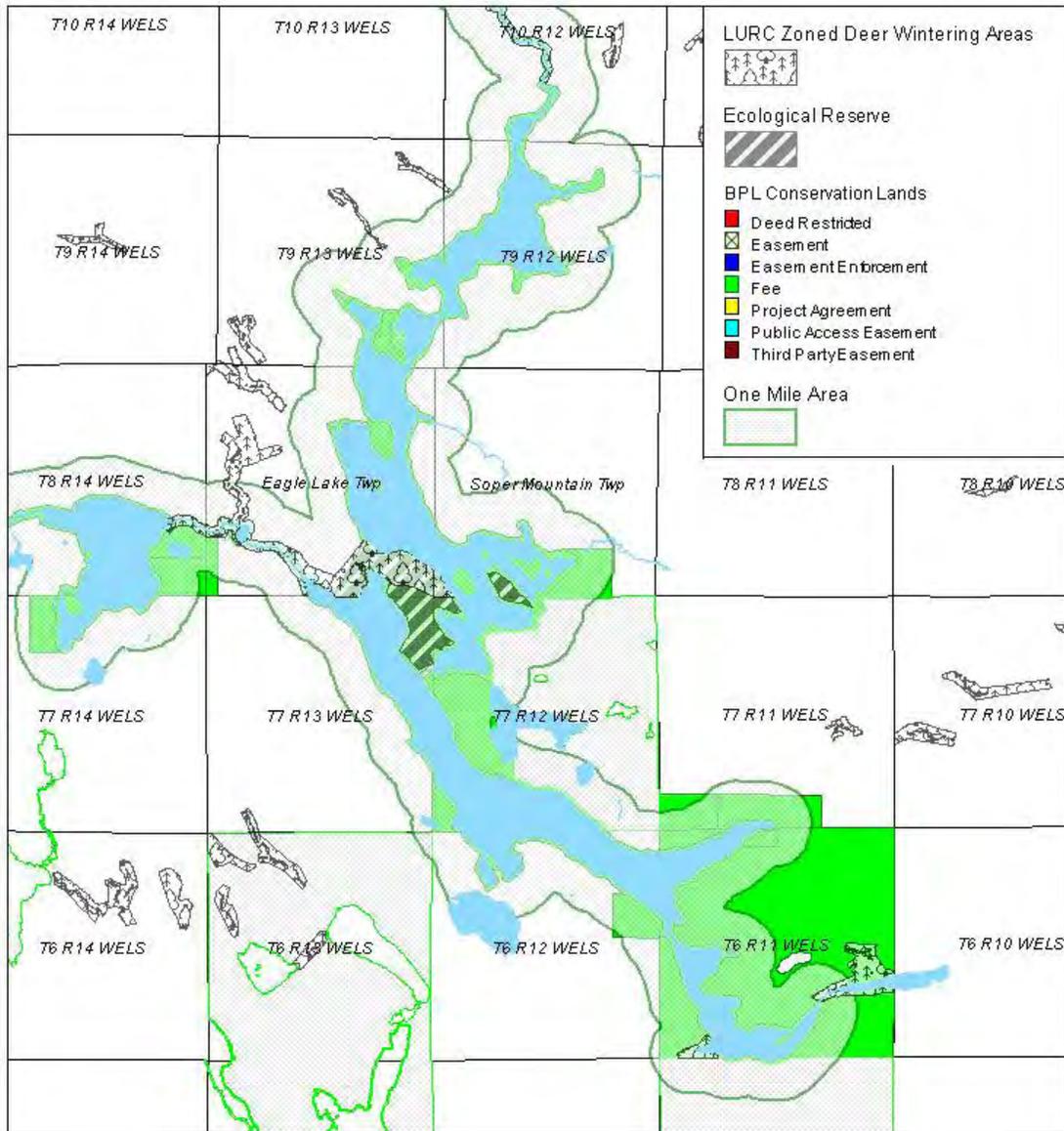


Figure IV -B: Deer Wintering Areas, Ecological Reserves, and Division of Parks and Public Lands Ownership and Interests.



Chamberlain Lake Ecological Reserve

The Chamberlain Lake Ecological Reserve is a 2,890-acre reserve in Eagle Lake Twp., Soper Mountain Twp., T7 R12 WELS, and T7 R13 WELS. It is entirely on Maine Public Reserved Land and includes 151 acres of forested wetlands and 21 acres of non-forested wetlands. Ecological Reserves are state-owned lands specifically set aside to protect and monitor the state's natural ecosystems. As of 2009, Maine has designated approximately 84,000 acres of Ecological Reserves on 16 public land units managed by the Maine Department of Conservation. The original designation was enabled by an act of the Maine Legislature in 2000. As specified in the legislation, the purposes of the Reserves are (Public Laws of Maine, Second Regular Session of the 119th, Chapter 592):

- "to maintain one or more natural community types or native ecosystem types in a natural condition and range of variation and contribute to the protection of Maine's biological diversity,"
- "as a benchmark against which biological and environmental change may be measured, as a site for ongoing scientific research, long-term environmental monitoring and education," and
- "to protect sufficient habitat for those species whose habitat needs are unlikely to be met on lands managed for other purposes".

