

MANITOBA ECO-NETWORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manitoba Eco-Network launches the Interactive Map of "Canoeing the Manigotagan"

This summer, those Manitobans who are fortunate to experience our wilderness, have rushed to book campsites, buy outdoor equipment, and travel to new places in the province. While many are still comfortable with a paper map and compass to plan their adventure, the Manitoba Eco-Network has restored and updated the interactive Manigotagan River canoe map, called *Canoeing the Manigotagan*, so anyone can access it from a browser or smartphone.

The Manigotagan River, located approximately 150km northeast of Winnipeg, is a popular river for whitewater canoeing, and the new interactive map highlights the important locations for paddlers to plan their trip, including put-ins, campsites, and rapids. Using StoryMap technology, users can also see the history of the route, points of interest and safety tips along the Manigotagan. With many campgrounds at capacity, adventurous Manitobans are likely looking to remote and challenging wilderness experiences. *Canoeing the Manigotagan* can help them see these amazing places in a way that respects the environment and people of the area.

"It is one-of-a-kind, with very few river maps that go into the detail that this map does. We are honoured to give the map a second life and hope canoeists wishing to travel along the Manigotagan River will use our map as a resource," says Calvin So, Digital Engagement Coordinator at Manitoba Eco-Network.

The Manigotagan River mapping project was initiated in 2006 by the Manitoba Eco-Network GIS Mapping Centre. Staff and volunteers at the time took three trips to collect geographic coordinates, videos and pictures to promote sustainable eco-tourism in Manitoba. The map was completed in 2008 by the GIS Mapping Centre and has since found a home in many paddlers' libraries.

Today's release of the online version is an update of the original map, plus the design of a story board that describes the uniqueness and ecological significance of the area.

The Manitoba Eco-Network is a non-profit organization that facilitates environmental awareness and promotes positive environmental action. The recreation of this map was funded and supported by Assiniboine Credit Union, ESRI, and ECO Canada.

The interactive online map can be accessed at https://mbeconetwork.org/resources/canoe-map/.

For more information, please contact Calvin So at calvin@mbeconetwork.org or (204) 947-6511.