

TRIP 6

WEST BRANCH PENOBSCOT RIVER

LOBSTER STREAM TO CHESUNCOOK LAKE



TRIP AT A GLANCE

- ☐ **NFCT Map 11:**
**Moosehead/
Penobscot Region**
- ☐ **1 river**
- ☐ **26.5 miles**
- ☐ **0 portages**

Trip Description

Traveling down the West Branch of the Penobscot River, this 26.5-mile long section is a classic Maine river trip that is great for beginners. As the river meanders through beautiful backcountry forests, there will be an exciting mix of calm stretches, quickwater, lake paddling, and welcoming campsites. This stretch of river is also known for its moose, eagles and other wildlife. Ending the trip on Chesuncook Lake provides views of Katahdin and the opportunity to visit Chesuncook Village, a small remote town that originally supported logging operations. There are no rapids or portages on this trip.

Suggested Itinerary

Chesuncook Lake is large. Winds tend to come out of the northwest, but weather and conditions can change rapidly. Be sure to stay as close to shore as possible and travel close together when making the crossing to Gero Island. Fire permits vary by campsite.

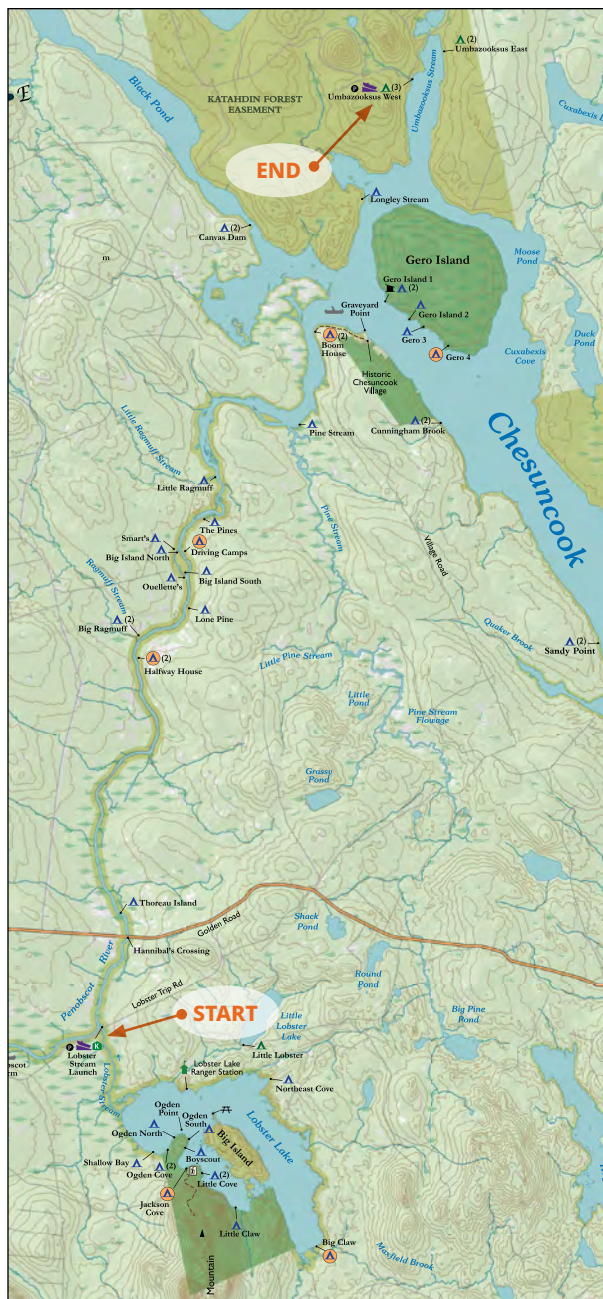
Call Maine Forest Service (800) 750-9777 to obtain.

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
START Day At	Put in Lobster Stream Boat Launch	Thoreau Island	Big Ragmuff	Pine Stream	Gero Island 1
END Day At	Thoreau Island	Big Ragmuff	Pine Stream	Gero Island 1	Umbazooksus West Boat Launch
MILEAGE	3	6.5	8	4	5
NOTES	Short day to include travel.			Option to visit Chesuncook village. Crossing Chesuncook Lake can be windy.	Day intended to include travel.

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Camping Information

Campsites on the Penobscot River Corridor have a fee that is paid when entering through a North Maine Woods checkpoint.

Campsites are first-come, first-served but are generally abundant and well maintained. Group size, including leaders and guides, is limited to 12. Certain campsites will have two “cells” within them (as they are designed to hold two groups) so be mindful to only take up one of these cells when applicable. You can tell if a site has multiple cells because it will have the campsite name followed by a number, for example Big Ragmuff (2). Campsites that do not have a number next to them are single group campsites.

Seboomook Wilderness Campground

Online reservations: [Seboomook Wilderness Campground](#)

(207) 280-0555

Email: seboomookwilderness@gmail.com

Shuttle Information

Northwoods Outfitters

(888) 223-1380

- Fill out a form on their website or call.

Katahdin Outfitters

[Reservation Request for Katahdin Outfitters](#)

(207) 723-5700

Other Resources

National Geographic Map 401: [Allagash Wilderness Waterway South](#)

Penobscot River Corridor: [Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands](#)

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