Table IV-B: Exemplary Natural Communities in the Chamberlain Lake Ecological Reserve Source: Maine Natural Areas Program)

<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>	<i>State Rank</i>	<i>Global Rank</i>
Cedar - Spruce Seepage Forest	Evergreen Seepage Forest	S4	GNR
Spruce - Fir - Cinnamon Fern Forest	Spruce - Fir Wet Flat	S4	GNR
Spruce - Fir - Wood-sorrel - Feather-moss Forest	Montane Spruce - Fir Forest	S4	G3G5
Spruce - Northern Hardwoods Forest	Spruce - Northern Hardwoods Forest	S4	GNR
White Pine - Mixed Conifer Forest	White Pine Forest	S4	G5

Rankings (State): **S4** - Apparently secure in Maine.

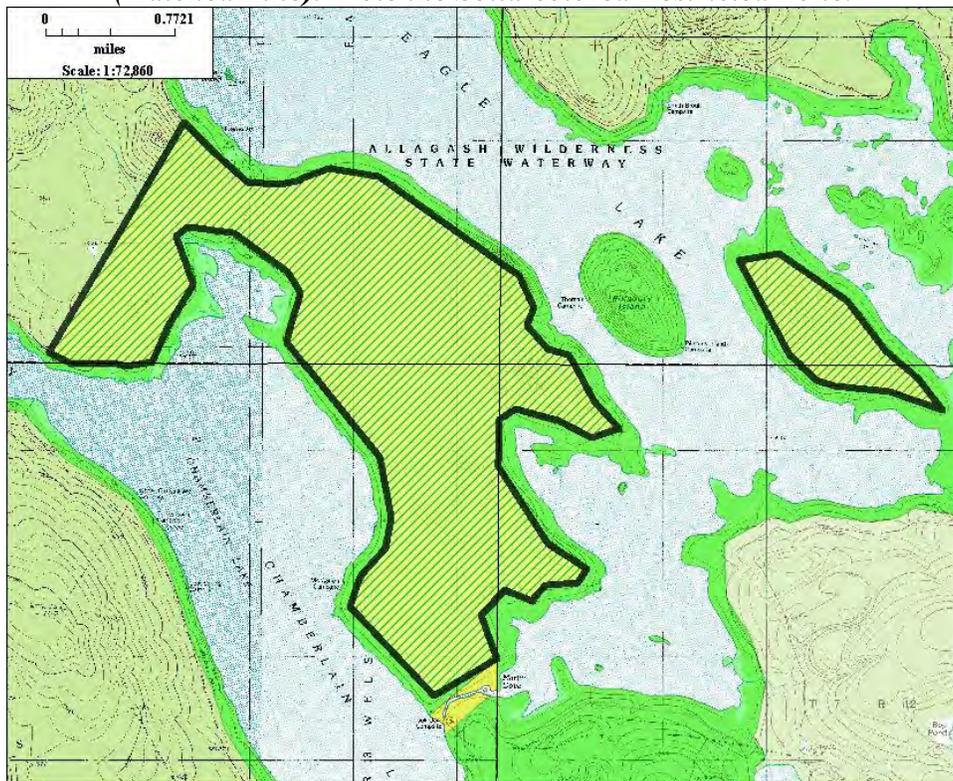
Rankings (Global): **G3**- Globally rare (20-100 occurrences), **G5**- Demonstrably secure globally, **GNR**- Not yet ranked.

Description

Near the head of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, the Chamberlain Lake ecological reserve lies on the Bear Mountain peninsula in Chamberlain Lake. Inventory and monitoring efforts conducted by the Maine Natural Areas Program indicate past selective harvesting, but harvesting has apparently not occurred within the last 50+ years, based on ages of stumps and old logging roads. The most noteworthy stands are mixed hardwood-conifer stands supporting trees over 200 years old. Interestingly, charcoal pellets were found in all stands sampled, although the dominance of mid to late-successional stand types suggests that fires in most locations occurred long ago. Other intact forest types include a large black spruce bog and swamp just north of Lock Dam and a small, stunted spruce slope forest on top of Bear Mountain. The northern part of the Reserve includes the Tramway Historic District described elsewhere in this plan.

The ecological reserve does not include the Restricted Zone, but rather select public lands enveloped by the Restricted Zone. These lands are all nonetheless part of the broader Waterway.

(Below) Figure IV-C: Map Showing the Chamberlain Lake Ecological Reserve (Hatched Line). Note the Solid-colored Restricted Zone.



WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Principal wildlife species found within the watershed include the three most important big game species in Maine: white-tailed deer, moose, and black bear. Small game and fur-bearing mammals include beaver, eastern coyote, ermine, fisher, long-tailed weasel, pine marten, mink, muskrat, porcupine, raccoon, red fox, river otter, snowshoe hare, striped skunk, and woodchuck. Bobcat and lynx are also seen, and the entire Allagash Wilderness Waterway is within Maine's geographic range for lynx (see **Figure IV - D**).



(Left) Figure IV-D: Lynx Range in Maine (Source: Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife).

