

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY
G1376.E63 M57 1998

- Mississippi River guide / Departme



3 0307 00025 7918

Mississippi

River Guide



*A guide to boating on the
Mississippi River between
Hastings, Minnesota and
the Iowa Border*

G
1376
.E63
M57
1998

RECEIVED

OCT 18 1999

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

Mississippi River Guide
Department of Natural Resources



*Printed on recycled paper containing a
minimum of 10% post-consumer waste.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS GUIDE	2
BOATING SAFETY	2
You Are The Key to Water Safety	2
Float Plan	3
Boating Accidents	4
BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER	5
Locks and Dams	5
Hazards	8
Buoys and Markers	10
VHF-FM Marine Radio	10
Drawbridge Operation Regulations	11
REGULATIONS AND EQUIPMENT	11
Registration (<i>Licensing</i>)	12
Safety Equipment	12
Watercraft Operator's Permit	13
Rules of The Road	14
Personal Watercraft	15
Enforcement	16
Alcohol & DWI	16
Wake Damage and Erosion	17
Pollution	19
Final Note	20
AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS	20
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	20
U.S. Power Squadrons	20
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	20
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	22
Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee	22
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	22
National Fish & Wildlife Service Signs	23
RIVER MAPS	24-95
AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH BOATING ON THE RIVER	96
SAMPLE FLOAT PLAN	100
MAP LEGEND	Fold Out Flap of the Back Cover
MAP INDEX	Back Cover

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has prepared two publications in response to the recommendations of the GREAT I Study and the demand of the boating public for a detailed guide of Minnesota's great rivers. This is one of two river guides that covers the most popular portions of the Mississippi, St. Croix and Minnesota rivers (*see inset on back cover*).

These guides are intended to assist boaters on the rivers and to promote safe and enjoyable use of the resource. They contain detailed maps of the rivers and include frequently requested information on boating facilities, safety aspects and hazards specific to the Mississippi, St. Croix and Minnesota rivers.

Take a few minutes to read through the safety information section in the next few pages. The BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER section on page 5 is especially important to boaters on the Mississippi River. Be informed about submerged wing dams and stump fields. IT COULD SAVE YOUR MOTOR'S LOWER UNIT! Also know the proper boating procedures around towboats as well as locks and dams. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

NOTE: A river, by its character, is constantly changing its physical dimensions. The rivers portrayed in this guide are no exception. While the mapping for this guide utilized the latest information, changes may have occurred. It is suggested that the user exercise care when navigating, especially in the backwater areas where changes occur more frequently.

Using This Guide

Using this river guide is easy. An index of maps and a fold-out legend is located on the back cover. An explanation of each facility is located on the facing or previous page for each map. Facilities are indexed by river mile and side of river (*left or right when going downstream*). Note: state parks as well as many county and regional parks require entrance fees for motor vehicles.

BOATING SAFETY

YOU ARE THE KEY TO WATER SAFETY

Considering the large number of participants in Minnesota, water-based recreation is a relatively safe pastime. Still, an average of 20 persons die in boating accidents each year in the state. In addition, many more people are injured and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property damage results from boating mishaps.

Your water fun depends on you, your equipment and other people who, like yourself, enjoy spending leisure time on, in or near the river.

Let's look at your responsibilities:

1. A knowledge of rules and regulations for watercraft use.
2. A knowledge of safety equipment required by law to be on board your watercraft.
3. A knowledge of the operation of your boat.
4. Knowledge of boating hazards unique to large rivers.
5. Responsibility for the actions of all persons on board the watercraft.
6. Acceptance of the fact that everyone has the right - and privilege - to use the river in a proper manner.

FLOAT PLAN

Leave a float plan with someone who will miss you if you do not return on time. A float plan should include the following information: *(See sample float plan on page 100.)*

1. A description of your car and where you will park it.
2. Where you intend to boat.
3. A description of your boat including the registration number.
4. Communication equipment on board and cell phone number or radio call sign if you have one.
5. The names of all persons on board.
6. Safety equipment on board.
7. Estimated time of arrival back home.
8. The latest return time home.
9. Your alternate plans in the event of an emergency or bad weather.
10. The phone number of the county sheriff for the area in which you will be boating.
11. Don't forget to cancel your float plan when you return home.

BOATING ACCIDENTS

Many boating accidents can be avoided if you follow these safe boating practices:

1. Wear your life jacket.
2. Avoid alcohol when boating.
3. Be especially careful around cold water. Hypothermia kills.
4. Turn your navigation lights on at sunset.
5. Carry a fire extinguisher aboard at all times.
6. Be aware of changing weather conditions.
7. Don't overload your watercraft.



New London / Spicer Times photo
When operating in foggy weather, be sure you are going slow enough to stop within one-half your distance of visibility.

Remember:

- ★ Most boating accidents occur during the day and in clear weather.
- ★ The majority of boat operators involved in accidents have considerable experience in using their craft but have never taken a formal boating safety course.

Reporting Accidents

Federal and state rules require that any accident, collision, or other casualty involving a motorboat or other vessel, must be reported if it resulted in:

1. a fatality, or
2. personal injury involving loss of consciousness, requiring medical treatment, or resulting in incapacitation for 24 hours or more, or
3. property damage in excess of \$500.

In Minnesota, all accidents must be reported to the county sheriff's office where the accident occurred. The addresses and telephone numbers for each county sheriff's office are on page 97 of this publication.

BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER

LOCKS AND DAMS

In the 1930s, the United States Army Corps of Engineers built a series of locks and dams on the Mississippi River to maintain a navigational channel of at least nine feet in depth. Eleven such lock and dam facilities are located on the Mississippi north of the Minnesota-Iowa border. These locks and dams present a special hazard to recreational boaters who are unfamiliar with them. Special precautions must be taken when approaching and going through these navigational structures. In addition to these facilities, there are other dams on the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix rivers that have no locks.

What is a lock?

The dams on the Mississippi River create a series of navigational pools. Each dam can be thought of as a step in the river as it descends to the Gulf of Mexico. A lock is used to raise or lower boats to the next pool in the system. A lock is a chamber that may be opened on either end to allow boats to enter or leave. Once a boat is in the lock, water is added to the chamber to raise a boat to the upstream pool or released from the chamber to lower a boat to the downstream pool.

Deceptive Currents

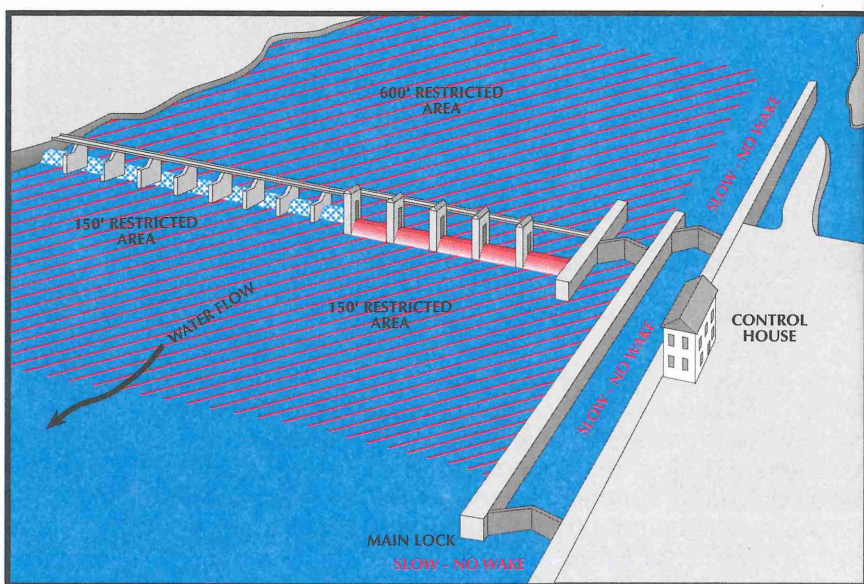
Near each lock and dam the water is turbulent and dangerous. Currents are strong, swift, and deceptive. As water is drawn in and discharged from a lock chamber or drawn over a dam, undercurrents are created that are powerful enough to drag a boat and its occupants to the bottom.

Restricted Areas

There are certain restricted areas to protect boaters in the vicinity of locks and dams. The water near each lock and dam has dangerous currents. Boats *may not enter* the following areas:

The area 600 feet upstream and 150 feet downstream from the dam (*including auxiliary locks not in service*).

Additional restrictions may be posted at each dam or spillway. Obey all signs and buoys.



Mississippi River, Lock and Dam No. 6

Locking Through

Upon approaching a lock, a set of traffic signals (the same as you would find at a road intersection) will inform the boater as to the lock's status. See the next page for a description of these lights and their meaning. Upon approach to the lock, you can contact the lockmaster via channel 14 on your VHF marine radio or simply pull the signal cord on the lock approach wall. You should be aware that the lock may be in use as you approach, locking craft through from the other side, and you may have to wait.

No Light



Lock not in use, approach guide wall and signal for lockage by pulling signal cord.

Red Light



Stand clear, do not approach.

Yellow Light

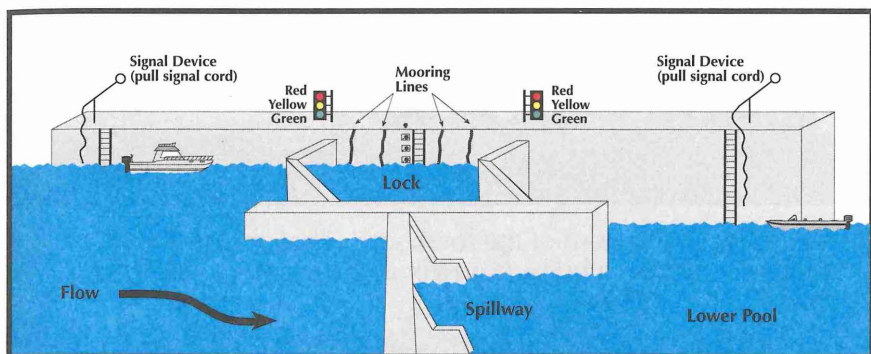


Enter lock.

Green Light



Approach lock under full control.



Upon receiving a green light, proceed slowly into lock and observe mooring lines spaced along lock wall. The lines should be held by hand and not tied to the boat while in the lock chamber. Do not tie a line to a recessed ladder. Insure that passengers remain seated at all times and keep hands inside the boat to avoid the chance of crushed fingers. If construction of craft requires handling lines on deck, a life jacket should be worn. Do not leave the engine running during lockage, nor climb ladders of the lock structure.

Upon completion of the lock filling or emptying operation and when the gates are fully open, a signal will be given by the lock operator that it is safe to depart the lock. *The signal will be either a P.A. announcement, one short toot of the signal horn or a hand signal by the lock operator.* Leave the lock at a slow speed assuring that you are well clear of the lock structure before gaining speed. The approaches to the locks are considered no wake areas.

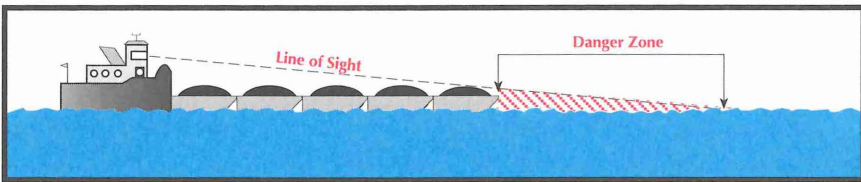
Recreational craft and towboats are locked through on a first-come, first-served basis. Only government craft and regularly scheduled passenger craft have priority. Boaters should be aware that delays in locking through may occur. Lock and dam personnel monitor channels 14 and 16 on the VHF marine radio and can be contacted about waiting periods. There is no charge for locking through.

HAZARDS

Towboats

When encountering a towboat, always obey the following rules:

1. Stay clear of towboats! They usually have the right-of-way over recreational boats and they create strong wakes.
2. Never anchor in their course; it may require a half-mile or more for them to stop.
3. Remember, at night their lights appear far apart compared to small boats.
4. They have a blind area directly in front of the barges and on each side.



5. Stay clear of the stern of the towboats. They may suddenly turn on a burst of power and overturn a small boat.
6. Turn your bow into the wake of barges and boats.
7. When meeting a barge at a bend in the river move to the inside of the bend where possible.

Wing Dams

To help improve the navigability of the Mississippi River by controlling the direction of channel flow, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has placed hundreds of wing dams.

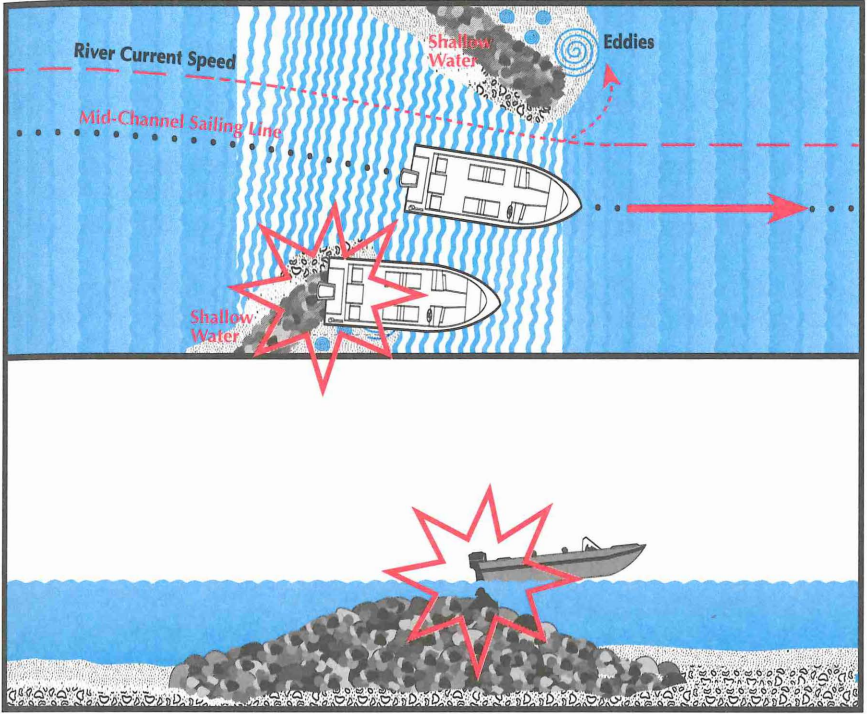
A wing dam is an elongated pile of rocks or concrete which is usually submerged. Because wing dams often lie just below the water surface, they cannot be visually detected and pose a great danger to the unwary boater. If you follow these boating practices, however, you can avoid an unwanted encounter with a wing dam.

