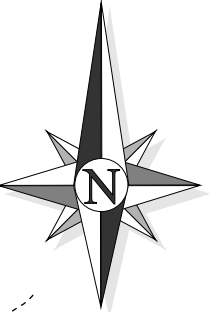


# Red Lake Waterway



The North West Company established a trading post northwest of Red Lake in the 1790s. Known as the "Bad Lake Post" the location has yet to be discovered. Portages west of Red Lake were used by the native peoples of the region long before the first European trader first visited the area in the 1700s. Most of these portages are still in use today having changed little since the days of the Voyageur.

Soapstone found at the west end of Red Lake was used by the native peoples of the area to produce smoking pipes hence the name "WANANIKAMMA "Pipe-Stone Bay".

**RED LAKE PICTOGRAPHS**  
Found on the large island west of middle narrows, this example of native rock painting is said to depict the "Legend of Red Lake" in which two hunters attempted to kill a Machee Manitou (evil spirit).

A wagon road constructed in the 1930s between Pipestone Bay and Mt. Jamie still exists today and can be used to access the old mine sites in this area. A horse stable and abandoned mining equipment can be found on the trail at Pipestone Bay.

By the 1930s a large mining community had established itself at the west end of Red Lake. A post office was established and was given the designation of Cole, Ontario, with John Cole Jr. being the first postmaster.

The Miles Red Lake mine is still accessible by a trail from Trout Bay. A small headframe and old buildings still exist at this exploration site.

A Lime Kiln was constructed at Hall's Bay to produce lime used in the gold mills of the area. The kiln structure still exists and is a short distance from the shore of Hall Bay.

- Boaters Guide**
- Rock / Small Island Markers - A black cross on the map indicates a rock or small island. Due to water level fluctuations on Red Lake these rocks may be visible or submerged. Please use caution.
  - Flashing Light Beacon - Large permanent or floating markers with flashing lights, visible from a distance.
  - Green Buoy - (Port Hand) are green in colour with a flat top, (shown in blue on this map).
  - Red Buoy - (Starboard Hand) are red in colour with a pointed top, (shown in black on this map).
  - Green Day Beacon - land based sign posts (painted boards), same meaning as green buoy. These markers are drawn in blue on the map.
  - Red Day Beacon - land based sign post (painted boards), same meaning as red buoy. These markers are drawn in black on the map.
  - Travel Routes - Dotted lines indicate preferred travel routes you should ensure that you pass marker buoys on the proper side. As a general reference the red buoys should be on your right hand side when proceeding upstream (against direction of flow). Generally Red Lake flows from north to south with the outflow being at the Chukuni River (at junction of Hwy 125). You should also take note that as a general rule you are travelling upstream.

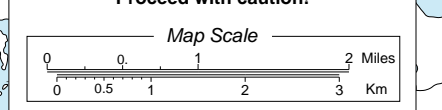
**General Travel Rules:** When not travelling on the preferred travel routes you should ensure that you pass marker buoys on the proper side. As a general reference the red buoys should be on your right hand side when proceeding upstream (against direction of flow). Generally Red Lake flows from north to south with the outflow being at the Chukuni River (at junction of Hwy 125). You should also take note that as a general rule you are travelling upstream.

**ATTENTION BOATERS!** The navigational aids on the Red Lake - Gullrock Lake waterway are maintained by the Red Lake Safe Waters Association in cooperation with the Canadian Coast Guard. As a nonprofit group, the Red Lake Safe Waters Association provides this service through membership. Join the Safe Waters Association and help to preserve the navigational aids on the water.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Do not be boated to, or obstruct marker buoys in any way. Do not obstruct travel in narrow channels. Please ensure you have the required safety equipment in your vessel at all times while on the water.

**CAUTION:**  
This map should not be used as a guide in navigation because it does not show all the various shoals, hazards, and other perils which might be present in, on, or in the vicinity of the lakes.

**Proceed with caution!**



**USE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN TRAVELLING ON AREA LAKES.**  
THIS MAP DOES NOT SHOW ALL HAZARDS AND AS SUCH SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR NAVAL PURPOSES.

**THE LEGEND OF RED LAKE**  
Legend has it that two native hunters saw a large moose on the shore of the lake and attempted to kill it. After several attempts the hunters fell to their knees and sang their war songs to the "Master of Life". Regaining their strength the hunters attacked the moose again. Wounded, the creature sought escape by diving into the lake. Blood coloured the lake red, thus the name of the lake became "MOSKOW SAKA IKAN", or Blood Red Lake.

The lake has also been called by some "OHIMINI SAKA IKAN", or Red Ochre Lake. Red Ochre was a traditional pigment used by the local Ojibway and Cree peoples in their artwork. Found in the rusting iron formations around the lake, the rock was crushed and then mixed with oil or grease. Pictographs (rock art) found in the area were created using this pigment, having survived the elements for hundreds of years.

- |  |   |  |                       |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|
|  | Main Highway (hard)                         |  | Fishing               |
|  | Secondary Highway (hard)                    |  | Fish Sanctuary        |
|  | Loose Surface (two)                         |  | Marine                |
|  | Loose Surface (single)                      |  | Access Point (Public) |
|  | Unclassified Road or Portage Trail - Winter |  | Historical            |
|  | Survey Line, Township                       |  | Tower                 |
|  | Swamp                                       |  | Important Notice      |

Please note that loose surface roads may not provide normal vehicle access during all seasons. Services offered at Marinas and Resorts may vary depending on the season. Some location markers on this map have been produced by Red Lake Digital Media Inc. copyright (c) Red Lake Digital Media Inc. 2002.

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McKenzie Island was named for the North West Company trader (Donald McKenzie) who ran the Red Lake post on the island in 1804. It was in that year that McKenzie upon hearing of a Sioux raiding party approaching Red Lake from the west decided to flee the area. Before leaving, it is said that McKenzie sank everything he could not carry in a small lake on the island, including 80 kegs of rum. Donald McKenzie and his Ojibway companions fled southeast via the Chukuni River and Lac Seul but were finally overtaken and massacred at Pelican Lake near present-day Sioux Lookout. In recent years searches have been conducted to find McKenzie's cache of rum kegs on the island. To date none have been found.