(Below) Lynx Photographed by AWW Ranger Steve Day Near Umsaskis Lake



Bird species, especially those associated with bogs, swamps, lakes, ponds, and streams, abound. Some of the more conspicuous species include the common loon, American bittern, great blue heron, Canada goose, common tern, wood duck, American black duck, ring-necked duck, common goldeneye, hooded merganser, common merganser, red-breasted merganser, osprey, bald eagle, broad-winged hawk, spruce and ruffed grouse, several woodpeckers, barred and great horned owls, and many warblers and sparrows. Currently, there are eight documented eagle nests within the Waterway. All but one are within the Restricted Zone. **Table IV-C** lists the location of these nests.

Table IV-C: Bald Eagle Nests within the Allagash Wilderness Waterway (MEDIFW Data).

Area(s)	Township	General Location
RZ & 1-Mile	T11 R13	South end of Umsaskis Lake
1-mile	T9 R12	S. end of Churchill Lake, w. of S. Twin Brook
RZ	Eagle Lake TWP	Farm Island
RZ	Eagle Lake TWP	W. of Hog Island on Eagle Lake shoreline
RZ	Soper Mt. TWP	Shoreline of peninsula E. of Pillsbury Island
RZ	T7 R14	Island near Island campsite
RZ	T7 R13	W. shore Chamberlain Lake near township line with T7 R12
RZ	T6 R11	Point on the sw corner of Telos Lake

RZ = Restricted Zone, 1-Mile = One Mile Area

Six reptile species are known to inhabit the region: the wood turtle in Allagash Stream above Allagash Lake and in the Allagash River; snapping turtle; the painted turtle; the eastern garter snake; the maritime garter snake; and the northern ringneck snake, which is rare in northern Maine. Fourteen amphibian species are known to inhabit a variety of aquatic and moist habitats in the Waterway, including six species of salamanders.

Among the invertebrates found in the Waterway are freshwater mussels, caddisflies, water striders, whirligig beetles, back swimmers, mayflies, stoneflies, dragonflies, damselflies, swallowtail butterflies, and the infamous black flies, mosquitos, and midges -known locally as “no-see-ums.” The state-threatened Tomah Mayfly has been documented in the Ross Stream area, the state-endangered Clayton’s Cooper Butterfly has been documented at Little Round Pond, and the Quebec Emerald Dragonfly (species of concern) has been recorded in the vicinity of “The Arm” of Chamberlain Lake.

(Right) An Immature Eagle Takes Flight Along the River Shore.



Coldwater fish species are indigenous to the Allagash watercourse. Several lakes are deep with cold, well-oxygenated water in the bottom depths during the warm months of summer and support populations of lake trout (togue), brook trout, lake whitefish, round whitefish, and burbot (cusk). The river and its tributary streams are swift flowing and provide a variety of habitat type to sustain wild brook trout. Other species of fish common to the watercourse include white sucker, longnose sucker, fallfish (chub), and other numerous minnow species.

The Allagash Waterway is a popular fishing destination for both summer and winter anglers. Sport fishery management by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife emphasizes wild populations of lake trout, brook trout, lake whitefish, and burbot. Conservative fishing regulations have been implemented to maintain and enhance these sportfish populations.

Non-Native Fish Species

The Allagash drainage above the lower Allagash Falls on the Allagash River and above Grand Pitch on the East Branch Penobscot River contain the historic assemblage of fish except for the introduction of rainbow smelt and some minnow species. It exists today as the only drainage in northern Maine not yet to be impacted by the presence of yellow perch. Introduction of this or other warmwater species such as bass would severely limit wild brook trout production.

Below Allagash Falls and throughout the St. John watershed, large, aggressive muskellunge have altered the native fish populations. In the early 1970s, muskies migrated into Maine's St. John River after a Quebec biologist introduced them into Lac Frontiere. Allagash Falls appears to be the only barrier keeping these non-native fish from negatively impacting the significant and widespread trout fishery upstream of Allagash Falls.

Deer Wintering Areas

There are eleven deer wintering areas (DWA) zoned by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) that fall at least partially within the Waterway. These habitat areas provide winter shelter for deer during winter periods in which low temperatures, harsh winds, and deep snowcover makes travel difficult and dangerous for white-tailed deer that are metabolically challenged and vulnerable to exposure and predation. DWAs are comprised of softwood stands with enough canopy coverage to limit snowfall reaching the ground, thereby reducing snowdepth. DWAs (also known as

“deer yards”) also provide a degree of nutrition in the form of browse such as cedar foliage.