1. Stay within the main channel, indicated by buoys and markers (*see back cover*). It is continually dredged and maintained.
2. If approaching shore, proceed slowly from a perpendicular angle.
3. Stay clear of ripples in the water surface; these are a tell-tale sign of a wing dam lying just below.

WARNING!

The dam symbols in this guide show *approximate* locations of the wing or closing dams. *The actual locations may vary.*

Wing Dams and Closing Dams Are Not Buoyed!



Top drawing is not to scale

Closing Dams

Closing dams were constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help control the direction of channel flow on the river. These dams are located on some side channels of the Mississippi River and may not be visible from the surface. A number of these dams are located between Hastings and Red Wing and others between the lower end of Lake Pepin and the Iowa border. *Although most of these are marked on this set of maps - boaters are cautioned to always proceed at a slow speed outside the main channel of the river to avoid striking either natural or artificial obstructions.*

Stump Fields

When the dam system on the Mississippi River was built in the 1930s, many low-lying areas were covered with trees. Although the trees were cut down, many submerged tree stumps still remain. We have shown the *approximate* locations of stump fields on the river maps; but please remember, whenever you are in a backwater area there is always a chance that you will encounter a stump. Use extra caution in these areas.

Changing Water Levels

Water levels change frequently on the rivers, causing changes in currents that may not be immediately obvious to boaters. High water can produce unpredictable and swift currents and moving debris that may come in the form of logs, timbers, docks and whole trees. Conversely, low water can produce hazards above and below the water's surface (*stump fields, wing dams, etc.*).

BUOYS AND MARKERS

A list of the buoys and markers you will encounter on the river can be found on the fold-out flap of the back cover. A knowledge of them is essential for safe navigation on the river.

All boaters are cautioned not to rely solely on buoys for navigation because of their potential unreliability. U.S. Coast Guard buoys are removed, relocated or established whenever the U.S. Coast Guard determines a change is desirable for the safety of navigation.

While the U.S. Coast Guard makes every reasonable effort to ensure buoys are properly located to serve their intended purpose, they cannot keep all buoys and navigable channels under constant surveillance. Between visits of a Coast Guard buoy tender, it is possible for a channel or obstruction to have shifted, the water depth to have changed, or for a buoy to have moved, sunk, or gone adrift.

Daymarks are square, triangular or diamond-shaped boards (*usually red or green in color*) that are used to mark channels on the large river systems. On the Mississippi they will also indicate the river mileage upstream from Cairo, Illinois on a white board beneath the daymark. They may also be lighted (*green or white lights on green boards and red or white lights on red boards*).

Even with lighted buoys and markers, boating at night is not advisable due to unseen hazards.

VHF-FM MARINE RADIO

Channel 16 is a calling and *distress* channel. Communications on channel 16 should be kept short, limited to initial contact only, unless there is an emergency.

Channel 22A is for non-emergency communications with the U.S. Coast Guard. It is also used by the U.S. Coast Guard to make broadcast notices to mariners.

Locks on the Upper Mississippi River monitor channels 14 & 16. Initial contact with locks should be made on channel 14, which will

also be the working channel in most cases.

When important marine events occur, broadcast notices to mariners are issued. These notices are broadcast by U.S. Coast Guard radio stations on channel 22A (157.1 MHz). Non-scheduled broadcasts are often made to supplement scheduled broadcasts. U.S. Coast Guard preliminary announcements of broadcasts are made on channel 16 (156.8 MHz) and channel 19 (156.450 MHz) as a secondary channel. The U.S. Coast Guard broadcasts are then given on channel 22A (157.1 MHz). Broadcast times for this area are 3:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

For more information on marine radio use, contact the Federal Communications Commission (*e-mail address and telephone number are at the end of this guide*).

DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

For drawbridges over the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers, the usual sound signal for opening the draw is a prolonged blast (4 to 6 seconds duration) of a whistle or horn, followed by one short blast (one second duration), sounded not more than three seconds after the prolonged blast. This sequence is repeated at intervals until acknowledged by the drawtender. If the draw can be opened immediately, acknowledging signal is one prolonged blast followed by one short blast, sounded not more than 30 seconds after opening signal. If the draw cannot be opened immediately, or if open and must be closed immediately, five short blasts, sounded in rapid succession not more than 30 seconds after the opening signal, shall be repeated at intervals until acknowledged by a signal which has the same meaning from the vessel. Some drawbridges are equipped with VHF marine radios; a list is provided below. Mariners approaching these drawbridges are urged to contact the bridge tender to confirm requests for opening, or to exchange information.

Locations of Drawbridges

Mississippi River	Mile	Call Sign	Channel
La Crosse Railroad	699.8	KVY 631	13 & 16
Hastings Railroad	813.7	KTD 538	14 & 16

REGULATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

(This is not a complete summary of regulations. Rules and laws are subject to change. A current copy of federal, Minnesota and Wisconsin regulations should be consulted. Unless noted, all rules summarized below are from Minnesota.)

REGISTRATION (*LICENSING*)

All watercraft, except wild-rice boats and duckboats used during the appropriate season, non-motorized boats nine feet or less in length, and seaplanes, are required to be licensed by the DNR. This rule does not apply if the watercraft is licensed by another state, federal agency or foreign country. All canoes used in Minnesota must be registered either in Minnesota or the user's home state.

To obtain or renew a watercraft license, go to the nearest deputy registrar's office (*where you license your car*) or the DNR's License Bureau (*address is at the back of this guide*).

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Personal Flotation Devices - PFDs

The U.S. Coast Guard estimates that 80 percent of the boating fatalities in the country could have been prevented if boaters were wearing their life jackets. This is especially important in boats less than 20 feet in length. The most common boating fatalities are capsizing and falling overboard.

Minnesota rules require that:

- ★ On all boats, a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved wearable device (Type I, II, III or V) must be worn or readily accessible for each person on board as well as any persons being towed on water skis or similar devices. Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft (Jet Ski, Sea Doo etc.) must WEAR a Type I, II, III or V USCG approved device (*see page 15*).
- ★ In addition, on all boats 16 feet or more in length, except canoes and kayaks, at least one USCG approved Type IV throwable device must be immediately available aboard the craft. Type IV devices include buoyant cushions, ring buoys and horseshoe buoys.
- ★ All flotation devices must be U.S. Coast Guard approved and bear the USCG approval number. The devices must be in serviceable condition and, if wearable, must be of the correct size for the person who is or would be using it.

Lights

All watercraft must be equipped with the navigation lights required by law when operating between sunset and sunrise. These lights are to warn others and in many cases indicate what the watercraft is doing.

Boaters should check the state or federal regulations for the lighting requirements for their craft.

Fire Extinguishers

All watercraft using motors *should* carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher. Both state and federal laws require fire extinguishers on watercraft carrying or using fuel or other flammable fluid in any enclosure of the boat. Check the state or federal regulations for specific requirements.

Signaling Systems

A whistle or horn is required on all motorboats 16 feet or longer. Check the current regulations for exact requirements.

Other Desirable Equipment

- ★ Anchor and line
- ★ Flashlight
- ★ Marine radio
- ★ Paddle, oars or auxiliary outboard
- ★ Bilge pump or bailing devices
- ★ A tool kit and spare parts (including an extra propeller)
- ★ Battery box or non-conductive cover for terminals (required by State of Wisconsin)
- ★ Fenders
- ★ First aid kit

WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT

Motorboat Operator Age Laws in Minnesota*

Type of Craft and Age	As of June 1, 1998
Motorboats - (Except personal watercraft, PWC or Jet Skis) Less than 12 years old	1. 25 hp or less - no restriction, 2. more than 25 thru 75 hp - must have someone at least 21 on board in reach of controls**, 3. over 75 hp - cannot operate, even with adult on board
12-17 years old	1. 25 hp or less - no restriction, 2. over 25 hp - must have: ★ a watercraft operator's permit, or ★ someone at least 21 on board in reach of controls**
<i>Personal Watercraft continued on next page</i>	

* *this is only a summary of the legislation and not a copy of the actual law*

** *for purposes of the BWI law, both the youthful operator and the supervising adult are considered to be in actual physical control of the motorboat*

Type of Craft and Age	As of June 1, 1998
<p>Personal Watercraft - (PWC, Jet Skis etc.) - regardless of horsepower</p> <p>Less than 13 years old</p> <p>13 years old</p> <p>14-17 years old</p>	<p>Cannot operate, even with adult on board.</p> <p>Must either have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ someone at least 21 on board, or ★ a watercraft operator's permit and be in visual supervision by someone at least 21 <p>Must either have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ a watercraft operator's permit, or ★ have someone at least 21 on board

Permits may be obtained by contacting the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Boat and Water Safety Section at the address at the back of this guide. Wisconsin also requires operator's permits for persons 12 - 16 years of age for all motorboats. More information on Wisconsin's permit program can be obtained from the Wisconsin DNR (*address located at the end of this guide.*)

RULES OF THE ROAD

There are traffic rules afloat, as well as on our highways. Common sense tells us we should know what to do when passing, meeting and/or crossing the path of another craft. These rules are simple and they provide uniform patterns of passing and direction that otherwise would not exist.

Port to Port or Head to Head

Each watercraft must pass on the port or left side of the other when meeting port to port or head to head.

Starboard to Starboard

When courses of two boats are so far on the starboard or right of each other as not to be considered a head to head meeting, they may pass on the starboard side of each other.

Crossing

When two boats approach each other at right angles, the boat on the starboard (*right*) side has the right-of-way. The privileged (*stand-on*) boat must hold course and speed while the burdened (*give-way*) boat must keep clear and pass behind the boat with the right-of-way.

Overtaking

In an overtaking situation, the boat being overtaken has the right-of-way and must hold course and speed, even if the overtaking boat is a sailboat.

Non-Motorized Boats

Except when passing, sailboats and non-motorized craft have the right-of-way over motorized watercraft. Steer clear of them, and remember that your wake can cause them trouble.

At Night

At night, running lights indicate which boat has the right-of-way. The green light is on the starboard (*right*) side and a red light on the port (*left*) side of the craft. If the red and white lights are the only ones visible, then that boat is privileged and has the right-of-way.

Whistle Signals

- 1 BLAST** - passing on the port (*left*) side.
- 2 BLASTS** - passing on the starboard (*right*) side.
- 3 BLASTS** - operating in reverse.
- 5 BLASTS** - DANGER - may be used to indicate passage is not safe.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

What is a personal watercraft? Sometimes known as **Jet Skis, Wet Jets, Wave Runners, Sea Doos**, water scooters etc., a personal watercraft is defined by law as a motorboat that is: 1) powered by an inboard motor powering a water jet pump or by an outboard or propeller-driven motor; and 2) designed to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on the craft, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside a motorboat.

All personal watercraft are considered motorboats and therefore, any regulations that govern other motorboats (such as fishing boats, cabin cruisers, etc.), also govern personal watercraft.

Personal Watercraft Laws (as of June 1, 1998)

In summary, the law requires that:

- ★ Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft must **wear** a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V personal flotation device (PFD or life jacket).
- ★ Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.
- ★ A personal watercraft rules decal issued by DNR needs to be on the craft in full view of the operator.

- ★ Personal watercraft must travel at slow - no wake speed (5mph or less) within 150 feet of non-motorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers, or any moored or anchored boat.
- ★ If you tow a person on water skis, or any other device, there must be an additional person on board the personal watercraft to act as an observer. (The observer does not have to be facing backward.) The skier/kneeboarder etc. must also be wearing a PFD or there must be one on board the personal watercraft for the skier. Factory-installed or factory-specified rearview mirrors are allowed instead of an observer when pulling a skier or other device (tube, kneeboard, etc.). The mirrors must be specified by the personal watercraft manufacturer. After-market mirrors, stick-on mirrors, motorcycle mirrors etc., do not qualify for the observer exemption.
- ★ If the machine is equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, it must be attached to the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator when underway.
- ★ You may not operate a personal watercraft if any part of the spring-loaded throttle system has been removed or tampered with so it interferes with the return-to-idle system.
- ★ You **MAY NOT** chase or harass wildlife.
- ★ You **MAY NOT** travel through emergent or floating vegetation at greater than slow - no wake speed.
- ★ You **MAY NOT** operate a personal watercraft in a manner that unreasonably or unnecessarily endangers life, limb or property.
- ★ You **MAY NOT** weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other watercraft. This includes other personal watercraft.
- ★ You **MAY NOT** operate a personal watercraft while facing backward.

ENFORCEMENT

Whenever you are boating or fishing on rivers you are subject to laws and rules similar to those in effect on streets and highways. Enforcement of state regulations is the responsibility of Minnesota and Wisconsin DNR conservation officers and wardens, and county sheriffs' deputies. You are also subject to federal laws which are enforced by the U.S. Coast Guard, National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ALCOHOL & DWI

Alcohol will influence your balance, coordination, vision, judgment and reaction time. The use of alcohol is involved in about half of all the boating deaths that occur in Minnesota and Wisconsin. This includes not only the spectacular collisions, but the lone angler who drowns after falling out of his boat on a peaceful backwater.

Operating a motorboat while under the influence of alcohol, a con-

trolled substance or other illegal chemical is unlawful. Operators who are impaired may be required to take tests by an enforcement officer to determine their sobriety.

