

Woodland Caribou Provincial Park

REGULATIONS



BACKGROUND:

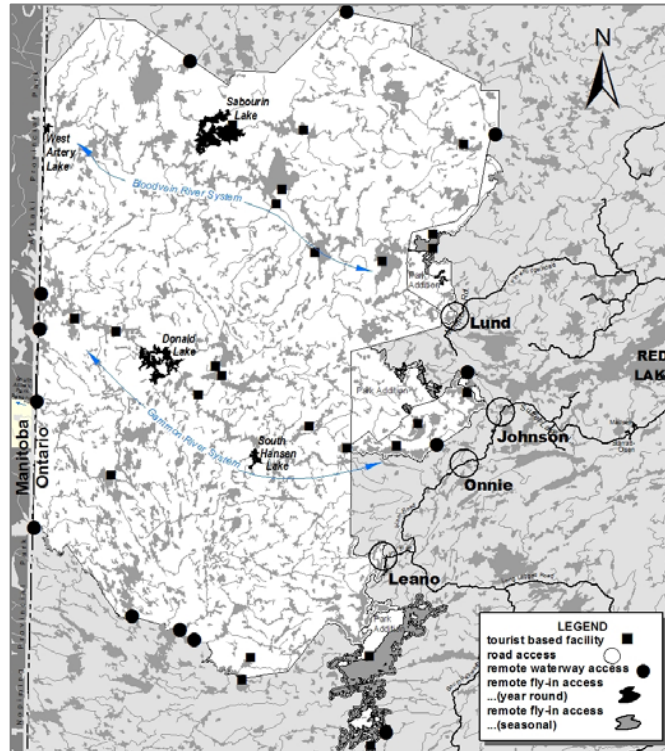
Woodland Caribou Provincial Park is located between Red Lake and the Ontario/Manitoba provincial boundary. It is the 3rd largest wilderness class park in Ontario. A park management plan was approved in 2007 which guides the park's current use and its long term management.

There are a number of Provincial Regulations which are presently in effect for the park area. If you are conducting business within the park or planning to visit the park you should be aware of the regulations contained in this leaflet. The park regulations are enforced.

REGULATIONS NOW IN EFFECT:

Approved Access

Visitors may access the park via the following options: road access points (Lund, Johnson, Onnie, and Leano), remote fly-in (temporary access zones), and a number of waterway entries (see map inset). Owners of tourist based facilities and their guests may access their lodge, outpost camps, and boat caches. Owners of private property may access their cottages. Licenced resource harvesters may access the park to conduct business related harvesting activities. Contact office for a detailed map.



Backcountry's Best Practices

To preserve Woodland Caribou Park's wild features and to enjoy a safe visit it is vital that you leave as little evidence as possible of your stay by adopting the following outdoor ethics:

Plan your trip carefully – bring the right equipment – contact your outfitter or park office for tips – know your skills

Emergency plan – have one and share it - leave a detailed itinerary with friends/family

Campsite – use existing sites – choose durable surfaces – focus activities where vegetation is absent

Island campsites – to be avoided in caribou calving/nursery habitat or if occupied by eagles

Tent pads – do not strip moss off forest floor or conifer branches off trees to create a soft base – this old practice is damaging and unlawful

Food - pack to minimize waste – keep the glass bottle ban in mind when packing

Structures – make-shift lawn furniture at campsites are damaging, tasteless and not permitted

Campfire – keep small - not every night - on mineral soils – use existing rings - foil does not burn

Firewood – collect from shoreline, away from campsite – do not delimb trees on campsite

Saw – use a collapsible saw instead of a camp axe – lighter – efficient – less damaging – safer to handle

Toilet – walk a little further in the woods – deposit and cover up – consider packing out or burning soiled paper

Grey water – discard 50m from water's edge - use biodegradable



Park Permits

Revenue generated from park fees is used exclusively to support the provincial parks program. Advance reservations are not necessary.

Lodge, Outpost Camp Guests & Cottagers. At this time, if you are staying at a licenced lodge, outpost camp or are owner(s) of a private cottage within the park you will not require any permits while staying at the facility and enjoying the lake on which the facility is based. If you plan a day trip to another lake you will require a day-use permit.

Campers. If you plan to camp overnight within the park you will require an interior camping permit. This would include camping while on canoe trips and fly-in fishing trips regardless of whose boats, equipment or aircraft you use.

