

Nomination for the 2020 Waterways Stewardship Award

Tristan Glen

During the canoeing season of 2019, Tristan Glen produced 3 highly detailed water trail maps for Canoe Kayak Nova Scotia (CKNS) in partnership with Nova Scotia Department of Environment (NSE). The sites included:

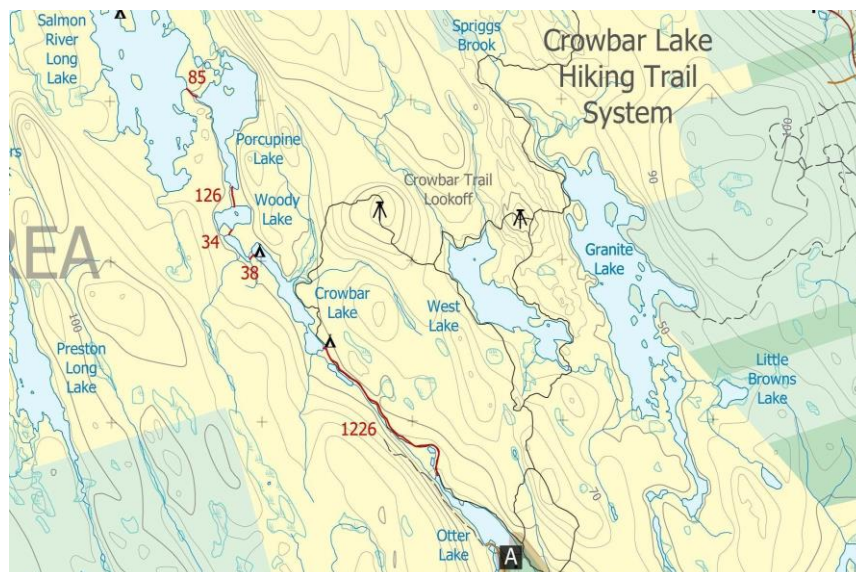
1. Waverley Wilderness Area Water Trail, HRM. (41 km.)
2. Medway Wilderness Area Water Trail, Annapolis Co. (47 km.)
3. Ship Harbour/Long Lake Wilderness Area - Skull Lake Loop, HRM. (24 km.)

By their nature, wilderness areas tend to be remote and difficult to access. To date, few of these routes have been actively managed and only the most adventurous paddlers, with strong orienteering skills and experience in wilderness travel, have accessed them.

Under the leadership of Tristan Glen, the overall project objective was to create 6 maps of select water trails which open up these Wilderness Areas and increase the route options for local paddlers. The maps encourage exploration of the areas which have been prioritized by NSE for their unspoiled natural environments. By producing them, awareness of the Province's protected areas will increase and safe, low-impact wilderness travel will be promoted.

Each wilderness area was researched prior to Tristan's actual field work, involving studying old and current geological and topographic maps, meeting with users of the specific areas and reviewing historic material.

While several volunteers assisted in re-establishing the portages and gathering GPS data on several portages and campsites, including Dusan Soudek, Dave Young and Oliver Maass, ***the work was initiated by and involved a considerable personal effort by Tristan.*** In the end, the first three maps were very well received by the CKNS membership and NSE. The example of his work here speaks for itself...



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The maps have many of the features of standard Canadian topographic maps, while highlighting portage routes, viewpoints, camping sites, access points and other relevant attributes at a 1:50,000 scale. Roads, trails and land use designations are also noted.

Each map includes text that promotes 'Leave No Trace' principles and encourages the map user to travel with concern for the natural surroundings.

In the summer of 2020, CKNS and Tristan and his partners continued the work of the previous season, developing the basis for another 3 water trail maps in partnership with NSE. The three new areas include:

1. Boggy Lake Wilderness Area, Guysborough Co./HRM. (12Km.)
2. Cloud Lake Wilderness Area, Annapolis/Kings Counties. (12 km.)
3. Terence Bay Wilderness Area, HRM. (6 km.)

The 6 enhanced maps will be available on line within the CKNS and NSE websites, providing an introduction to a total of 142 kms of canoe routes within the province's wilderness areas, along with all the data needed to update these maps in the future, as needed. All the sites are flatwater routes requiring no whitewater paddling skills and only moderate canoe handling ability. In the summer they will be used by canoeists, kayakers and anglers, and by snowshoers, skiers and hikers during winter months.

Public awareness of wilderness areas is vital to the continued protection and future expansion of paddling routes within protected areas. ***The work described herein and the input from Tristan, will ensure that.***

Nominated by: ***Allan Billard***

10 September 2020