Penalties for DWI or refusal to submit to a chemical test on a motorboat can include any or all of the following:

- ★ a fine
- ★ a jail sentence
- ★ loss of your motorboat operating privileges
- ★ loss of your driver's license
- ★ loss of your car or truck license plates
- ★ forfeiture of your motorboat

WAKE DAMAGE AND EROSION

Watercraft operators are responsible for damage to property, shoreline and moored boats caused by their wake. Wake damage is more likely during periods of high water with normal operation. A combination of factors should be considered when assessing the possibility of damage caused by your wake including speed, draft and nearness to the bank. Operating out of the normal navigation channel also increases the likelihood of wake damage.

The Problem

A serious riverbank erosion problem is occurring in a portion of Pool No. 4, extending from Lock and Dam No. 3 (north of Red Wing) to the northern end of Lake Pepin. The banks in this section of the river are composed mostly of fine silt and sand that is easily eroded by wake or wave action, especially during high water levels.

Research

Research done on the river by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) near Red Wing from 1989 through 1992 revealed that high energy wakes from motorboats can greatly accelerate natural erosion, *causing the banks to erode by as much as two feet per year on the inside of a riverbend and up to 14 feet on the outside of the riverbend over a three-year period!* This erosion was most common during periods when the river was at least three feet above the normal low water level. The study used locations and techniques to reflect the specific effects attributable to recreational boat wakes, realizing that the river is also subject to commercial barge traffic, as well as the natural action of waves and currents. As an example, a parallel channel in the same area of the river, which receives very little recreational boat traffic, did not show the same accelerated bank erosion.

This erosion has the potential for serious consequences for river ecology, fishing and boating resulting in a loss of shoreland, increased sediment in the water and a loss of trees and vegetation

along the river.

The Effects

1. **Reduced Recreation** - Sediment washed into the river clouds the water, creating poor swimming, fishing and boating conditions.
2. **Damage to Fish and Wildlife Habitat** - Sediment settles out of the water and fills in important backwater areas choking out aquatic vegetation that is essential to fish and wildlife.
3. **Additional Dredging** - Over time, this extra sediment will probably require additional dredging to maintain the navigation channel. This costs additional taxpayer dollars and presents the problem of where to safely place the extra dredge spoil.
4. **Property Loss** - When land is lost, it cannot easily be replaced. Owners of riverbank property, whether private or public, are deprived of its use. In addition, the expenditure of thousands of dollars may be necessary by the owners in an attempt to stabilize the shoreline.
5. **Damage to Boats** - Trees and large branches can float down stream after falling into the water (creating *snags* or *deadheads*), sometimes lodging in the bottom of the river. These become serious hazards to watercraft. Many of them also float just below the surface of the river, hidden like a mine from the unsuspecting boater and serious damage can result from hitting one of them. At best you will be left with a repair bill for hull repairs, a new propeller or a lower drive unit (which can cost up to \$3,000 to repair or replace). At worst, your boat could hit a deadhead at night and capsize, resulting in injury or death.
6. **Damage to Facilities** - When floating snags hit an obstruction (such as a bridge, navigational buoy, dock or lock and dam) they can cause damage. In addition, removal of the floating trees and repair to buoys and facilities costs money, most of which comes from you as a taxpayer.

The Solution

As a boater, *you* are the key to reducing shoreline erosion when you are on the river by reducing the speed and resulting wake from your boat, especially when the water level is above normal. To reduce your wake, you first need to understand that most modern power boats operate in three different speed zones:

- **Displacement Speed** - This is the slowest speed for most motorboats and occurs when the boat operates with the bow down at slow speeds resulting in very little wake.
- **Transition Speed** - When power is applied, the bow rises and the engine is using the maximum amount of fuel as it attempts to get the boat up on *plane* (if the boat has a planing hull). It also creates the largest wake, since the boat is now plowing through the water.

- **Planing Speed** - When a boat reaches planing speed the bow drops, fuel consumption is less than transition speed and only a small portion of the hull contacts the water (which creates less of a wake than transition speed). Note: many cruisers and houseboats cannot reach this speed.

When the water level is three feet or more above the normal low level (667 feet above sea level) on this section of the Mississippi River, minimum wake speed is recommended. **During this period, boaters need to slow down and make sure their wakes are five inches high or less in this area.** The best way to do this is to always be aware of the wake behind your craft and what it looks like as it impacts the shore. *As a boat operator, you need to know that you are legally responsible for your wake under both federal and state law.*

A river level three feet above normal low pool will be encountered approximately 80 percent of the time during April, but that drops to 17 percent during the month of August. During years in which there is a low river flow, it is likely that there will be little need to restrict your boat wake during the months of July through October. However, you should be alert for water level changes that sometimes vary unexpectedly as the result of heavy rains upstream.

The Future

If all boaters become aware of the wakes their boats create and take action to reduce them when necessary, shoreline erosion can be reduced and conditions should improve. If this does not occur voluntarily, however, mandatory speed and wake restrictions may have to be placed on this stretch of the river.

POLLUTION

Trash Disposal

Many people receive cuts and other injuries from trash thrown in our rivers and on shorelines. Throwing trash in the water is against the law. A fine, jail sentence, or other penalty can be imposed on anyone who is convicted of this offense. Remember, "If you carried it on, carry it back!"

Marine Toilets

Both federal and state laws prohibit the discharge of raw sewage from boats. Minnesota law requires that sewage from marine toilets be retained through the use of a U.S. Coast Guard Certified Type III holding tank which is pumped out at dockside, or a portable device which retains waste on board for disposal on shore (there is one exception noted below). Pumpout locations are listed with the information on marinas in this publication.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations (which preempt state law) allow the use of U.S. Coast Guard Certified Type I or Type II treatment/discharge devices on the Mississippi River below Lock and Dam No. 2 (Hastings). (as of October, 1998)

FINAL NOTE

This discussion of rules and regulations is by no means complete. Reference should be made to the current state, federal and local regulations before you embark on your first cruise. The Minnesota Boating Guide is a summary of laws and rules and is available from the Minnesota DNR or a Minnesota county sheriff. Wisconsin regulations can be obtained from the Wisconsin DNR (*addresses are at the end of this guide*).

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offers public courses in boating safety and seamanship. They are taught by experienced Auxiliary members and the only charge is for course materials. These courses are usually given in the fall and winter.

U.S. POWER SQUADRONS

U.S. Power Squadrons is a private, non-profit organization dedicating themselves to boating and boating safety. The Power Squadrons offer free public boating courses.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Minnesota's lakes and rivers offer a wealth of canoeing, boating and fishing opportunities. Minnesota leads the nation in the number of boats per capita. In 1997 Minnesota had 768,680 watercraft registered, one for every six residents.

Public Access /Canoe and Boating Routes

The DNR Canoe and Boating Route Program provides maps for 24 rivers. The free maps show access points, campsites, rest areas and portages. Hazards such as dams and waterfalls are marked, and areas of rapids are shown. A brief description of the river lets canoeists know what to expect along the way.

The DNR also provides a river level reporting service from April 1 to October 31. Reports are updated every Thursday and are available after 2:00 p.m. Canoeists can call the DNR Information Center

to find out the condition of the canoe and boating routes at (651) 296-6157 or toll free in Minnesota 1-888-646-6367, TDD: (651) 296-5484 or toll free in Minnesota 1-800-657-3929. The information is also posted on the DNR web site, listed below.

Minnesota DNR accesses are usually open 24 hours a day. No fee is charged for their use, nor is there a fee for any of the accesses shown on the county access maps. Note: State parks as well as many county and regional parks require entrance fees for motor vehicles and are not open 24 hours a day.

For public access and canoe and boat route maps and brochures contact:

DNR Information Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
(651) 296-6157
or in MN toll free
1-888-646-6367

Telecommunications device
for the deaf: (651) 296-5484
or in MN toll free:
1-800-657-3929

DNR web site: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Adopt-a-River Program

This program encourages Minnesota volunteers to "adopt" a section of a lake, river, wetland or ravine to ensure its long-term health by doing at least one annual cleanup.

DNR Trails & Waterways Unit
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4052
(651) 297-5476
DNR web site: www.dnr.state.mn.us



Boat and Water Safety Program

One of the boat and water safety program's primary responsibilities is education. Using brochures, boating courses, pamphlets, billboards, television and radio public service announcements, media interviews and news releases, the public is kept informed of boating safety issues.

DNR Boat and Water Safety Section
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4046
(651) 296-3336
DNR web site: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Division of Enforcement

The Division's responsibilities on the river include enforcement of fish and wildlife regulations, boating safety laws, water-use regulations and water pollution laws. DNR Conservation Officers also conduct firearm, snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) safety training programs; enforce snowmobile and ATV laws; and patrol state parks and campgrounds.

DNR Division of Enforcement
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4047
(651) 297-2368
DNR web site: www.dnr.state.mn.us

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Wisconsin DNR is also involved with enforcement, boating safety, pollution control, boat licensing, and information and education. For more information about Wisconsin DNR programs contact:

Wisconsin DNR
Western District Office
1300 West Clairemont Avenue
Box 4001
Eau Claire, WI 54702
(715) 839-3700
DNR web site: www.dnr.state.wi.us

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Since 1943, the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee (UMRCC) has been promoting the preservation and wise utilization of the natural and recreational resources of the Upper Mississippi River. Composed of representatives from the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri, as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the UMRCC serves as a forum for formulating policies and plans and conducting cooperative studies. For more information contact:

UMRCC
1830 2nd Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Many of the bottomlands on the Mississippi River lie within the boundaries of Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish

Refuge. Beginning at the mouth of the Chippewa River (River Mile 763.4) and extending 261 miles downriver, the refuge encompasses 200,000 acres of wooded islands, and backwaters.

This refuge is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect habitat of endangered and threatened species, while providing the life requirements for migratory birds, mammals, fish, and other aquatic animal and plant life. Millions of ducks, geese and swans rest and feed here during spring and fall migration. Hundreds of American bald eagles winter along the river where they feed on fish taken from open water areas.

The popularity of such recreation activities as fishing, hunting, wildlife observation, sightseeing, boating, and camping have made this one of the most heavily used National Wildlife Refuges.

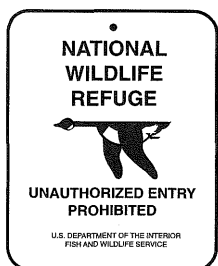
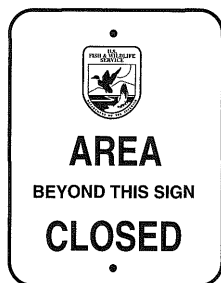
Information, maps and current regulations governing public use are available from:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Upper Mississippi River National
Wildlife and Fish Refuge
51 East Fourth Street, Room 101
Winona, MN 55987
(507) 452-4232
www.emtc.nbs.gov/umr_refuge.html

NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE SIGNS

Voluntary closed areas are established in some portions of the refuge to protect nesting and migratory wildlife.

Area behind sign closed to any hunting, trapping or camping during regular duck hunting season. Boaters and other recreation users are encouraged to stay out of these areas during the fall waterfowl hunting season, so birds may rest and feed undisturbed.



Refuge Boundary Sign —Entry For Authorized Activities Only

Mississippi River



815.3R **Lock and Dam No. 2, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

lock on right



815.0R **Lake Rebecca Municipal Park, City of Hastings**

814.1R *concrete plank ramp, picnic area, restrooms, drinking water*

Lake Rebecca



814.3R **Mississippi River - Hastings Public Access, MN DNR and City of Hastings**

concrete slab ramp

Conley Lake



814.4L **King's Cove Incorporated, Private**

entrance at R.M. 812.7L, dockage, fuel, pumpouts, repair facilities, restrooms, service and canvas department, ship's store, slips for rent, storage (651) 437-6186

Mississippi River

815.3- **Hastings area**

812.0R *food, lodging*

Dakota County Sheriff (651) 437-4211



814.3L **Hub's Bait Marina, Private**

concrete slab ramp (fee), canoe and boat rental, slips available, live bait and tackle (651) 437-4358



813.3R **Hastings Marine, Inc., Private**

concrete slab ramp (fee), fuel, pumpouts, restrooms, showers (651) 437-9621

St. Croix River



.3R **Point Douglas, Washington County Parks**

fishing platform (651) 430-8368



.1L **Prescott City, Courtesy Dock**

temporary docking (fee)

Mississippi River

811.5- **Prescott area**

810.8L *food, lodging*

Pierce County Sheriff (715) 273-5051



811.4L

Leo's Landing, Private

*concessions, temporary dockage, fuel, full service marina, pumpouts, restrooms
(715) 262-5998*



811.4L

Point St. Croix Marina, Private

fast food, fuel, pumpout, restrooms, ship's store, temporary slips (715) 262-3161



811.3L

Prescott Public Access, City of Prescott

two paved concrete ramps (fee)



