

TRIP 8

ALLAGASH RIVER



TRIP AT A GLANCE

- ☐ NFCT Map 13: Allagash Region North
- ☐ 1 river, 2 lakes
- ☐ 52.2 miles
- ☐ 2 portages

Trip Description

This 50-plus mile section of the NFCT takes paddlers on a classic Maine canoe river trip through the northern half of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. Groups will start at the northern end of Umsaskis Lake and travel to Allagash Village, paddling through beautiful backcountry environments with well-maintained campsites. The Allagash is known for its abundant wildlife viewing opportunities, amazing stargazing, and traces of logging history that can still be seen. This trip is largely river traveling, with multiple sections of quickwater, one Class II rapid, and two portages under 0.3 miles. *It is recommended to do this trip in late spring or early summer when the water level is higher. It is difficult, and at times challenging, to canoe past Michaud Farm when water levels are low. Take out at Michaud Farm if planning on doing this trip later in the summer.*

Suggested Itinerary

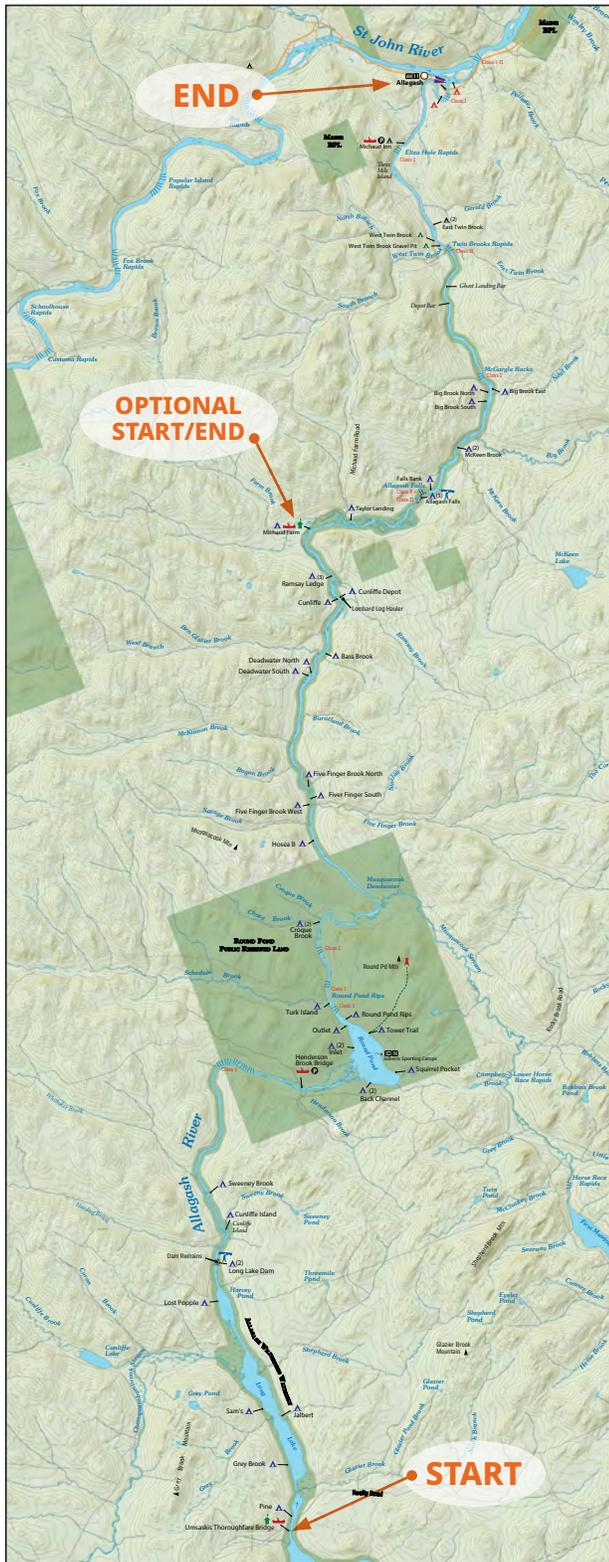
It is recommended to do this trip in late spring or early summer when the water level is higher. It is basically impossible to canoe past Michaud Farm at a river level below 300 cfs. Water levels lower than 500 cfs will result in sandbars appearing, which can cause paddlers to need to get out and drag their boats in order to continue.

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5**	DAY 6	DAY 7
START Day At	The Thoroughfare	Jalbert	Sweeny Brook	Tower Trail	Deadwater North	Allagash Falls	East Twin Brook
END Day At	Jalbert	Sweeny Brook	Tower Trail	Deadwater North	Allagash Falls	East Twin Brook	Allagash Village
MILEAGE	3	6	9.5	12	6.7	8	7
NOTES	Put in on the southwest side of the bridge.	MUST portage (0.1 mi) Long Lake Dam. Spikes underwater will damage canoes.	Option to hike 2.5 miles to Round Pond fire tower.	You can visit the remains of Lombard log haulers at Cunliffe Depot campsite.	You can visit the remains of Lombard log haulers at Cunliffe Depot campsite.	Your group must check out of the AWW at Michaud Farm. Allagash Falls MUST be portaged (0.25 mi.) on river right. Campsites are on the portage trail.	Twin Brook Rapids is a Class II. See note below about take out.

** Depending on group needs or time constrictions, there is the opportunity to make this section shorter by starting or ending at Michaud Farm and then paddling out to Allagash Village. Doing so would follow the above itinerary for days 5–7. Alternatively, groups can take out at Michaud Farm, if wanting to have a shorter trip but start at the Thoroughfare.

Note: A common take out is located on private property, upriver from the Route 161 bridge. Deb charges a modest fee for using her driveway to park your car at takeout. The takeout is signified by a barn with a black metal roof with two crooked weather vanes. From the river, you will be able to see a large yellow traffic sign that points to the gravel driveway and large parking lot. If you have arrived at the bridge, you have gone too far.

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Camping Information

The Allagash Wilderness Waterway has its own set of rules, regulations and fees to preserve its wilderness characteristics. Groups are limited to 12 people and visitors must obtain a permit and pay land use fees before entering the waterway. This can be done by stopping at a North Maine Woods checkpoint or checking in with an Allagash Wilderness Waterway ranger. Camping is allowed only at designated sites and campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

More information on campsite fees can be found at:

[Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands Campground Fees](#)

Northern Forest Canoe Trail: [North Maine Woods & Allagash Wilderness Waterway Camping Fees](#)

Shuttle Information

Pelletier's Campground Website

(207) 398-3187

Mobile: (207) 834-6118

Email: pellcamp@fairpoint.net

- Call for shuttle rates
- Campground, transportation rates, Pelletier Campground, St. Francis, Maine

Allagash Guide Service Website

(207) 398-3418

Email: allaguide@gmail.com

- Call or fill out a form on their website for rates. Both transportation and shuttle services are offered.
- Allagash River canoe trips, shuttles and transportation

Other Resources

National Geographic Map 400: [Allagash Wilderness Waterway North](#)

AWWF: [Allagash Explorer](#)

Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands: [Allagash Wilderness Waterway Conditions and Alerts](#)

Allagash Wilderness Waterway [Natural History Guide](#)

Allagash Wilderness Waterway [Guide and Map](#)