Table IV-D: Land Use Regulation Zoned Deer Wintering Areas (DWA) with at Least a Portion of the Mapped DWA within the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Area(s)	Township	General Location	Acres (total DWA size)
RZ & 1-Mile	T15 R11	N. shore of river, w. of Taylor’s Landing campsite	351.8
RZ & 1-Mile	T14 R11 WELS	Adjacent to Cunliffe Depot campsite	214.7
RZ & 1-Mile	T14 R11	Centered on Bass Brook	327.8
RZ & 1-Mile (All Division Land)	T13 R12	Shoreline of river entering Round Pond and up Schedule and Croque Brook	2350.8
1-Mile	T13 R12	Small portion within the 1-mile area adjacent to Henderson Brook	995.4
Primarily RZ	T13 R13	West shore	200.5
RZ & 1-Mile	T12 R13	Centered on Harding Brook & shore from Lost Popple campsite to town line with T13 R13	2,642
RZ	T10 R12	Most of Chase Rapids to Meadows campsite	635.9
RZ & 1-Mile	Eagle Lake TWP	Centered on Tramway Trail area up to Allagash Stream & tributary feeding Little Round Pond.	3,348
Mostly RZ (All Division Land)	T8 R14	Centered along Allagash Stream	1725.7
Mostly RZ (All Division Land)	T6 R11	Shoreline & up small stream in SW corner of Telos Lake & Webster Lake shoreline to near Telos Dam.	822.9

RZ = Restricted Zone, 1-Mile = One Mile Area

HISTORIC FEATURES AND RESOURCES

Evidence of ten thousand years of human use of the Allagash River is found throughout the Waterway. Even though such evidence is often a subtle presence, receding into the natural environment, it has a significance in Maine pre-history and history, arouses the interest of visitors, and presents challenges in management, preservation, and interpretation.

Preservation and interpretation of historic resources were addressed in the 1973 Concept Plan for the Waterway. In a section titled “Historical Interpretation,” certain historical features were identified such as Telos and Lock Dams, the remnants of Long Lake Dam, the tramway and railroad features between Eagle and Chamberlain Lakes, the railroad trestle over Allagash Stream, and several buildings (e.g., Nugent’s Sporting Camps). Two specific objectives for historical interpretation were also identified: 1) an indoor display at Churchill Dam to center around the building of the dams and the construction of the tramway and Umbazooksus railroad, as well as logging, canoeing, and “Indian folklore;” and 2) an outdoor display at the tramway, including a modest restoration of the tramway power plant and a section of the tramway, along with the railroad locomotives and a section of the railroad.

Important steps have been taken to advance these two objectives. The “barn” (originally used as a warehouse) at Churchill Depot has been stabilized and maintained as a feature of the built environment at the Depot. It now houses the “Churchill Depot History Center”, as well as limited storage. The boarding house at Churchill Depot has had its foundation stabilized. Additionally, the structure has been thoroughly photographed, measured, and otherwise documented.



*(Left) a Boom Tightener
Displayed within the History
Center at Churchill Depot*

After years of severe problems, the locomotives have had asbestos removed from them and have been righted and stabilized. Parts of the tramway power plant and the tramway itself have been located and inventoried so that the

machinery can be better preserved and studied. A plan to showcase and interpret a small section of the tramway, near the power plant, has been developed and approved by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Activities aimed at the realization of the two objectives identified in 1973 have been further enhanced by related work regarding historical documentation and interpretation. The tramway has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Waterway's public information brochure has been written to include historical information. More than twenty oral history interviews have been completed and transcribed. A collection of historical photographs has been amassed. Additional research has been conducted on a number of historical issues. Pre-historic and historic artifacts and archaeological sites have been inventoried and studied. All of these efforts have combined to place an increasing emphasis on preservation and interpretation of the Waterway's major historic resources. These historic resources, which will be the focal points of management objectives and strategies identified later in this plan, are described briefly below.

Pre-Historic Archaeological Sites

To date, three archaeological surveys have been conducted in the Waterway to identify pre-historic sites. The first, "A Preliminary Survey of The Munsungan-Allagash Waterways," was authored by Eva Butler and Wendell Hadlock following their fieldwork. In 1996, the shores of Heron, Churchill, and Eagle Lakes were the focus of a survey funded by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and conducted by archaeologist David E. Putnum. The 1996 survey located 65 pre-historic archaeological sites, 39 of which were newly-identified and 26 of which had been previously recorded, largely by Butler and Hadlock. The 1996 survey continued with another field season in 1997, and was timed to examine shoreline newly exposed by lowered water levels during the rebuilding of Churchill Dam. Additional work in 1997, also conducted by David E. Putnam, examined portions of shoreline along Chamberlain, Umsaskis, and Long Lakes. Occurring as recently as the fall of 2011, investigations by archaeologists within the Waterway are ongoing.

These surveys revealed remarkably intact evidence of the Native American populations along the shores of the Waterway's lakes dating to shortly after retreat of the last glacier, some 11,500 years ago. Artifact yields also showed changes in Native American lifeways as people later adapted from life in open country to the waterways of a forest environment. According to Putnam, the record of Native American peoples' use

of the Waterway shows an evolving technology due to changes in cultural affinity and the procurement of quality stone tools.