811.1L

Miss-Croix Yacht Harbor, Private

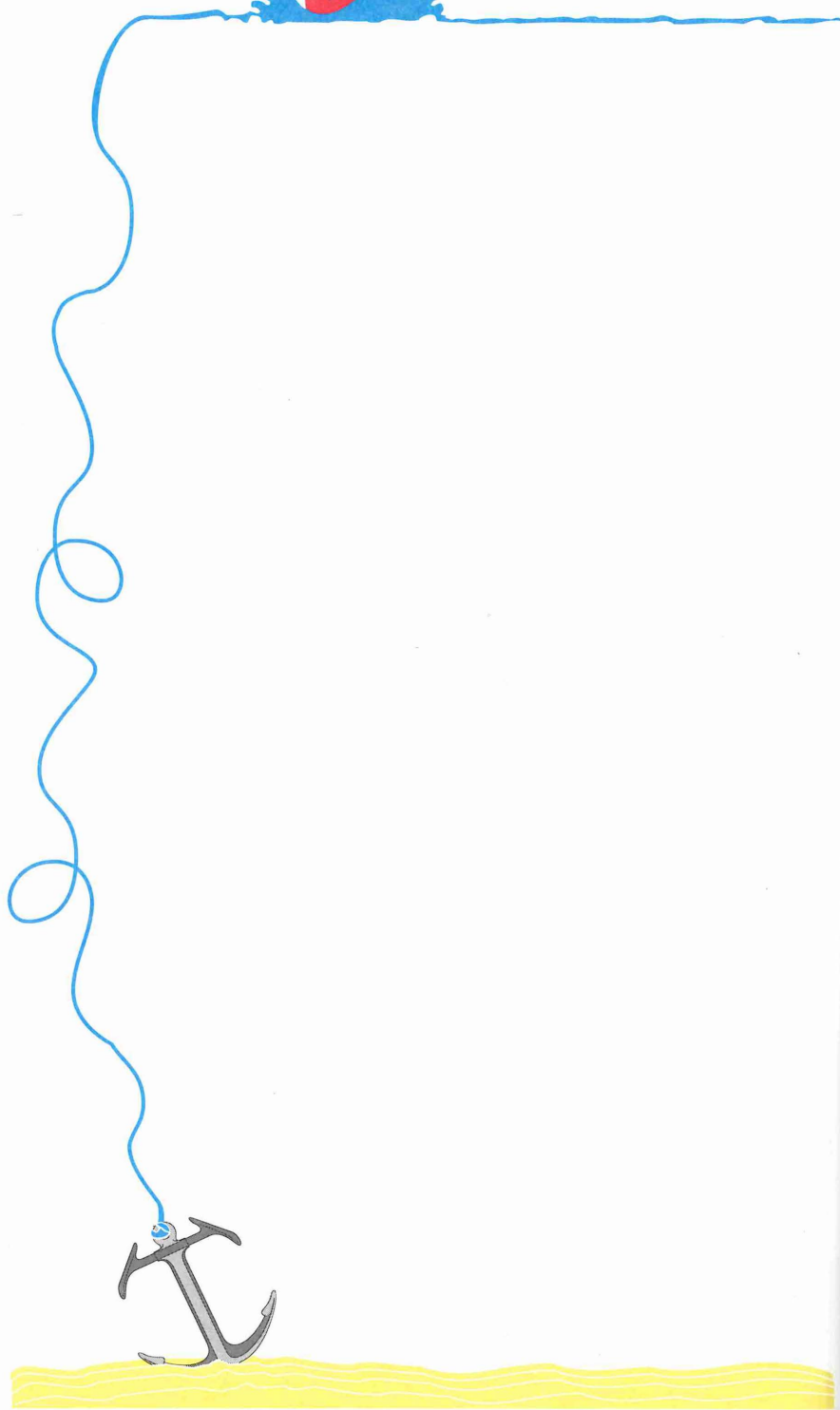
*fuel, pumpouts, boat repair, ship's store
(715) 262-5202*

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Boater's Notes

Boater's Notes



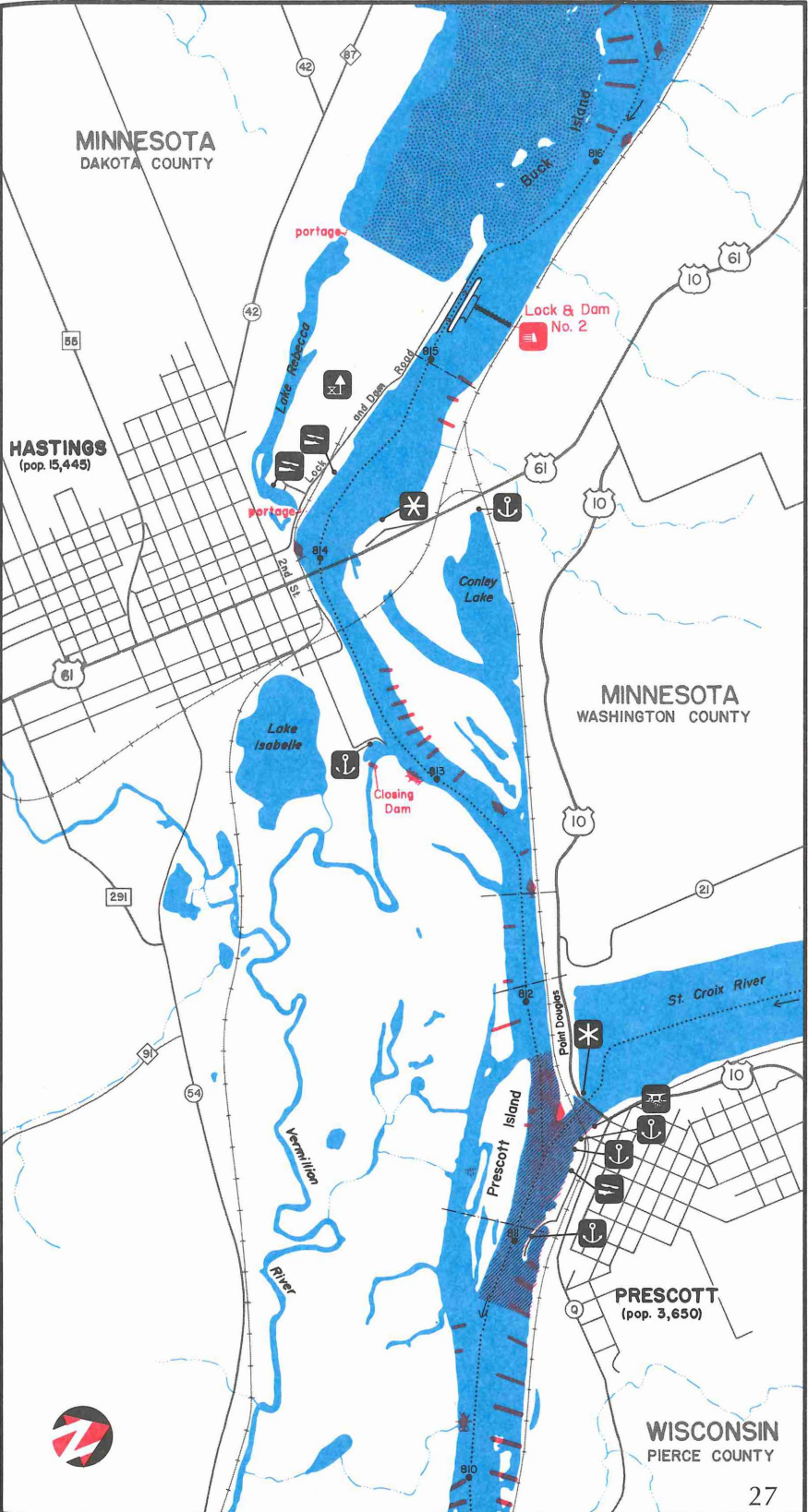
MINNESOTA
DAKOTA COUNTY

HASTINGS
(pop. 15,445)

MINNESOTA
WASHINGTON COUNTY

PRESCOTT
(pop. 3,650)

WISCONSIN
PIERCE COUNTY



Vermillion River



807.9R

Vermillion River Public Access, MN DNR
concrete plank ramp (shallow water access, small boats only)



805.0R

Vermillion River Public Access, MN DNR
concrete plank ramp

North Lake

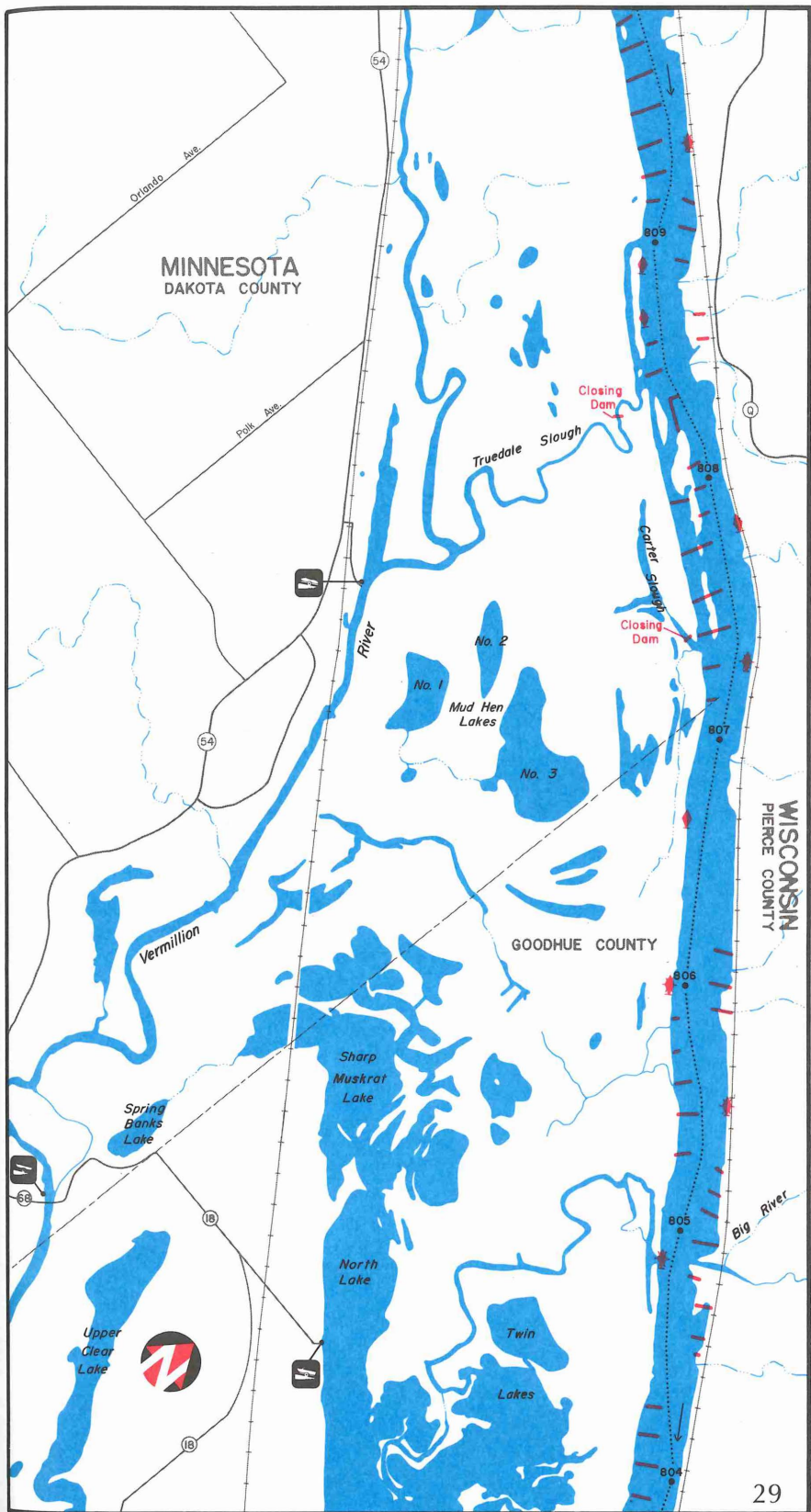


804.4R

North Lake Public Access, MN DNR
earth ramp (shallow water access, small boats only)

Boater's Notes





MINNESOTA
DAKOTA COUNTY

Orlando Ave.

Polk Ave.

54

54

18

18

WISCONSIN
PIERCE COUNTY

GOODHUE COUNTY

River

Truedale Slough

Carter Slough

No. 1

Mud Hen Lakes

No. 2

No. 3

Vermilion

Spring Banks Lake

Sharp Muskrat Lake

North Lake

Upper Clear Lake

Twin Lakes

Lakes

Closing Dam

Closing Dam

809

808

807

806

805

804

Mississippi River

799.9L **Diamond Bluff, Unincorporated**
Pierce County Sheriff (715) 273-5051



799.9L **Diamond Bluff Landing, Public**
crushed rock ramp (limited parking)

Sturgeon Lake



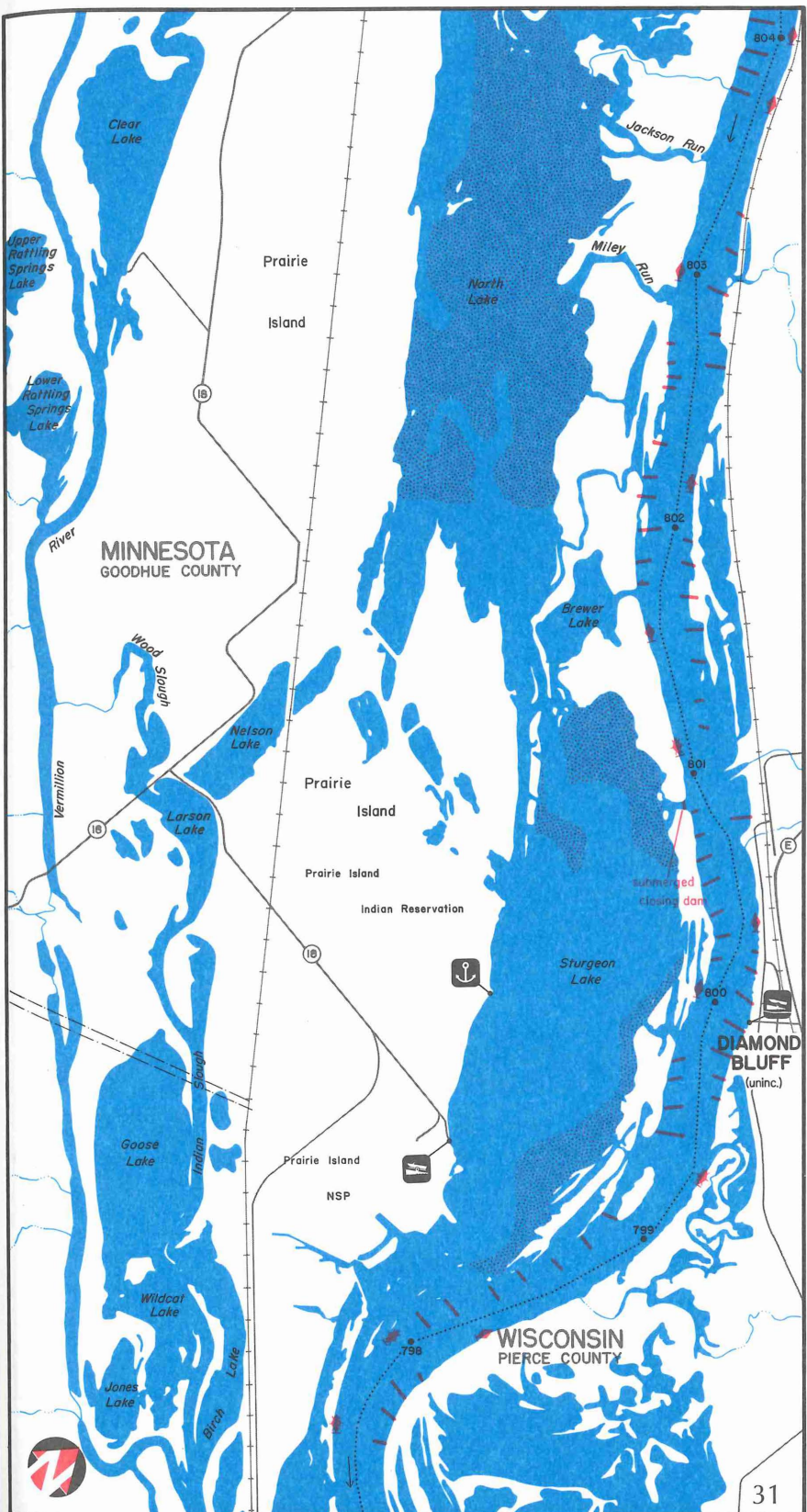
800.0R **Treasure Island Resort & Marina, Private -
owned and operated by Prairie Island Indian
Community**
*overnight dockage, electricity, fuel (gas & diesel),
lodging, pumpouts, restrooms, restaurants,
showers, 137 transient slips, ship's store, water
(800) 222-7077 ext 335
www.treasureislandcasino.com
(enter Sturgeon Lake at river mile 798.2R)*



