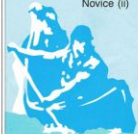


# St. Mary's River

Ref. 13 A-B  
Class II  
Novice (ii)



Department of Culture  
Recreation & Fitness



### Common Terms

- Flat Water** Lake water or river current where no rapids exist.
- Rock Garden** Rock stream flat water.
- Ledges** Projecting stratum of rock partially confining stream flow.
- Riffles (Rf)** Moderately swift, shallow water running over gravel or sand bottom. (Becoming fastwater at peak flows).
- Rips** Swift flowing deep water running an irregular short course around rocks. (Becoming more navigable at peak flows).
- Rapids (Rp.)** Swift flowing water tumbling with some force among obstructions creating turbulence. (Becoming more turbulent at peak flows).
- Falls** Free falling water or almost vertical plunge.
- Portage** Class carried around obstruction or between two points.

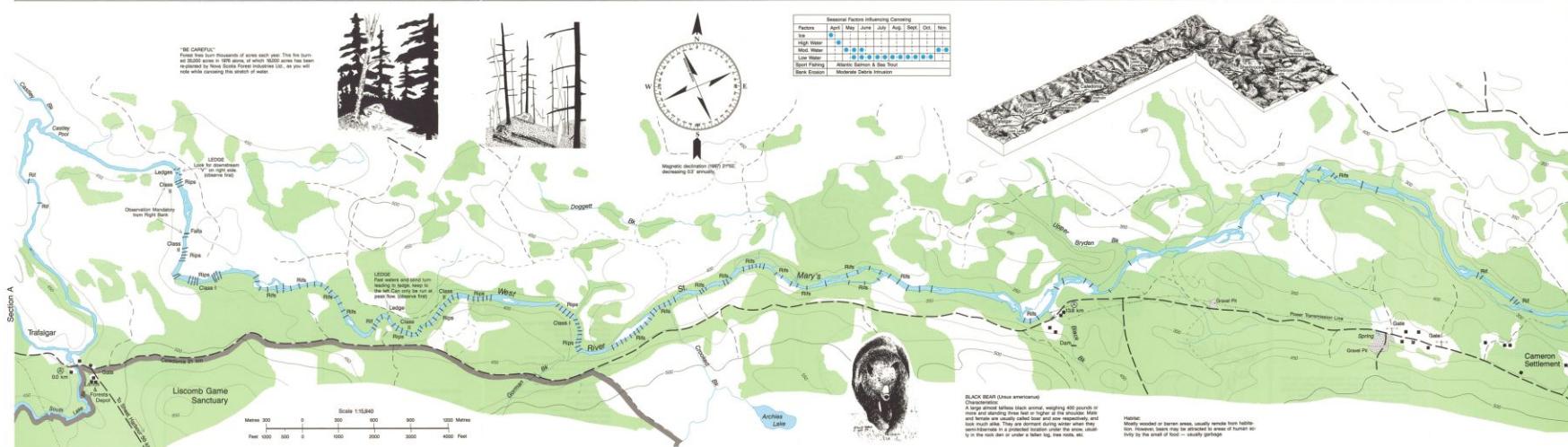
### Common Notes

- Note 1: Permission shall be obtained before entering upon any lands for the purpose of travel or camping.
- Note 2: Check with the N.S. Dept. of Lands & Forests for fire and fishing regulations.
- Note 3: Boundary lines are approximates.
- Note 4: Use courtesy when approaching fishermen.
- Note 5: Obtain permission before parking vehicle on any lands and avoid blocking trails etc. (Refer to section 133 of the Motor Vehicle Act).
- Note 6: Access points are noted on map. All other points require owner permission.

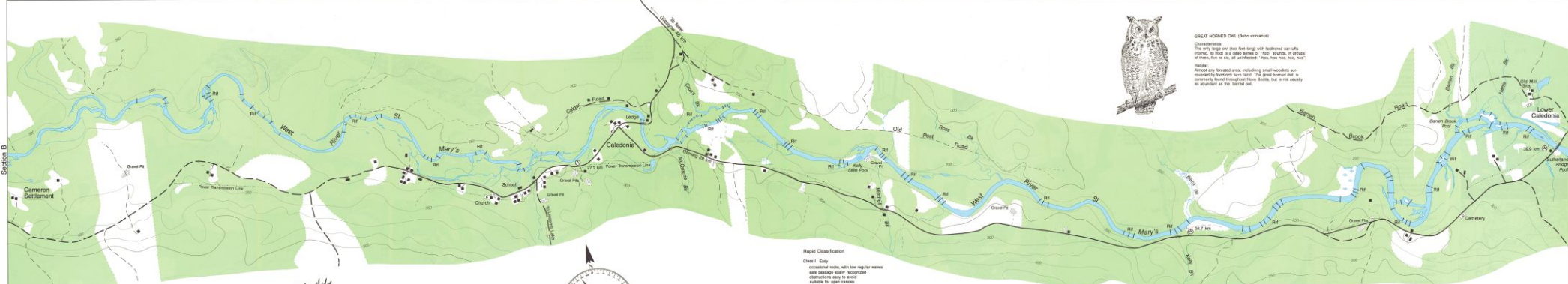
### LEGEND

- Private Camps & Dwellings
- Camping
- Picnic Site
- Outfalls
- Water Flow Direction Stream
- Bridges
- Paved Highway
- All Weather Roads
- Dry Weather Roads
- Trails
- Sanctuary Boundary
- Gates
- Access Point