Day Trippers. If you plan to use a boat, canoe, or aircraft in the park for a day you will require a day-use permit. Day-use permits are available in two options; a daily permit valid for one day only and for frequent visitors, a seasonal permit valid for unlimited day visits.

Visitors who utilize boats which are based at a lodge, outpost or cottage, located within the park are excluded from having to obtain these permits as long as they remain on the waterbody on which the facility is based.

Resource Harvesters. At this time, bait fishermen, trappers, and rice harvesters with valid resource harvesting licences are allowed to conduct business related to harvesting activities in the park without obtaining a day-use or camping permit. They are still required to obtain authority to land an aircraft or cache resource harvester boats in the park.

Aircraft Landings

If you plan to land an aircraft within the park, private or commercial, you will require an aircraft landing authority. This authority is free of charge and does not constitute a permit. You still require a camping or day-use permit.

Boat Caches

A written agreement is required to leave boats cached unattended within the park. A park permit (day-use or camping) is also required to operate these boats.

Motor Restrictions

Motorboating is not permitted in the park except for (1) commercial tourism operations, (2) resource harvesting activities, and (3) by private property owners. Where motorboating is permitted, horsepower restrictions apply.

Camping Party Size

Nine (9) people is the maximum party size allowed on a campsite. This regulation lessens the impact that large groups may have on the fragile park land. Larger parties are required to split up into smaller camping groups and each group must have an interior camping permit.

Glass Ban

A glass bottle ban, which includes jars and flasks, is in affect in Woodland Caribou. This is in keeping with the principles of low-impact camping. Glass bottles are prone to breakage, are non-degradable, and create a safety hazard when left behind.

Structures & Litter

Structures of any kind, i.e., lean-to, fish cleaning tables, benches, are not allowed at campsites or elsewhere in the park interior. Avoid the use of nails and please remove fire grills, strings, and unburnables as you move on. Practice "no-trace" camping. Every "litter" bit hurts!

Campfires

Fires must be built on bare rock or bare mineral soil and kept away from all flammable materials. Drown your fire thoroughly, stir the ashes, and drown it again to ensure that it is dead out. The use of portable camp stoves is highly recommended at all times and is mandatory in a Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) where open fires are prohibited. Please call the office prior to your trip to find out if a RFZ is in place.

Vegetation

All plants (including trees) are protected in a provincial park. It is unlawful to remove, cut or damage any vegetation. For fuelwood, use only dead wood collected along the shoreline and/or scattered on the forest floor some distance away from your campsite.

Sensitive Sites

Woodland Caribou has a number of sensitive sites. You may not remove, damage or deface any relict, artifact or natural object or any site of archaeological or historical interest. Likewise, you may not disturb any of these sites, excavate, or conduct research. We cannot stress enough that you respect the spiritual and historical significance of these sites. Enjoy with your eyes only.

RESOURCES:

Maps

Detailed park maps are recommended when traveling through this wilderness. Canoe Route Maps showing portages are available for a fee.

For more information, please contact:

Ontario Parks Office
Ministry of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 5003
Red Lake, Ontario P0V 2M0
Telephone: (807) 727-1329
Fax: (807) 727-2861
e-mail: woodland.caribou.mnr@ontario.ca
website: www.ontarioparks.com

Litter – every "litter" bit counts – biodegradable (peanut shells, apple core, etc...) are litter – attracts wildlife – unsightly – impacts on those who follow behind

Fish entrails – best left out on an exposed rock near shore – away from campsites and portages – do not bury – do not dump in lake

Bears – be wise – keep camp clean – store food appropriately – bear proof your vehicle at parking site

Respect – the animals – give them space – this is their domain – you are but a guest

Group Size – maximum of 9 on a campsite – why not while traveling as well – minimizes impact on those you meet

Trespassing – no camping at cabin sites – resist "snooping" – respect others property

Natural Treasures – leave behind for others to enjoy – do not remove or disturb in any way – capture photos

For Accommodated Guests:

Shore Lunch Sites – keep to sites agreed upon with park superintendent – no dumping of used cooking oil – no structure other than cooking barrel and rudimentary bench – keep site clean – pick up all litter (*egg shells, onion peels, sandwich wraps, cigarette butts*) before leaving

Fish Gut Disposal - fish entrails only – no biodegradable kitchen scraps – what doesn't grow here, doesn't belong here – potato, onion peels are litter

Boating – be respectful of smaller water crafts - minimize dangerous boat wake by keeping a distance when encountering paddlers

