Storied Lands & Waters of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway: Interpretive Plan and Heritage Resource Assessment

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ABSTRACT

An interpretive plan for Allagash Wilderness Waterway, located in northern Maine, articulates a purpose and thematic framework for communicating about “the Allagash.” Recommended actions address management’s goals; respond to inherent possibilities and constraints; build on current efforts; take advantage of interpretive opportunities; and identify audiences. The plan proposes actions and resources for educators.

A heritage resource assessment identifies properties and objects associated with the Waterway in seven historic and cultural resource categories. Proposed management actions help carry out provisions of Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands strategic and management plans, consistent with Bureau policy and best management practices. In general, policy requires managers to “protect, monitor, and treat” historic and cultural resources under their care.

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Ordering information: Copies of this report and supporting materials, including educators’ lesson plans, available from Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation, awwf.org.

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PREFACE

Interest in Waterway interpretation and the historic and cultural resources along the Allagash is long-standing, predating the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation. It is the Foundation, however, that brought these interests into focus. I am grateful to the Foundation board of directors for creating, funding, and shepherding the Storied Lands & Waters project, and giving me the opportunity to participate.

Given the 92-mile length of the Waterway, and the breadth of resources encompassed therein, I relied on the counsel of individuals with intimate knowledge about the Allagash (see Acknowledgments). Prime among those who provided assistance is the staff of Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands.

Although I consulted with many, the Storied Lands & Waters conclusions and recommendations are mine alone. I offer them for consideration by all who are passionate about the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Thanks for all your help,

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