Illustrations by Charles Dill and Rod Fraser with reference material from N.S. Museum  
Compilation and cartography by Maritime Resource Management Service Inc. in consultation with Canoe Nova Scotia, 1987



Section B



**GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus*)**  
 Characteristics: The only large owl (two feet long) with feathered ears (horns). Its hoot is a deep series of "hoo" sounds, in groups of three, five or six, all uninflected: "hoo, hoo hoo, hoo, hoo."  
 Habitat: Around any forested area, including small woodlots surrounded by bog-own farm land. The great horned owl is commonly found throughout Alaska, but is not usually as abundant as the barred owl.

**MOOSE (Alces alces)**  
 Characteristics: Males (bulls) are dark brown or blackish, weighing up to 1000 lbs and standing six to seven feet at the shoulder. Does (females) are much smaller, weighing up to 600 lbs and standing four to five feet at the shoulder. Both antlers as much as six feet across are grown each summer and shed each winter. Female (does) are similar, but slightly smaller, lighter in colour, and lacking antlers.  
 Habitat: Woodlands providing both mature softwood cover and young hardwood stands, also swamps, bogs and lake margins. Generally wilderness areas that are relatively free of human disturbance.

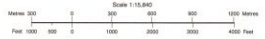


**Rapid Classification**

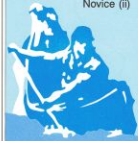
- Class I - Easy**  
occasional rocks, with low regular waves  
side passage easily recognized  
obstructions easy to avoid  
suitable for open canoes
- Class II - Medium to Difficult**  
frequent rocks, with high regular waves  
easy to medium drop-offs (chutes, ledges, falls)  
side passage generally easy to recognize  
suitable for open canoes, spray cover helpful
- Class III - Difficult**  
numerous rocks, with high irregular waves,  
breakers, and rollers  
difficult drop-offs  
upper limit for open canoes  
spray cover highly desirable  
must be scouted from shore
- Class IV, V and VI**  
beyond the limit for open canoes

**PADDLER CLASSIFICATION**

- Class I - Novice**  
 (S) White Water — can use effectively all basic strokes in a kayak or bow and stern of the canoe  
 can read water and negotiate rapids with assurance



**St. Mary's River**  
Ref. 13 C-D  
Class II  
Novice (ii)



Department of Culture  
Recreation & Fitness



**Common Terms**

- Rift Water** Lake water or river current where no rapids exist.
- Road Garden** Road stream far water.
- Ledges** Projecting strata of rock partially covering stream flow.
- Riffle (R/V)** Moderately swift, shallow water running over gravel or sand bottom. (Becoming faster at peak flows).
- Rips** Swift flowing deep water running an irregular short course around rocks. (Becoming more navigable at peak flows).
- Rapids (Rap.)** Swift flowing water tumbling with some force among obstructions creating turbulence. (Becoming more turbulent at peak flows).
- Falls** Free falling water or almost vertical plunge.
- Portage** Canoe carried around obstruction or between two points.

**Common Notes**

- Note 1** Permission shall be obtained before entering upon any lands for the purpose of travel or camping.
- Note 2** Check with the N.S. Dept. of Lands & Forests for fire and fishing regulations.
- Note 3** Boundary lines are approximate.
- Note 4** Use courtesy when approaching fishermen.
- Note 5** Obtain permission before parking vehicle on any lands and avoid blocking trails etc. (Refer to section 136 of the Motor Vehicle Act).
- Note 6** Access points are noted on map. All other points require owner permission.