798.5R **Sturgeon Lake Public Access, U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers**
concrete slab ramp

Boater's Notes





MINNESOTA
GOODHUE COUNTY

Larson Lake

Goose Lake

Wildcat Lake

Jones Lake

Prairie
Island

Prairie
Island

Prairie Island
Indian Reservation

Prairie Island
NSP

WISCONSIN
PIERCE COUNTY

Jackson Run

Miley Run

Brewer Lake

Sturgeon Lake

DIAMOND
BLUFF
(uninc.)

submerged
closing dam

Mississippi River



797.4R

Commissary Point Campground, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
camping (no fee), picnic area (accessible by boat only)

Vermillion Slough



797.3R

Vermillion River Public Access, MN DNR
concrete plank ramp (shallow water access, small boats only)

Mississippi River



797.0R

Lock and Dam No. 3, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right



794.2L

Evert's Resort, Private
concrete slab ramp (fee), concessions, fuel, lodging, boat rental, restrooms (715) 792-2333

Wisconsin Channel



792.7R

Wisconsin Channel Boat Launch, Wisconsin DOT
asphalt ramp



792.7L

Mr. Sippi, Private
concrete ramp, camping, transient docking, food, play area, restrooms with showers, ice & supplies, water (715) 792-2992

Mississippi River

791.7-

788.5R

Red Wing area
food, lodging



791.4R

Ole' Miss Marina at Bay Point, Private
concessions, temporary dockage, fuel, ice, pumpouts, restrooms, drinking water (651) 388-8643



791.4R

Bay Point Municipal Access
asphalt ramps



791.4R

Bay Point Municipal Park, City of Red Wing
concessions, picnic area, restrooms, drinking water



791.2R

Red Wing Marina, Private
concessions, temporary & overnight dockage, fuel, pumpout, restrooms, shower (651) 388-8995



790.8L

Trenton Island Marina, Private
temporary dockage, overnight docking (fee), fuel, slip rental, restrooms, service, showers, drinking water (715) 792-2035



790.6L

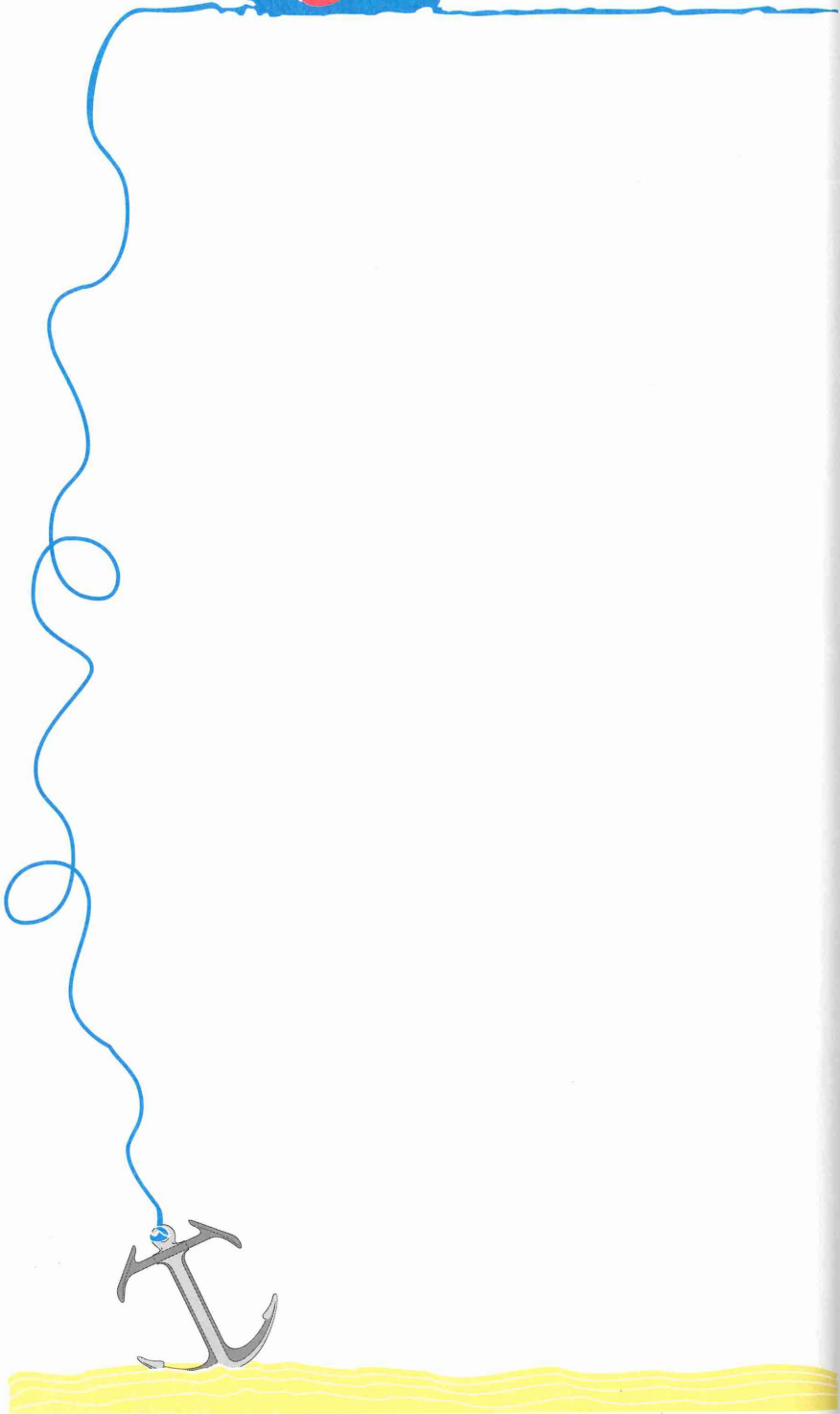
Island Campground & Marina, Private
concrete ramp (fee), camping (fee), concessions, courtesy boat dock, dumping station, electricity, firewood, fish cleaning house, hot tub, laundry, children's play area, showers, slips available, winter storage, flush toilets, portable waste area, water (715) 792-2502

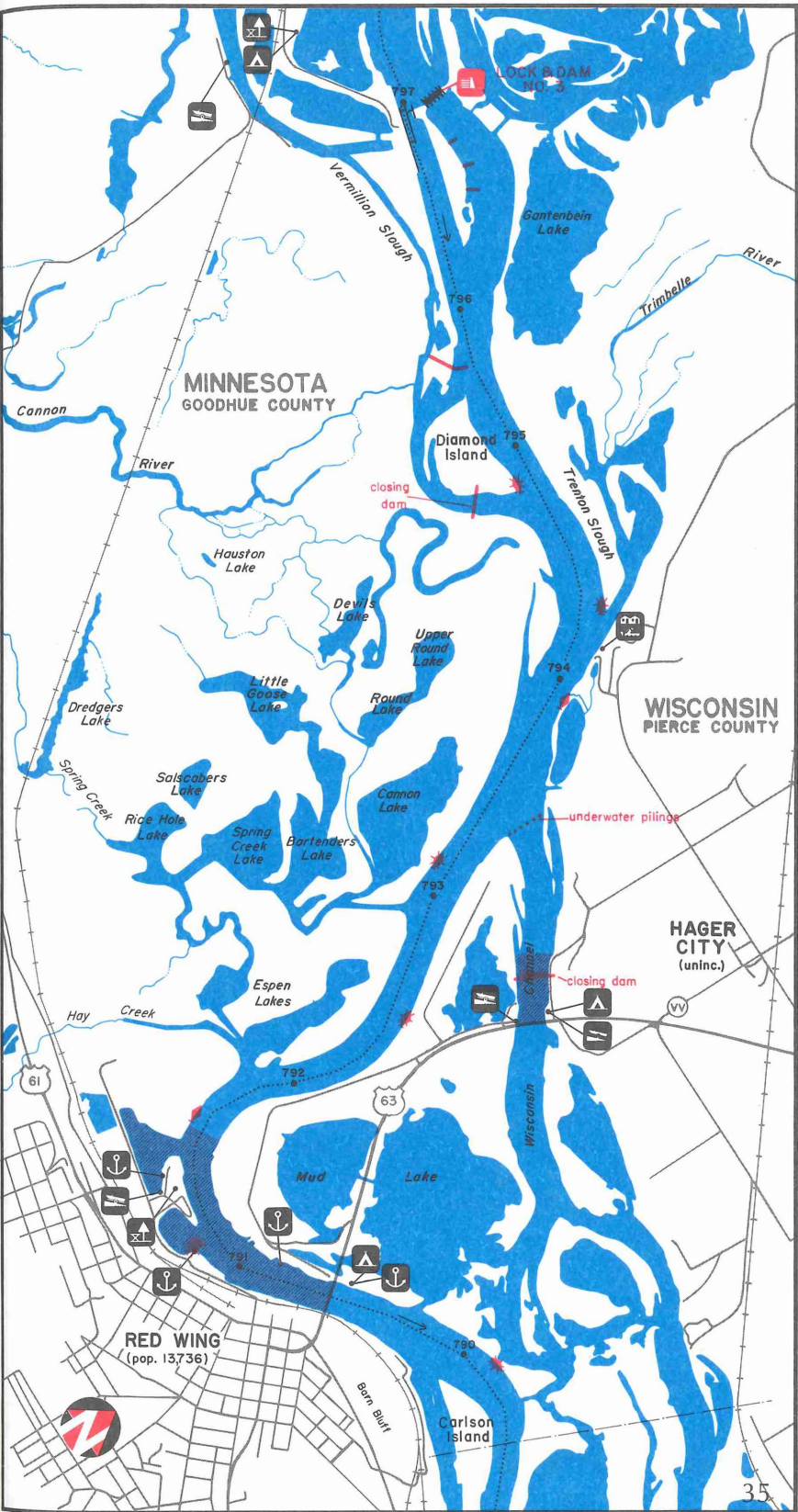
No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Note: See section on wake damage and erosion on page 17. The section from Lock & Dam No. 3 to the north upper end of Lake Pepin is particularly prone to shoreline erosion from boat wakes, especially during high water.

Boater's Notes





WISCONSIN
PIERCE COUNTY

HAGER
CITY
(uninc.)