Artifacts from the survey conducted by Butler and Hadlock are in the collections of the Robert Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, Maine. Artifacts from the two Putnam surveys are housed at the Maine State Museum in Augusta (in legislation enacted in 1969, the Maine State Museum was given management authority for all artifacts found on state-owned lands). Some of the Waterway's pre-historic archaeological sites may be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Tramway Historic District

Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, the Tramway Historic District is the only property within the Waterway with such a designation. The Tramway Historic District consists of a strip of land 3,000 feet long running between the western shore of Eagle Lake and the northeastern shore of Chamberlain Lake. The strip is 1,000 feet wide. This area contains the remains of the unique log-conveying tramway built in 1902 and consists of 6,000 feet of continuous wire cable and steel trucks, all of which now rest on the ground, and remnants of the tramway's steam engine and boilers. The historic district also includes the eastern terminus of the Eagle Lake and West Branch Railroad, which replaced the tramway in 1926, and is preserved today in the form of two railroad locomotives resting parallel to one another. In the past, these two locomotives presented a public safety hazard due to the asbestos surrounding their boilers and the dangerous leaning angle of one as it slowly and unevenly settled into the ground. Cooperative efforts among several state agencies led to the removal of the asbestos in 1995. Since then, a group of volunteers and Waterway staff have organized several work parties to level the locomotives and temporarily raise them so that a gravel bed and new track could be placed for the locomotives to rest on.

Churchill Depot and the Boarding House

Aerial photos taken in 1966 at the time the state acquired the Churchill Depot site indicate that sixteen structures and the 1964 dam were still in place. The appraisal report done in 1968, however, lists only seven structures including the storehouse, boarding house, schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, equipment shed, and two portable camps. It also identified a scaler's shack and three buildings of "no contributory value." Of these existing structures only the storehouse was considered viable. By 2002, only the storehouse and boarding house had survived deterioration, vandalism, and collapse or removal. Since acquiring the site, the Division of Parks and Public Lands has built a Park

Manager's residence (1984), a ranger cabin and maintenance building (1997) at the site, along with campsites, a canoe landing, and a privy. The Heron Lake Dam was reconstructed in 1967 and then replaced with a new dam, called Churchill Dam, in 1999.

Dating from the 1920s, the boarding house was one structure among many that formed the Churchill Depot headquarters for Edouard LaCroix's lumbering operations in the Allagash region. The boarding house was capable of handling many people at one time, some of whom were transients going to or from lumbering camps, and others who were more or less permanent residents employed by LaCroix to keep his huge lumbering operation functioning. "Ninemile Bridge" author Helen Hamlin was a schoolteacher at Churchill Depot during Edouard LaCroix's lumbering days.

For many years, the boarding house has been in a state of disrepair, requiring substantial structural and cosmetic work. A past volunteer project led to the replacement of foundation piers and sills. The storehouse is now used to house the "Churchill Depot History Center", a collection of artifacts and images interpreting the story of the site and the larger Waterway.

Henry Taylor Camps

Three log camps, built and occupied by guide Henry Taylor and his wife Alice, stand on the Allagash River north of Michaud Farm on the east side of the river. The camps date from the 1930s and, although over 50 years old, do not appear to exhibit particular, significant historic features. Nomination of the camps to the National Register of Historic Places was denied. Volunteer work is currently taking place to rehabilitate one of the camps to serve as an interpretive resource/site within the Waterway.

Moir Farm

Located behind the Henry Taylor Camps on the Allagash River, one structure, a hay barn, remains from the Moir Farm. Apparently built in 1874 by Thomas Moir, the barn was constructed on the original tract of land owned by George Moir and Lucinda Diamond. George Moir and Lucinda Diamond were among the area's earliest white settlers (reportedly moving there in 1837) and it is from them and other members of the Diamond family that many residents of Allagash Village are descended.

Besides this connection to the early settlement of the Allagash area, the Moir Farm structure itself may well have architectural significance as an early vernacular building showing French Canadian influences. The barn is in poor condition, with a collapsed roof.

*(Right) a Historic Cable
Splice on the Tramway*

Miscellaneous

In 1994, the Division contracted for an inventory of historical artifacts resting above ground along the Waterway. Three phases



of the inventory have been completed. In all, twelve historic sites (as opposed to pre-historic sites) have been surveyed and mapped. Artifacts associated with each site have been numbered, photographed, and recorded. Survey records are housed in the Waterway office and in the Division's Augusta office. The artifacts inventoried during this survey are generally related to machinery, engines, and structures that served lumbering operations in the Waterway in the early decades of this century. Where possible, significant artifacts have been retrieved and stored in the barn (History Center) at Churchill Depot for use in current and future historical exhibits.

RECREATION RESOURCES

Water Access and Trails

Recreation facilities managed by the Division of Parks and Public Lands within the Restricted Zone of the Waterway include trails, campsites, boat and canoe launching/takeout areas, and parking areas. In addition, there are some trails, parking areas, and a winter campground outside of the Restricted Zone that are also managed by Division (e.g., the Chamberlain and Kellogg Brook summer parking and winter camping areas; the Allagash and Round Pond Mountain trails; and the Henderson Brook parking area).