**LEGEND**

- Private Camps & Dwellings
- Camping
- Point Site
- Outfalls
- Water Flow Deviation Stream
- Bridges
- Paved Highways
- All Weather Roads
- Dry Weather Roads
- Tails
- Sanctuary Boundary
- Gates
- Access Point

Illustrations by Charles (Bill) and Rod Fraser with reference material from N.S. Museum  
Compilation and cartography by Maritime Resource Management Services Inc. in consultation with Canoe Nova Scotia, 1997

**Rapid Classification**

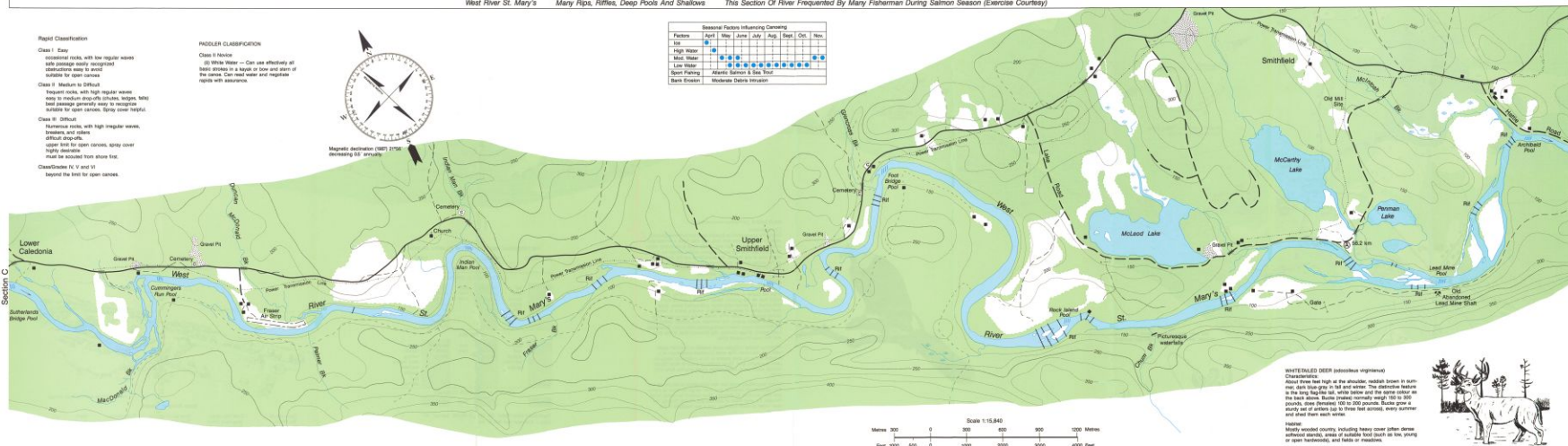
- Class I - Easy**  
occasional rocks, with low regular waves safe passage easily recognized obstructions easy to avoid suitable for open canoes.
- Class II - Medium to Difficult**  
frequent rocks, with high regular waves many to medium drop-offs (struts, ledges, tails) best passage generally easy to recognize suitable for open canoes. Spray cover helpful.
- Class III - Difficult**  
Numerous rocks, with high irregular waves, breakers, and rollers difficult drop-offs. upper limit for open canoes, spray cover highly desirable must be scouted from shore first.
- Class/Grade IV, V and VI**  
beyond the limit for open canoes.

**PADDLER CLASSIFICATION**

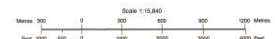
- Class II Novice**  
(ii) White Water - Can use effectively all basic strokes in a kayak or bow and stern of the canoe. Can read water and negotiate rapids with assurance.



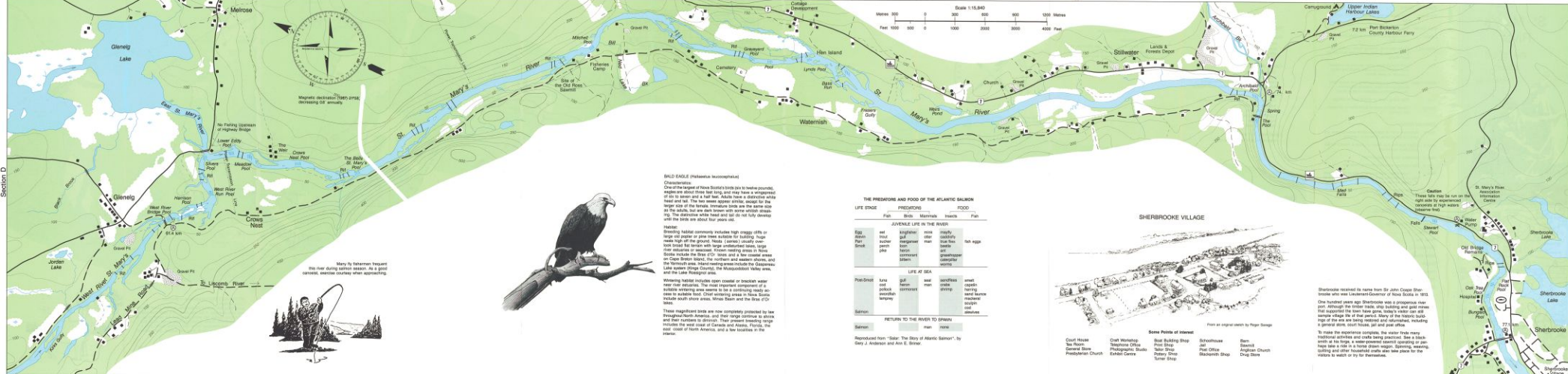
Seasonal Factors Influencing Canoeing											
Factors	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.			
Ice											
High Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Med. Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Low Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sport Fishing	Atlantic Salmon & Sea Trout										
Bank Erosion	Moderate Debris Intrusion										