RED WING
(pop. 13,736)

Colvill Bay



788.9R

Bill's Bay Marina, Private

concessions, temporary dockage, fuel, haul out (up to 55'), mechanical service, pumpout, supplies, water (651) 388-0481



788.7R

Colvill Municipal Park, City of Red Wing

concessions, picnic area, restrooms, drinking water



788.7R

Colvill Municipal Park Public Access, City of Red Wing

asphalt ramp

Lake Pepin

786.4L

Bay City

food

Pierce County Sheriff (715) 273-5051



786.8L

Bay City Village Park and Access, Bay City

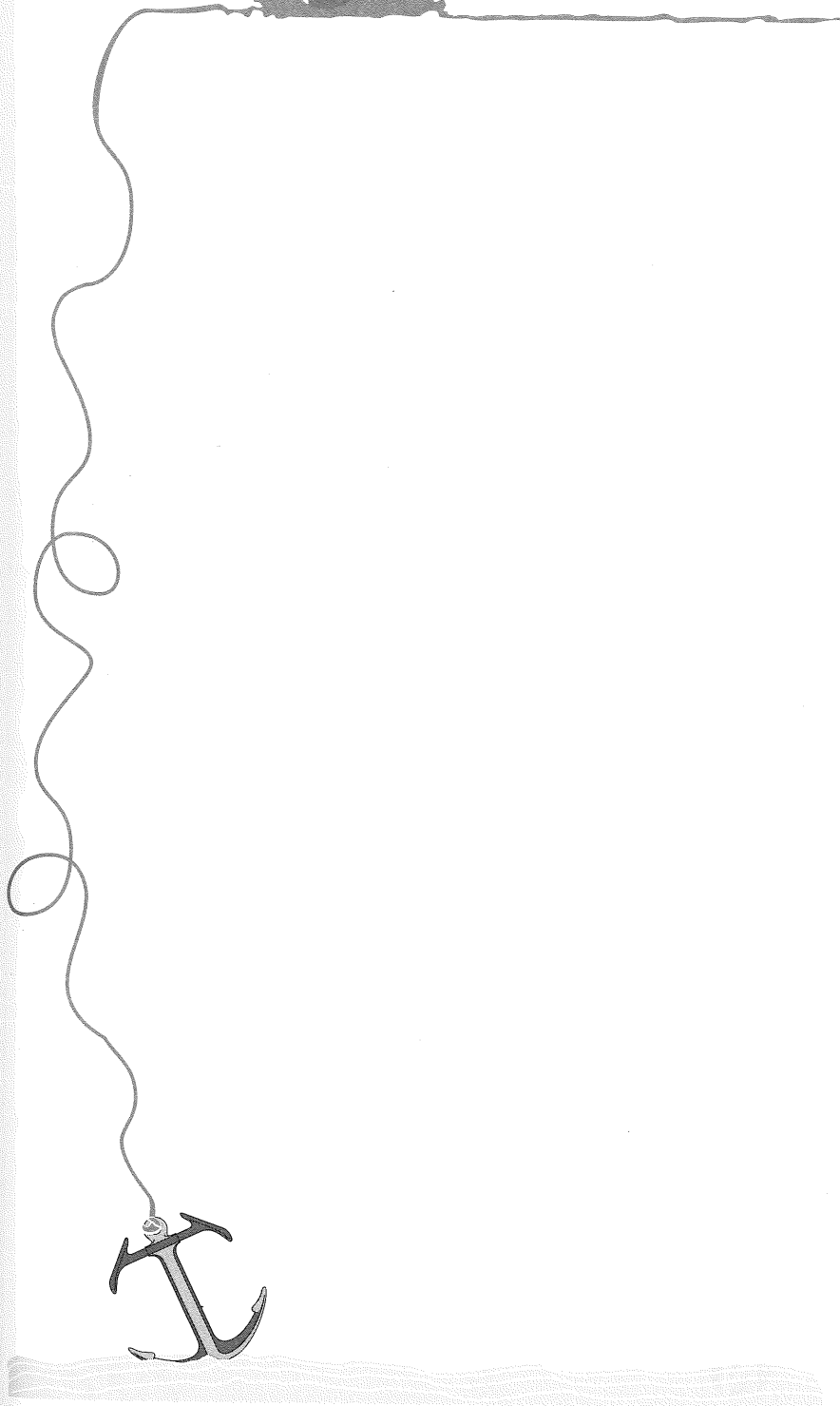
concrete slab ramp, camping (fee), picnic area, restrooms, drinking water

No wake zones

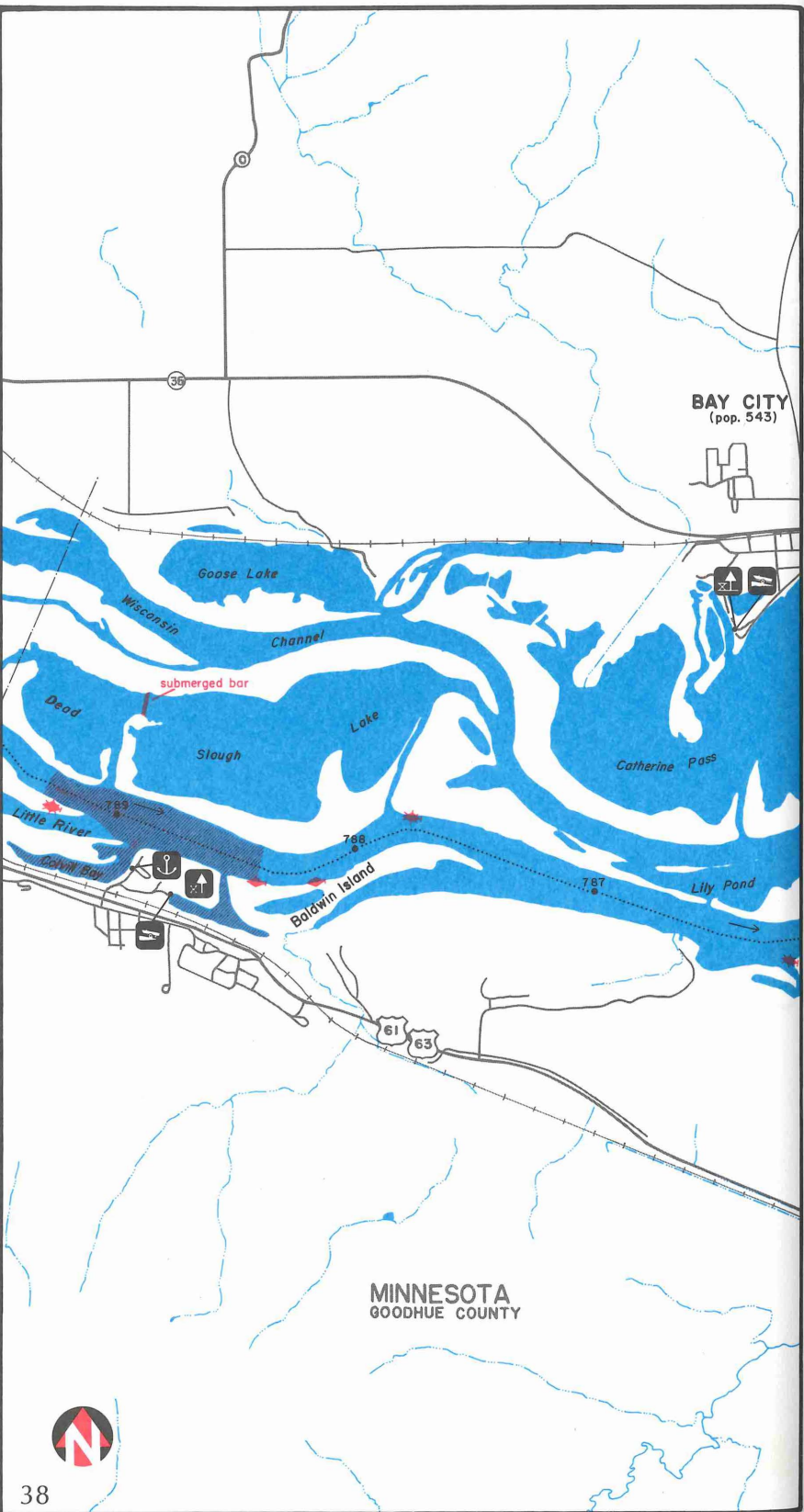
Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Note: See section on wake damage and erosion on page 17. The section from Lock & Dam No. 3 to the north upper end of Lake Pepin is particularly prone to shoreline erosion from boat wakes, especially during high water.

Boater's Notes



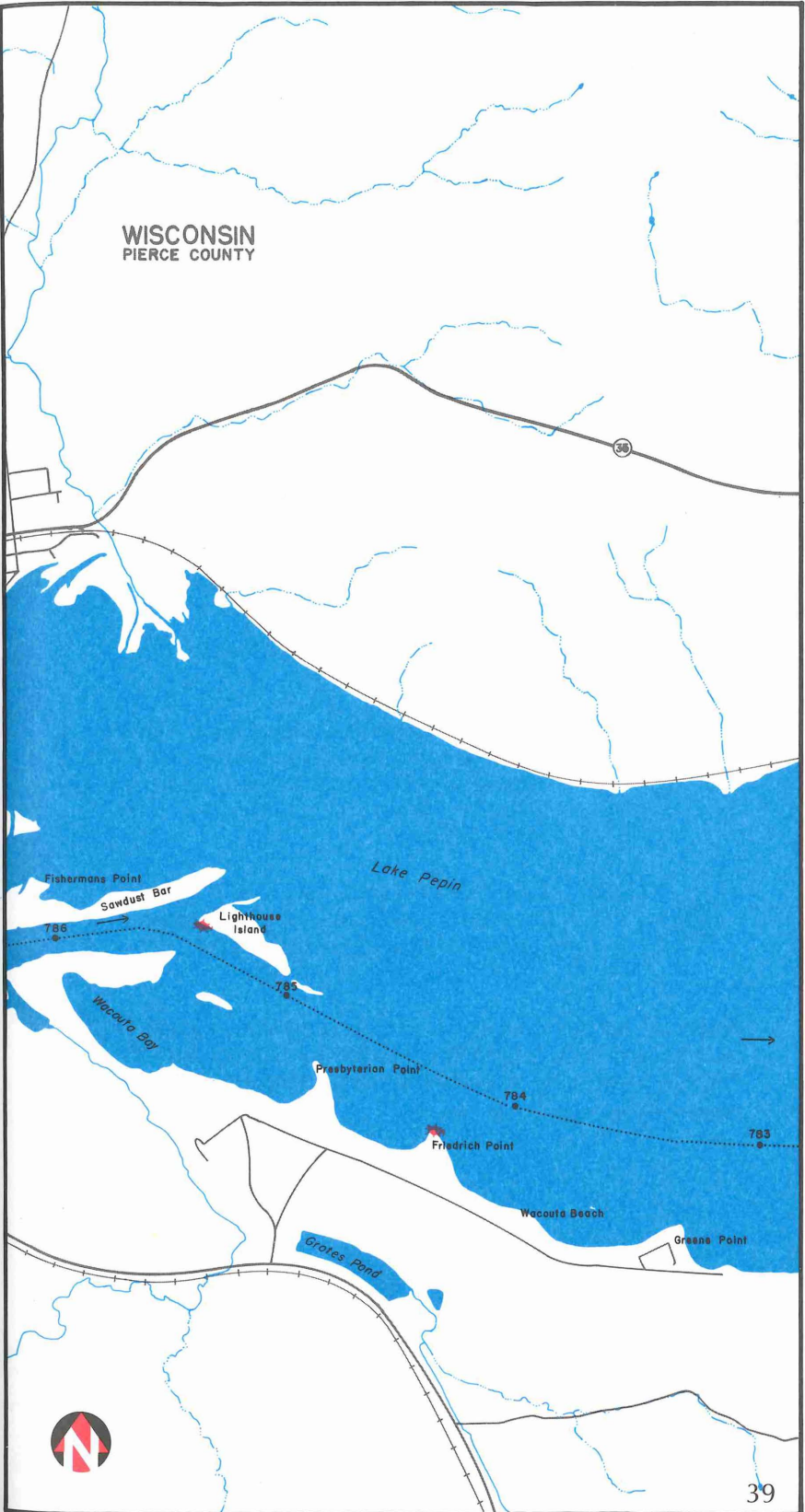
BAY CITY
(pop. 543)



MINNESOTA
GOODHUE COUNTY



WISCONSIN
PIERCE COUNTY



Lake Pepin



**781.3-
779.8R
778.4-
777.0R**

Frontenac State Park, MN DNR

camping, hiking, picnicking & overlooks on north end of park - approximately 3 mile hike from trail shelter at 777.5R

779.7L

Maiden Rock

food

Pierce County Sheriff (715) 273-5051



779.7L

Maiden Rock Village Park, City of Maiden Rock

gravel ramp (shallow water access - small boats only), camping, temporary dockage, baseball field, picnicking, park shelter (715) 448-2205 (ask for village clerk)

779.0R

Frontenac

food

Goodhue County Sheriff's Water Patrol (651) 385-3192



778.8R

Florence Township Beach, Public

concrete slab ramp



776.4R

Hansen's Harbor & Trailer Court, Private

concrete ramp (fee), concessions, overnight dockage, fuel (including diesel), restrooms & showers, full service, ship's store (651) 345-3022



