



# Manigotagan River Provincial Park

## Land Designation

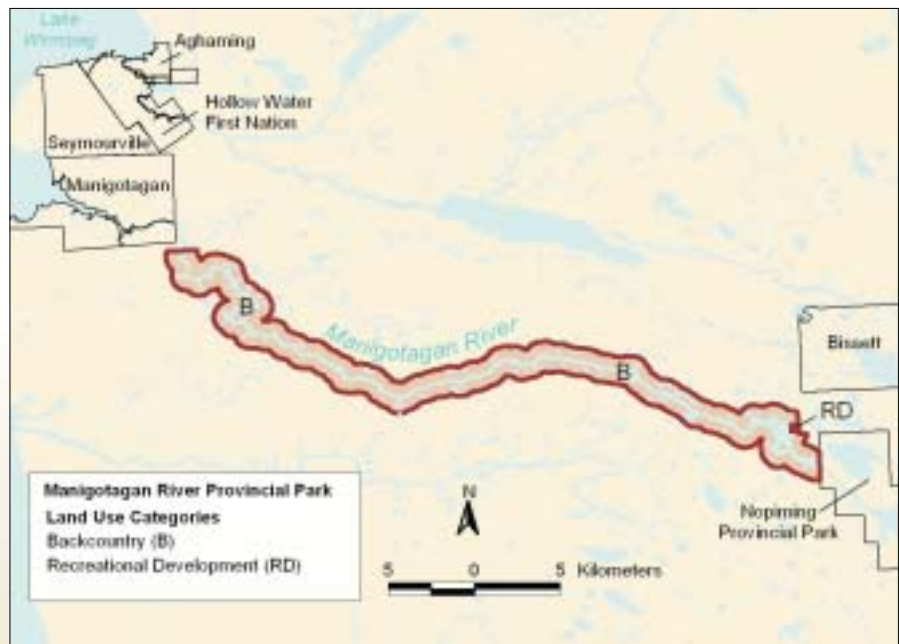
Provincial Park

## Landscape Description

Manigotagan River Provincial Park is located in Precambrian Boreal Forest Natural Region 4c in southeastern Manitoba about 150 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg, and displays all the spectacular vistas and uniquely Canadian settings of the bedrock-controlled forests of the Canadian Shield. The Manigotagan is a challenging whitewater river just hours by road from the population centre of the province. The community of Manigotagan sits at the river's mouth, on the shores of magnificent Lake Winnipeg.

## Outstanding Features

The park is composed of a corridor stretching 750 meters from each bank of the Manigotagan River. The corridor extends across the east side of Lake Winnipeg from the north-western tip of Nopiming Provincial Park downstream more than 45 kilometres, ending just outside the Manigotagan community interest area. The topography is as varied as it is spectacular, ranging from the sheer rock faces topped with craggy Jack Pine (*Pinus banksiana*) and Rock Tripe lichen (*Umbilicaria* sp.) on the upstream stretches, to moist verdant stands of Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*), Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) and Elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*) near the river mouth. If you look carefully, you may even find Prickly Pear Cactus (*Opuntia fragilis*), Canada Yew (*Taxus canadensis*, the only Yew found in Manitoba) or some of the area's majestic wildlife (moose, black bear, wolf or woodland caribou) – highlights of a trip to be savoured under evening displays of the Aurora Borealis as the river slips by.



The Manigotagan River is classified as a natural park and is composed of two land use categories. Over 99 per cent of the park's 7,432 hectares are backcountry (the area is protected from mining, logging and hydro-electric development). Less than one per cent of the corridor, or 16 hectares, is classified as recreational development, to accommodate a small mining claim. The corridor contributes to the provincial protected areas initiative, as it includes a portion of one enduring feature not previously included in protected status before, as well as a portion of another enduring feature type with only partial representation up to now.

The support for protection of this river and its surroundings by regional communities is another step towards the long-term solution to balancing protection with economic development on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. This protected park designation – done jointly by government and area residents, with input from all Manitobans – helps ensure that the natural, cultural and recreational heritage of our province is maintained intact for our children.