**WHITE-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*)**  
Characteristics:  
About three feet high at the shoulder, reddish brown in summer, dark brown grey in fall and winter. The distinctive feature is the long flag-like tail, white below and the same colour as the back above. Bucks (males) normally weigh 150 to 300 pounds; does (females) 100 to 200 pounds. Bucks grow a sturdy set of antlers up to three feet across, every summer and shed them each winter.  
Habitat:  
Mostly wooded country, including heavy cover (often dense softwood stands), areas of suitable food (such as low, young or open hardwoods), and fields or meadows.



Section D



Mary's fishermen frequent this river during salmon season. As a good exercise, exercise courtesy when approaching.



**BALD EAGLE** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)  
 Characteristics:  
 One of the largest of Nova Scotia's birds (six to twelve pounds), eagles are about three feet long, and may have a wingspan of six to seven and a half feet. Adults have a distinctive white head and tail. The two sexes appear similar, except for the larger size of the female. Immature birds are the same size as the adults, but are dark brown with some whitish streaking. The distinctive white head and tail do not fully develop until the birds are about four years old.

Habitat:  
 Breeding habitat commonly includes high craggy cliffs or large old paper or pine trees suitable for building huge nests high off the ground. Nests (series) usually overlook broad flat terrain with large undisturbed lakes, large river estuaries or seasonal stream nesting areas in Nova Scotia include the Bras d'Or lakes and a low coastal area on Cape Breton Island, the northern and eastern shores, and the Yarmouth area. Nesting areas include the Gasperaux Lake system (King County), the Musquodouit Valley area, and the Lake Rossignol area.

Wintering habitat includes open coastal or brackish water near river estuaries. The most important component of a suitable wintering area seems to be a continuing ready access to suitable food. Chief wintering areas in Nova Scotia include south shore areas, Miramichi Bay and the Bras d'Or lakes.

These magnificent birds are now completely protected by law throughout North America, and their range continues to shrink and their numbers to diminish. Their present breeding range includes the west coast of Canada and Alaska, Florida, the east coast of North America, and a few localities in the interior.

**THE PREDATORS AND FOOD OF THE ATLANTIC SALMON**

LIFE STAGE	PREDATORS				FOOD
	Fish	Birds	Mammals	Insects	
<b>JUVENILE LIFE IN THE RIVER</b>					
Egg	eel	kingfisher	mink	mayfly	fish eggs
hatchling	trout	gull	otter	dobsonfly	
Perch	heron	fox	weasel	trout fly	
Smolt	salmon	osprey	coon	scud	small capelin herring sand lance mackerel sculpin cod salmon
	pike	heron	fisher	grasshopper	
		kingfisher	coyote	caterpillar	
			skunk	worms	
<b>LIFE AT SEA</b>					
Post-Smolt	king	gull	seal	seafood	small capelin herring sand lance mackerel sculpin cod salmon
	cod	heron	otter	crabs	
	pollock	kingfisher	fox	shrimp	
Salmon	salmon	osprey	coyote	crabs	
			skunk	shrimp	
<b>RETURN TO THE RIVER TO SPAWN</b>					
Salmon	salmon	heron	fox	crabs	
			skunk	shrimp	

Reproduced from "Star: The Story of Atlantic Salmon", by Gary J. Anderson and Ann E. Striner.



From an original sketch by Roger Savage

- Some Points of Interest**
- Court House
  - Traffic Light
  - General Store
  - Presbyterian Church
  - Craft Workshop
  - Telephone Office
  - Photographic Studio
  - Exhibit Centre
  - Bus Building
  - Post Shop
  - Tailor Shop
  - Pottery Shop
  - Turner Shop
  - Schoolhouse
  - Pub
  - Blacksmith Shop
  - Barn
  - Seamstress
  - Anglican Church
  - Drug Store

Sherbrooke received its name from Sir John Coape Sherbrooke who was Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia in 1813. One hundred years ago Sherbrooke was a prosperous river port. Although the timber trade, ship building and gold mines that supported the town have gone, today's visitor can still sample village life of that period. Many of the historic buildings of the area are being restored and rehabilitated, including a general store, court house, jail and post office.

To make the experience complete, the visitor finds many traditional activities and crafts being practiced. See a blacksmith at his forge, a water-powered sawmill operating or perhaps take a ride in a horse drawn wagon. Spinning, weaving, quilting and other household crafts also take place for the visitors to watch or try for themselves.

Section D