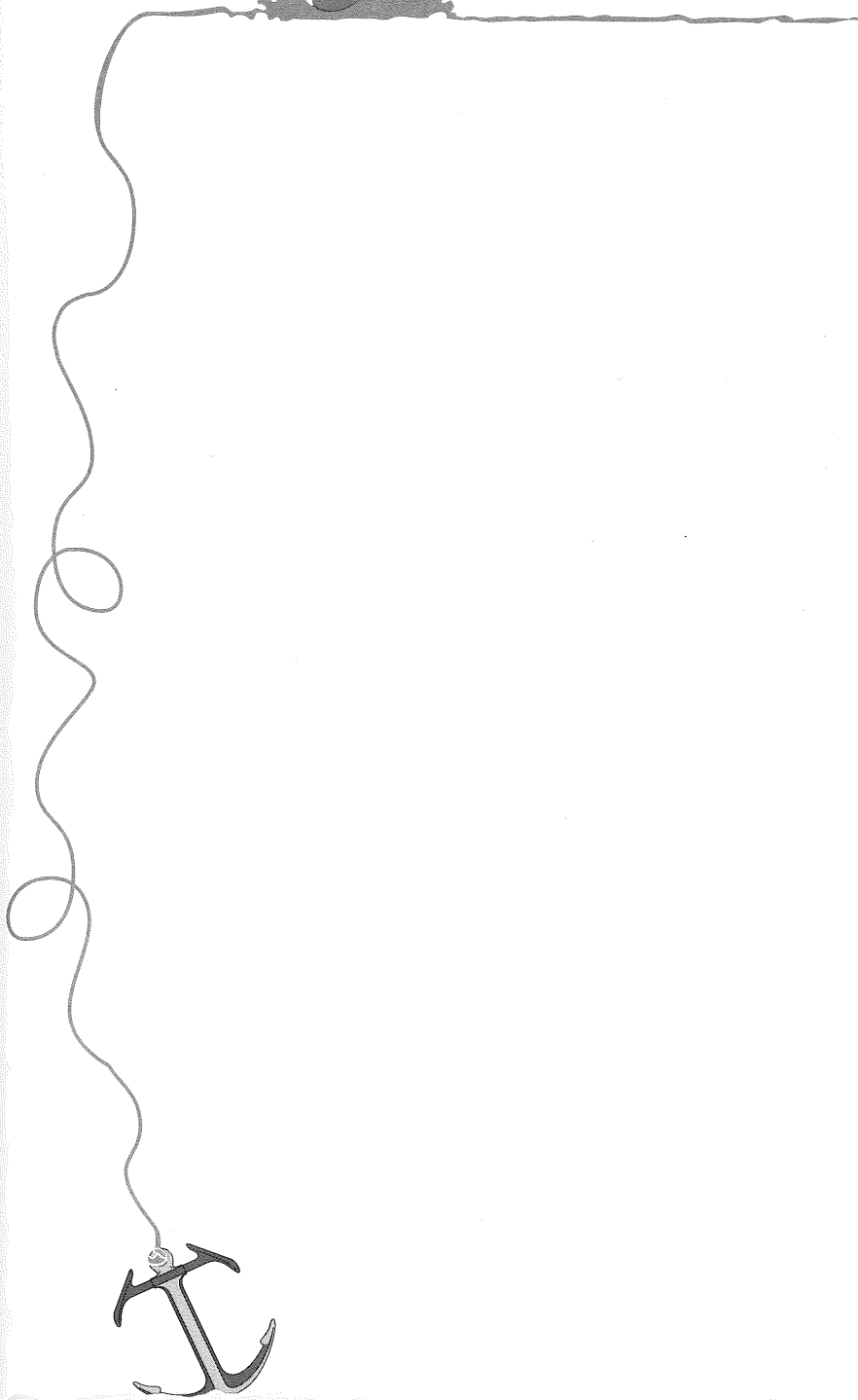
776.2R

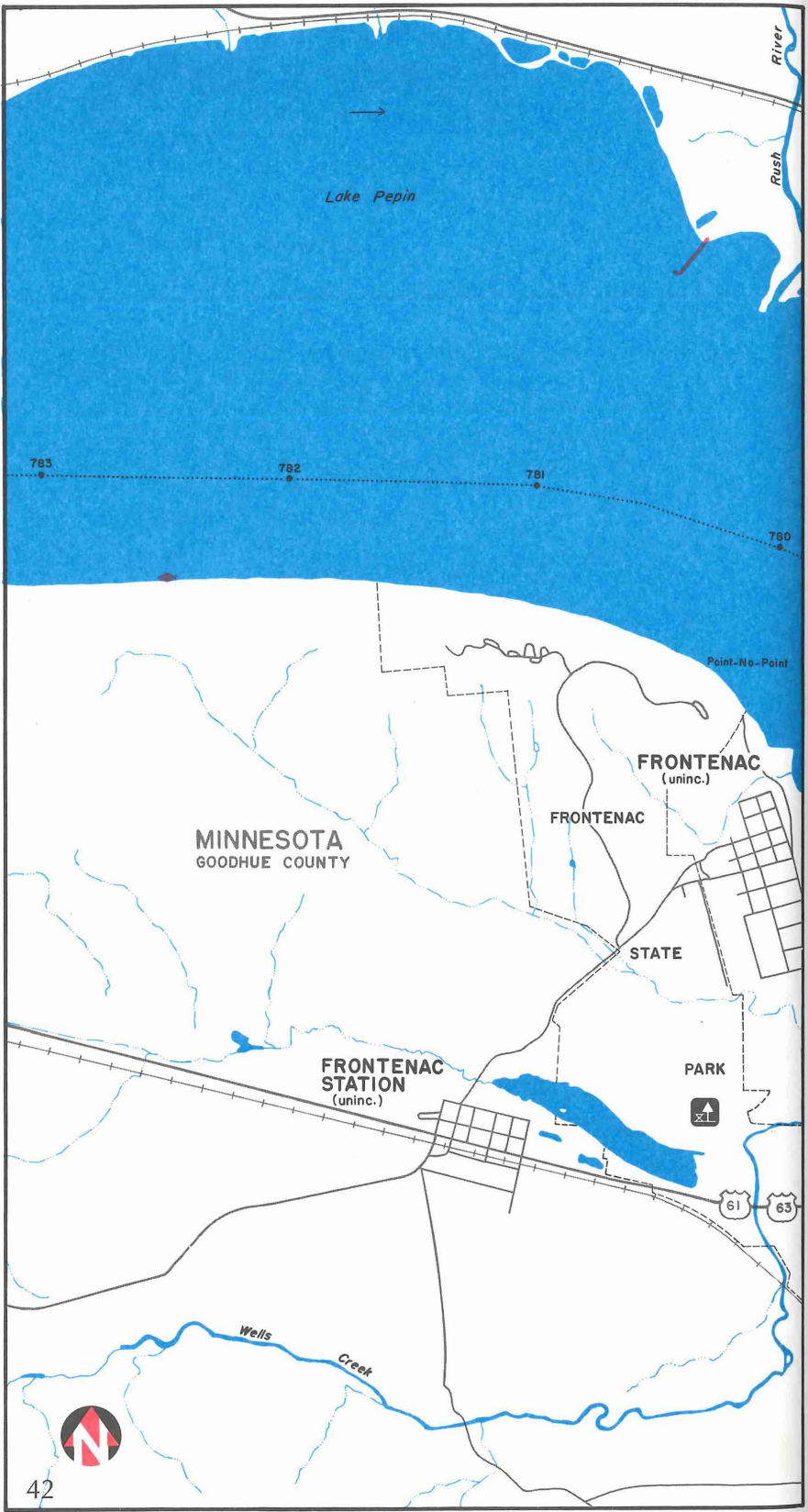
Lake City Rest Area, MN DOT

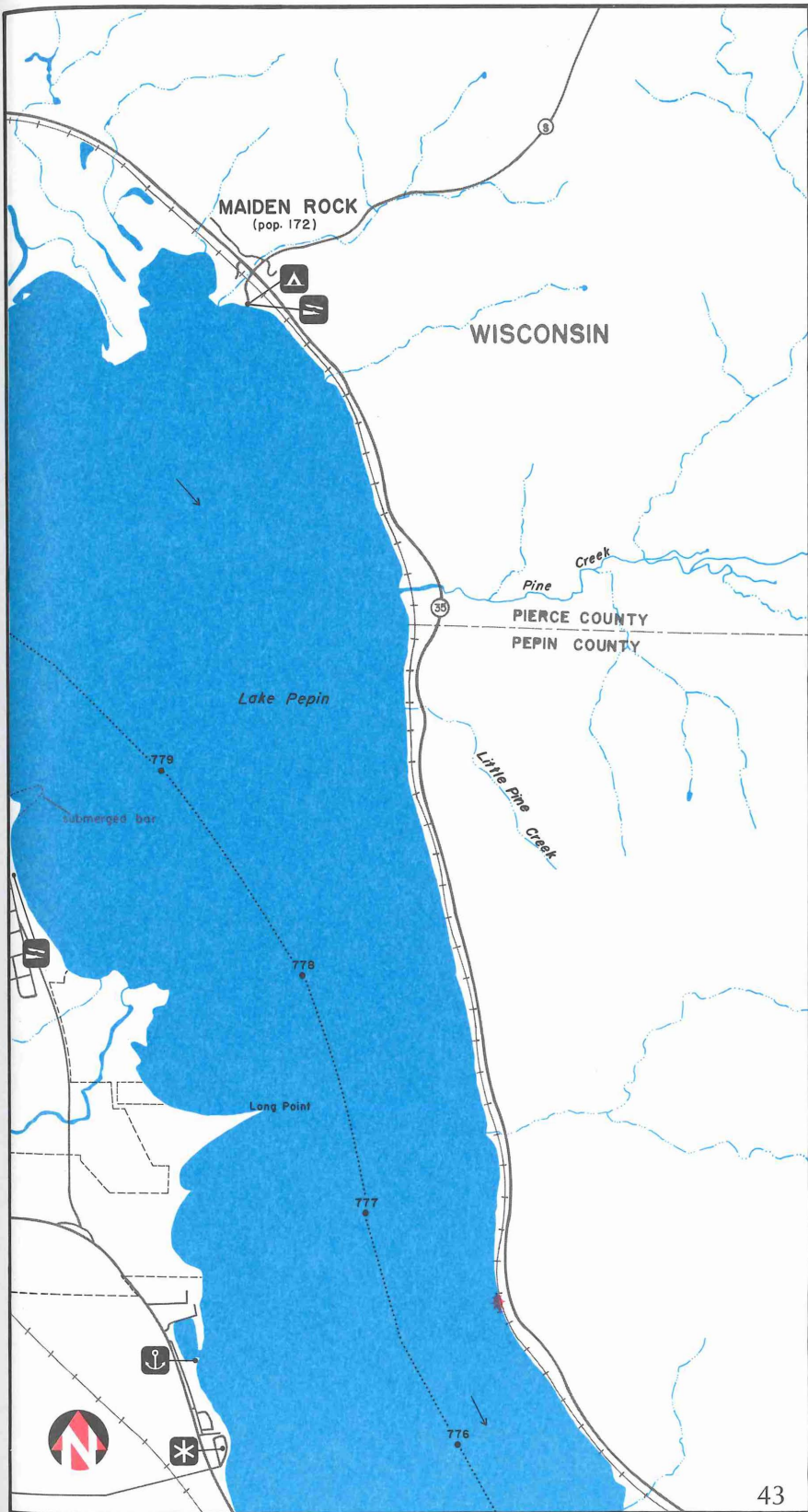
restrooms, picnic area, drinking water (open mid May through October)

Note: See section on wake damage and erosion on page 17. The section from Lock & Dam No. 3 to the north upper end of Lake Pepin is particularly prone to shoreline erosion from boat wakes, especially during high water.

Boater's Notes







Lake Pepin

-  **775.4R** **Hok-Si-La Park Public Access, Lake City**
concrete slab ramps
-   **774.8R** **Hok-Si-La Park, Lake City**
camping (fee, tents only), concessions, dining hall (fee), picnic area, restrooms, shelters (day use only, fee), showers, swimming beach, drinking water, open May 1 - October 31 (651) 345-3855
- 774.3L** **Stockholm**
food, shops, Pepin County Sheriff (715) 672-5944
-  **774.2L** **Star Cafe, Private**
Lunch: Thursday - Monday, Dinner: Thursday - Sunday, food to go is possible, seasonal May - October, located across river road reservations (715) 442-2023
-  **774.2L** **Stockholm Campsite, Stockholm City**
camping (fee), electrical hookup, restrooms, hand water pump, first-come, first-served
-   **774.2L** **Stockholm Municipal Park and Access, City of Stockholm**
concrete slab ramp, restrooms, drinking water
-  **774.1L** **Stockholm Cafe, Private**
breakfast, lunch & dinner, open year long Tuesday - Sunday with variable hours (715) 442-5162
- 774.2-771.5R** **Lake City area**
*food, lodging
 Goodhue County Sheriff (651) 388-2823
 Wabasha County Sheriff (651) 565-3361*
-   **774.2R** **Digger's Boats-Bait, Private**
concrete slab ramp (fee), bait & tackle, concessions, boat rental, restrooms, drinking water (651) 345-4478
-  **773.0R** **Ohuta Municipal Park, Lake City**
concessions, restrooms, drinking water
-  **772.7R** **Government Fishing Pier, MN DNR**
(not wheelchair accessible)
-  **772.8R** **Lake City Marina, Lake City**
concrete slab ramp (fee), concessions, temporary & overnight dockage (water & power on dock), 35 ton straddle crane, fuel, 2 pumpouts (651) 345-4211, (651) 345-3382
-   **772.1R** **Roschen Park and Access, Lake City**
paved concrete ramp, picnic area, restrooms

MINNESOTA

WISCONSIN
PEPIN COUNTY

STOCKHOLM
(pop. 104)

LAKE CITY
(pop. 4,505)

Lake Pepin

GOODHUE COUNTY
WABASHA COUNTY

Erickson Point

Central Point

Harbor of Refuge



776

775

774

773

772

771



Lake Pepin



770.3L

Deer Island Boat Ramp, City of Pepin
concrete slab ramp

767.2L

Pepin
food, lodging
Pepin County Sheriff (715) 672-5944



767.2R

Maple Springs Public Access, MN DNR
concrete ramp (shallow water access - small boats only)



767.1L

Pepin Marina, Private
concrete ramp (fee), temporary dockage, pumpouts, yearly rental slips, restrooms, snacks and beverages, drinking water
on season call (715) 442-4900, off season (Nov. - Mar.) call (715) 442-2606, fax (715) 442-3403



766.9L

Sportsman Landing, Private
concrete slab ramp

Boater's Notes

MINNESOTA
WABASHA COUNTY

WISCONSIN
PEPIN COUNTY

770

769

768

767

766

765

Bogus Creek

Lost Creek

Deer Island

Deer Lake

Lake Pepin

Kepler Coulee

King Coulee

Dutchman Coulee

PEPIN
(pop. 890)

103

N

35



Lake Pepin



- 764.9R** **Camp La Cupolis Resort, Private**
concrete slab ramp (fee), camping, temporary dockage, fuel, lodging (cabin rental), boat rental, store & snacks (651) 565-4318

Mississippi River

- 763.4L** **Northern Boundary of Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge**

- 761.1-759.5R** **Wabasha**
food, lodging
Wabasha County Sheriff (651) 565-3361



- 760.6R** **Mississippi Parkside Marina, Private**
paved ramp (fee), temporary dockage, fuel, laundry, pumpouts, repairs, ship's store, showers, supplies (651) 565-3809
www.parksidemarina.com



- 760.5R** **Ike's Park, City of Wabasha**
paved ramp (fee)



- 760.5R** **Wabasha Boat Works, Private**
temporary dockage, banquet & meeting facilities, food, gift shop (651) 565-2752

Highway 25



- 760.2L** **(c) Indian Slough Landing, USFWS**
one concrete plank ramp, one gravel ramp



- 760.2L** **(d) Unnamed Landing, USFWS**
gravel ramp



- 760.2L** **(a) Pontoon Slough Landing, Buffalo County**
gravel ramp



- 760.2L** **(b) Beef Slough Landing, USFWS**
gravel ramp



- 760.2L** **(e) Unnamed Landing, USFWS**
gravel ramp

Mississippi River



760.1R **Wabasha Municipal Dock, Wabasha City**
temporary dockage



759.6R **Eagles on the River Bed & Breakfast, Private**
lodging, marina pick up
(800) 684-6813