Access points for watercraft are located at select locations throughout the Waterway. A trailerable boat launch for use by watercraft with unrestricted horsepower is located at Chamberlain Lake Thoroughfare. This site is not open for use by personal watercraft, hovercraft, airboats, racing boats, and pontoon boats as they are prohibited from the entire Waterway by rule. Other access points exist for canoes and kayaks, which are defined by rule and allowed everywhere along the Waterway watercourse (other watercraft, with the exception of the aforementioned banned types, are restricted to

use below Lock Dam on Telos and Chamberlain Lakes. The boat launch site on Churchill Lake at Churchill Dam includes a ramp and floats. Trailerable access to the edge of the watercourse is also available at Umsaskis Lake Thoroughfare, Michaud Farm, and Henderson Brook Bridge (where a log barrier mounted with a roller provides access, but keeps trailers from backing into the water – a stipulation of permitting associated with the reconstruction of Henderson Brook Bridge).

Land trails, including hiking paths, portage trails, and snowmobile trails, are authorized and maintained by the Division. Additionally, private landowners and individuals may maintain some trails outside of the Restricted Zone. There are 15 hiking/portage/foot access trails that are at least partially within the Restricted Zone. These trails are typically short and focused on access to and from the watercourse. Allagash Mountain, Round Pond Mountain, and the Ice Caves trail are distinct in that they represent trails to attractions as opposed to access to the watercourse. In this sense, the Tramway Trail could be construed as a destination trail as well, although it also serves as a portage trail for some. The full list of these trails is found on page 16.

Snowmobile trails in the region tend to vary year-to-year based on landowner harvesting and road-plowing needs, though there is basic continuity in the informal system connecting various destinations, including destinations in the Waterway. Snowmobile access to the watercourse, per statute, is maintained for 19 points. These points can be moved and substituted by the Division. This plan identifies the following points as designated snowmobile access points providing access to the watercourse: Telos Dam (Telos Lake); Chamberlain Thoroughfare (Chamberlain Lake); Mud Pond Carry (Chamberlain Lake); McNally Brook (Chamberlain Lake); The trail to Nugent's Camps (Chamberlain Lake); Upper Crows Nest (Chamberlain Lake); Lock Dam (Chamberlain Lake and Big Eagle Lake); Island Road (Allagash Lake); Allagash Lake Carry Trail (Allagash Lake); Allagash Lake Ledge Campsite (Allagash Lake); Smith Brook (Big Eagle Lake); Zeiglar Trail (Big Eagle Lake); North Twin Brook (T9 R12- Churchill Lake); Churchill Dam (Churchill Lake); Umsaskis Lake Reality Road (Umsaskis Lake); Ross Stream (Long Lake); Henderson Brook Bridge (Allagash River, Round Pond); Michaud Farm (Allagash River); and Twin Brook, Allagash Plantation (Allagash River).

Maintained land trails, including both snowmobile and pedestrian trails, are defined as any trail that is regularly cleared of brush, fallen trees, and tree limbs to accommodate walking and/or snowmobiling. A maintained trail, as opposed to a designated trail, is not necessarily one that is approved by the Division. The maintenance

of undesignated trails is a management concern and challenge for the Waterway. Trails on private lands are listed and mapped only with landowner permission.

Camping

Camping in the Restricted Zone is allowed at 80 authorized campsites, containing 145 camping “cells.” All campsites are named and clearly marked at the water’s edge with a routed, wooden, triangular sign and are located on the Division’s Waterway map. Each campsite cell has a rustic picnic table with benches and a ridgepole, and a fire ring. Each campsite is served by one pit privy. One site, Ramsay Ledge, is accessible by motor vehicle and is available for camping in self-contained motor vehicles (campers).

Winter recreational vehicle camping is available outside the Restricted Zone at the Chamberlain Thoroughfare and Kellogg Brook parking lots, which are former lumber camp log yards. These sites were approved for overnight camping in 1988 by the Land Use Regulation Commission to accommodate an increasing number of ice fishermen in the Chamberlain Lake area. The parking lots had been used for several years prior to 1988 for winter camping by groups visiting the Chamberlain Lake area for ice fishing and snowmobiling. These two lots will accommodate 48 trailers/recreational vehicles.

(Below) A Campsite Cell at Farm Island, on Big Eagle Lake



Table IV – E: Allagash Waterway Campsites and Cells

Campsite Type	Number Campsites	Number Cells	Percent of All Campsite Cells
One Cell	40	40	28%
Two Cell	23	46	31%
Three Cell	14	42	29%
Four Cell	3	12	8%
Five Cell	1	5	3%
Totals	80	145	99% (Does not equal 100% exactly due to rounding).

Parking

Summer and winter parking of vehicles within the Restricted Zone is prohibited by rule except at designated sites. In addition, there are several parking areas outside of the Restricted Zone, most of which are maintained by the Division. Two are maintained by lessees of the Division and one is provided with the Division’s consent by a landowner in order to safely park vehicles off an active logging road (Ziegler’s). All parking areas provide access to the Waterway for canoeing, boating, fishing, and snowmobiling.



