

## Canoe Circuit Route Description

### Registration Centre to Isaac Lake

The trip begins with the hardest work of the entire journey: a 2.4-kilometre portage from the Registration Centre to Kibbee Lake. After a short paddle you reach the start of a 2-kilometre portage to Indianpoint Lake.

The far end of Indianpoint Lake is marshy, but there is a marked channel leading to a slough and the 2-kilometre portage trail to Isaac Lake.

### Isaac Lake and River

Isaac Lake is the largest lake on the Circuit, at 38 kilometres long. It is susceptible to high winds and rough water. Near the south end of Isaac Lake, land at the portage marker sign and carefully study the chute on the Isaac River. It is fast moving, with a sharp turn, so inexperienced paddlers should portage around it.

This part of the Isaac River is navigable for only about 400 metres; the portage is indicated by a sign on the left side of a large pool above the foaming cascades.

From the end of the portage, paddle to a log jam above Isaac River Falls. The short portage to McLeary Lake starts on the right bank of the river above the log jam.

### McLeary Lake to Unna Lake

You must be alert and prepared to steer at all times while navigating the swift, silt-laden Cariboo River. Sweepers (fallen trees in the river) are the main hazard. Travel close to the north shore of Lanezi Lake, where campsites provide safe landing spots in high winds.

Below Sandy Lake follow the Cariboo River and watch carefully to the left for the narrow entrance to Unna Lake. Do not proceed down-river past this point. The 24-metre-high Cariboo Falls entice most visitors to walk to the viewpoint along the trail that starts on the southwest shore of Unna Lake.

### Unna Lake to Bowron Lake

From Unna Lake, backtrack about 400 metres up the Cariboo River, where a sign indicates the mouth of Babcock Creek. This shallow stream contains important fish-spawning habitat. Use the 1.2-kilometre portage trail along the west shore of Babcock Creek. Do not line canoes.

The next two short portages are the last on the Circuit. Spectacle and Swan lakes have sandy beaches and water warm enough in midsummer for swimming.

At the north end of Swan Lake, follow markers to the Bowron River, which meanders through an extensive marsh. Moose and waterfowl are often seen here.

There are no camping areas along the shores of Bowron Lake. The landing dock at Bowron Lake Campground is plainly visible on the east shore.

## Visitor Information

- ▶ **Fire:** Circuit travellers must utilize one-burner gas stoves for all cooking. Do not rely on open fires, as wood supplies may be wet. Never leave fires unattended.
- ▶ **Firearms** are prohibited. The park is a wildlife sanctuary.
- ▶ **Power boats and motors** are prohibited in the park, except on Bowron Lake.
- ▶ **Fishing:** A valid BC Angling License is required (available at private lodges in the area). Consult the regulations for details of closures.
- ▶ **Let it be:** Trees, shrubs, flowers and even rocks are part of the park's natural heritage. Please do not damage or remove them.
- ▶ **Pets:** Dogs and other domestic pets are prohibited on the Circuit.
- ▶ **Camping:** Use designated sites only.
- ▶ **Bottles and cans:** Commercial beverage containers are prohibited on the Canoe Circuit.
- ▶ **Sanitation:** Wash dishes, clothes and yourselves at least 50 metres (150 feet) from lakes and streams, and dump used wash water into the pit toilets.

## For More Information

BC Parks

<http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/bcparks>



Ministry of Water, Land  
and Air Protection



# Bowron Lake

PROVINCIAL PARK



## Welcome. Bowron Lake

Provincial Park, located 120 kilometres east of Quesnel, is a magnificent wilderness of 149,207 hectares. The park is famous for its unique Canoe Circuit of ten lakes that takes from six to ten days to complete. The rugged snowcapped peaks of the Cariboo Mountains form a majestic backdrop to the east side, while the west side of the Circuit meanders through the gentler Quesnel Highlands. The Circuit totals 116 kilometres, including the lakes, sections of the Isaac, Cariboo and Bowron rivers, and several portages.

Cariboo/Chilcotin/Coast