(Above) Parking for Access to Handicapped Accesible Camping at Churchill Dam

(Below) Figure IV-E: AWW Campsites North of Churchill Lake

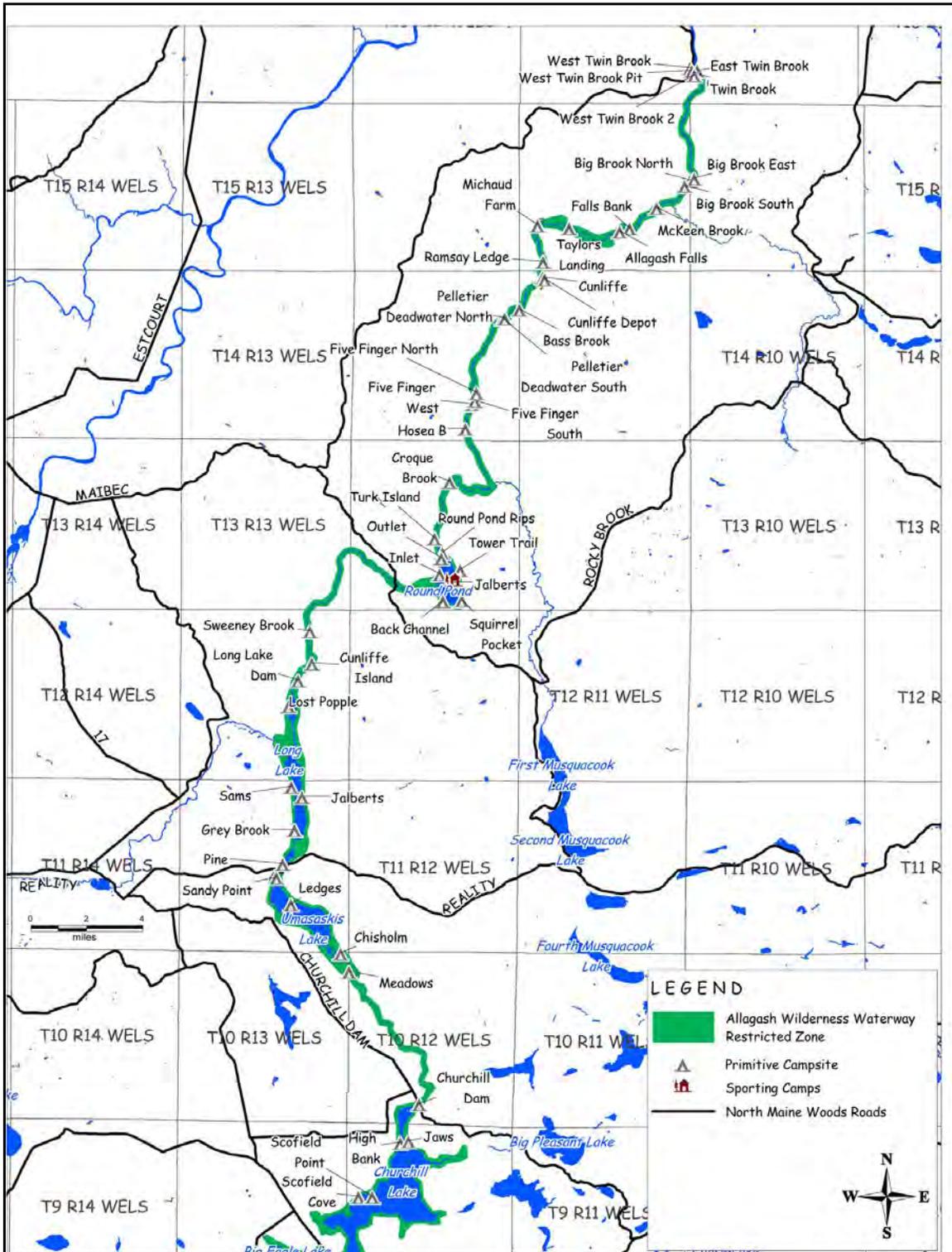


Table IV – F: Allagash Waterway Parking Areas

Site Name	Location	Maintained By	Parking In Restricted Zone	Parking Outside Restricted Zone
Chamberlain Thoroughfare	T6 R11/12	State		X
Indian Stream	T7 R12	State		X
John’s Bridge*	T9, R13	7-Islands		X
Ziegler**	T8 R13	7-Islands		X
Churchill Dam	T10 R12	State	X	
Umsaskis Thoroughfare	T11 R13	State	X	
Henderson Brook	T13 R12	State		X
Ramsay Ledge	T15 R11	State	X	
Michaud Farm	T5 R11	State	X	
Finley Bogan***	T15, R11	JD Irving		
Twin Brooks	Town of Allagash	State		X

*May and September day use with permit only.
 **Ziegler Trail access prohibited May – September
 ***Roadside parking; no parking lot.

Sporting Camps

Two historic sporting camps, Nugent’s on Chamberlain Lake and Jalbert’s on Round Pond, offer an alternative, traditional form of recreational use in the Waterway. They also provide a measure of safety for boaters on Chamberlain Lake and Round Pond. Nugent’s and Jalbert’s sporting camps represent the only non-camping lodging available within the Waterway, though there are other sporting camps in the vicinity of the Waterway that facilitate day-use visits to the Waterway by camp guests.

ADMINISTRATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Buildings

Within the Restricted Zone, the Division of Parks and Public Lands maintains the following year-round or seasonal staff residences:

- a Managers headquarters at Churchill Depot that replaced the headquarters at Umsaskis Lake destroyed by fire in September, 1982;
- year-round Ranger residences at Chamberlain Thoroughfare and Churchill Depot;

- Seasonal Ranger Camps on Eagle Lake, Umsaskis Lake, Allagash Lake, and Round Pond (T13 R12 WELS) - the latter two are Warden Service camps belonging to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and are used with the permission of the department;
- Seasonal Assistant Ranger residences at Churchill Lake (Camp Pleasant) and Umsaskis Lake (Camp Drake).

An unoccupied residence and several out-buildings at Telos Dam are owned by the Division, as are a former residence and storage buildings at Lock Dam. The former seasonal Assistant Ranger residence at Lock Dam is now used to periodically house volunteers and Division staff visiting the Waterway on official business.

The Division also owns and maintains:

- 17 utility buildings;
- a storage barn and vacant boarding house at Churchill Depot; and
- the vacant Taylor’s Camps and Moir Farm north of Michaud Farm.

The Division owns and leases for management:

- Nugent’s Sporting Camps on Chamberlain Lake; and
- Jalbert’s Sporting Camps on Round Pond (T13 R12 WELS), including a camp near Whittaker Brook and two camps near Burntland Brook.

Staff

The Waterway has a full time staff of three and a seasonal staff of ten, as indicated in **Table IV - G**. Most seasonal staff work from mid-May to early October. Personnel, as in many state parks, is more than half of the budget for the Waterway. It should be noted that the Waterway also receives broader Division support for specific tasks and projects from Northern Region Parks as well as the larger Division as a whole.

Table IV – G: Allagash Waterway Staff

Position	Full Time	Seasonal	Total
Manager	1		1
Chief Ranger	1		1
Ranger	1	4	5
Assistant Ranger		5 (a)	5
Customer Representative			
Assistant		1	1
Total	3	10	13

(a) Includes one University of Maine at Fort Kent scholarship student.

Agency Partners

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife owns five warden camps, and the Division of Forestry owns two firewarden camps within the Restricted Zone as follows:

- warden camps on Round Pond (T6 R11 WELS), Allagash Lake (used by Allagash staff), Eagle Lake, Umsaskis Lake, and Round Pond (T13 R12 WELS - used by Allagash staff); and
- firewarden camps on Allagash Lake and Round Pond (T6 R11 WELS - used by Allagash staff).

Fees and Revenues

Following the example of other state parks, a fee system for overnight camping was established in 1974 by the Division to help reimburse the General Fund for management costs. In 1974, fees were collected by Waterway employees. Since 1975, the Division has contracted with North Maine Woods Inc. for fee collection, which enables Allagash rangers to spend more time maintaining and improving campsites and assisting users along the watercourse.

The current fee is \$4 per person per night for residents and \$8 per person per night for nonresidents; there is no charge for children under the age of 10. The current per site winter fee for trailer sites at the Chamberlain Thoroughfare Bridge and Kellogg Brook parking lots is \$50 per month, plus tax. Due to the difficulties associated with collection, no fee is charged for day use, although a day use fee is charged by North Maine Woods Inc. to enter the larger region that encompasses the entire Allagash Wilderness Waterway. The Division does not receive day-use fee revenue from North Maine Woods.

The Allagash Wilderness Waterway covers a large geographic area and is purposefully managed to embody wilderness character where solitude is a key component to visitor experiences. This far-flung geography and wilderness recreation role leads to much higher per-user costs than, for example, highly visited beach parks such as Reid or Popham. Each year, the Division provides an Allagash Wilderness Waterway Annual Report to the Legislature's Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Committee. The report includes a yearly update of the Waterway budget.

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY AND NEW CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Forest Management Activity

Forest management and the harvesting of wood fiber within the one-mile zone are allowed by law, except within the state owned restricted zone. A forest operations notification must be sent to the Division 30-days in advance of harvest activity. From 2000 to 2011, the Division received 164-notifications for forest operations within the waterway and not visible from the watercourse.

Proposals to harvest forest products or apply herbicide within a mapped visual area of the waterway must be reviewed and approved by the Division before these activities can commence. The manager of the waterway, an experienced Division forester, and landowner representative made pre-harvest site inspections of all proposed harvests within these mapped visual areas. From 2000 to 2011, 38-applications were approved that met the standards for harvesting in a visual area of the waterway. Recommendations to minimize the visual impact of harvest operations were discussed and agreed upon during these site visits.

Harvest operations that proposed to exceed the standards can only be allowed if the stand is 70% dead or dying, or damaged by natural causes, or if the proposed harvest method is the only economically feasible silvicultural alternative. From 2000 to 2011, 27-applications were approved to exceed the standards in mapped visual areas of the waterway. These applications were all approved after pre-harvest site inspection with conditions that minimized the visual impact of the harvest activities.

There were only 3-notifications to apply herbicide within the waterway from 2000 to 2011. These herbicide applications were all for roadside brush control in areas not visible from the watercourse.

New Construction Activity

Since 2000, the Division has approved two applications for forest management roads within the ¼ mile zone.