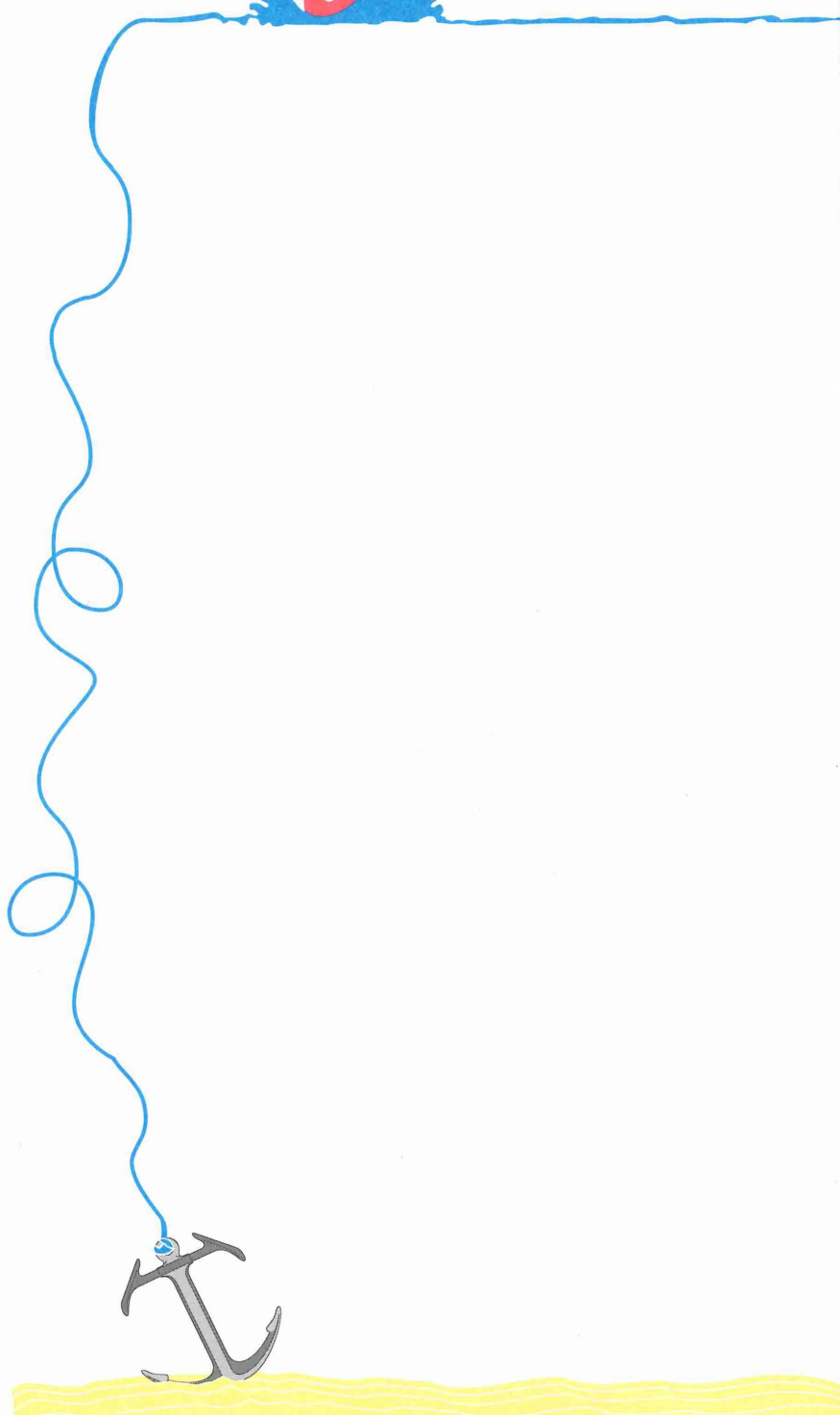
759.4R **Wabasha Marina Boat Yard, Private**
*temporary & overnight dockage, fuel, pumpouts,
repairs, ship's store (651) 565-4747, houseboat
rental (651) 565-3376*

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

Boater's Notes

Boater's Notes





NELSON
(pop. 389)

Mississippi River

761.1 **Wabasha**
 759.5R *food, lodging*
Wabasha County Sheriff (651) 565-3361



760.6R **Mississippi Parkside Marina, Private**
paved ramp (fee), temporary dockage, fuel, laundry, pumpouts, repairs, ship's store, showers, supplies (651) 565-3809, www.parksidemarina.com



760.5R **Ike's Park, City of Wabasha**
paved ramp (fee)



760.5R **Wabasha Boat Works, Private**
temporary dockage, banquet & meeting facilities, food, gift shop (651) 565-4748

Highway 25



760.2L (c) **Indian Slough Landing, USFWS**
one concrete plank ramp, one gravel ramp



760.2L (d) **Unnamed Landing, USFWS**
gravel ramp



760.2L (a) **Pontoon Slough Landing, Buffalo County**
gravel ramp

Mississippi River



760.1R **Wabasha Municipal Dock, Wabasha City**
temporary dockage



759.6R **Eagles on the River B&B, Private**
lodging, food & gift shop (800) 684-6813 or local (651) 565-3509



759.4R **Wabasha Marina Boat Yard, Private**
temporary & overnight dockage, fuel, pumpouts, repairs, ship's store (651) 565-4747, houseboat rental (651) 565-3376

Robinson Lake



756.4R **Wilcox Public Access, MN DNR**
two paved ramps, shore fishing

Buffalo Slough



755.0L

Buffalo River Landing, USFWS/City of Alma
concrete plank



754.7L

Rieck's Lakeside Park, Alma City
camping, picnic area, restrooms

Peterson Lake

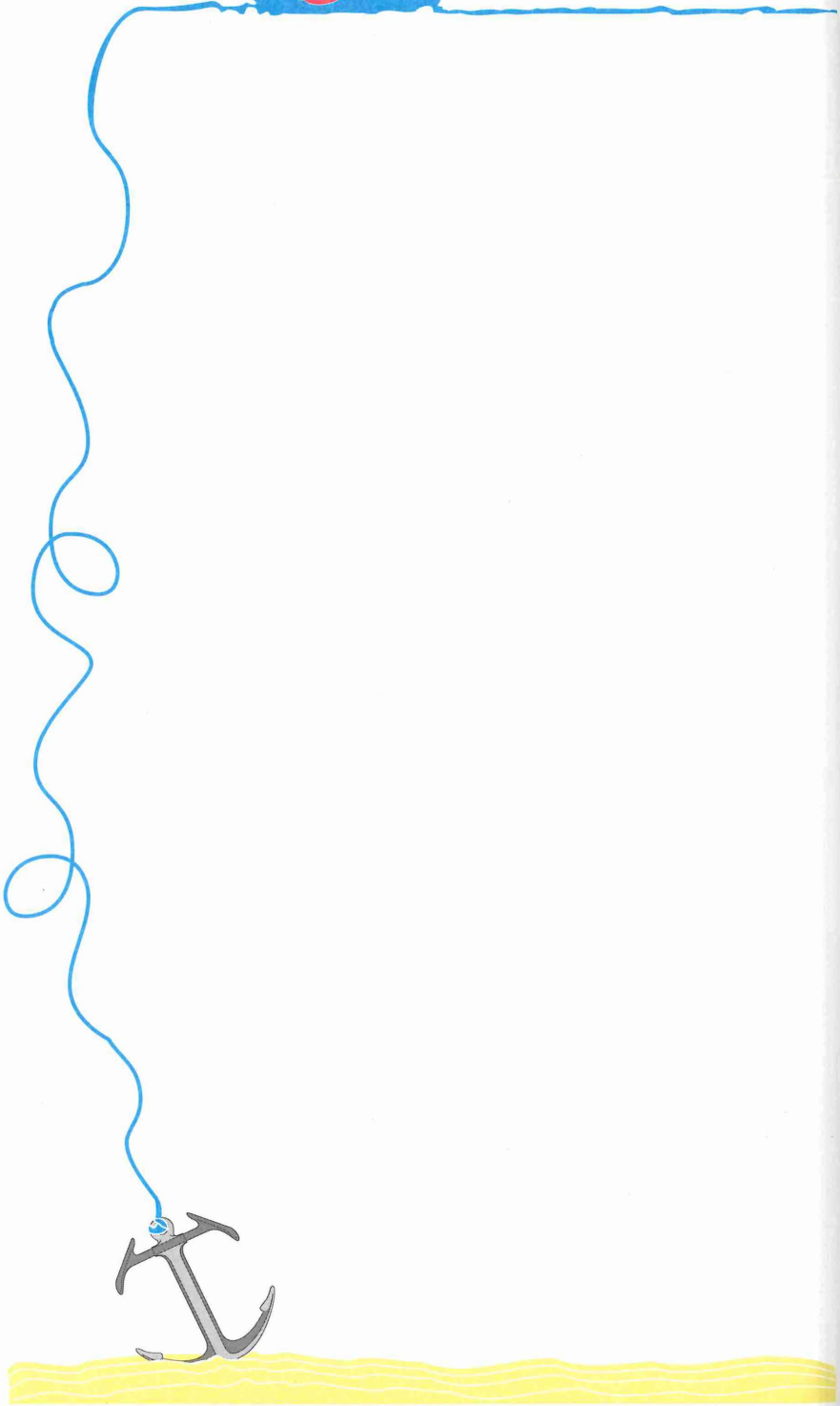


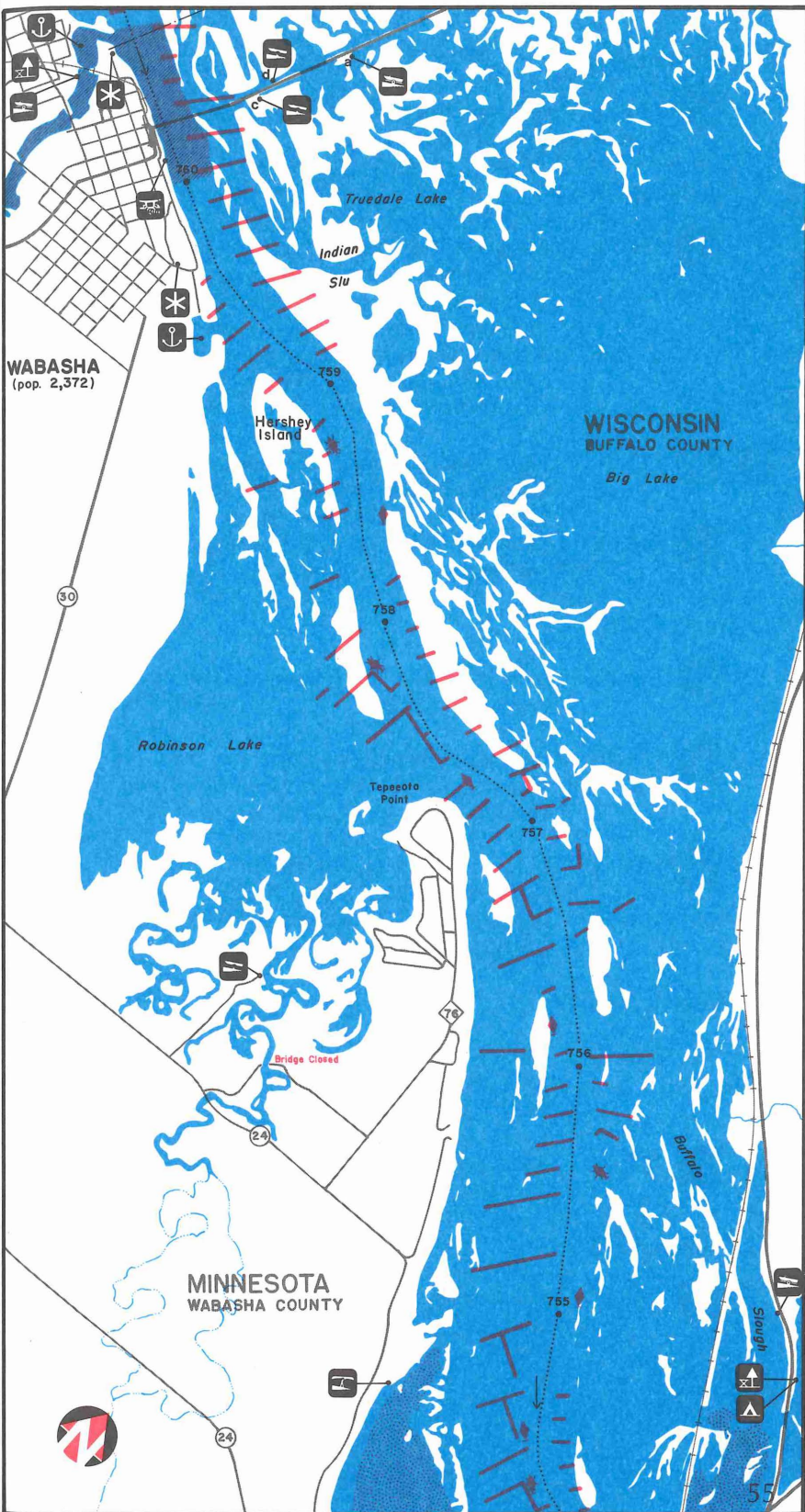
754.7R

Peterson Lake Landing, USFWS
earth ramp (small boats)

Boater's Notes

Boater's Notes





WABASHA
(pop. 2,372)

WISCONSIN
BUFFALO COUNTY

MINNESOTA
WABASHA COUNTY

Truedale Lake

Indian
Sioux

Hershey
Island

Robinson Lake

Tepeeota
Point

Big Lake

Bridge Closed

Slaughter
Slough

50

24

78

24

750

759

758


757

756


755

55

Peterson Lake

-  754.7R **Peterson Lake Landing, USFWS**
earth ramp (small boats)

Mississippi River


-  754.0L **Alma Marina, Private**
concrete ramp, bait, concessions, temporary dockage, fuel, haul out, pumpouts, boat rental (pontoon, houseboat), restrooms, full service, winter storage, supplies answering machine: (608) 685-3333, (608) 685-3707, 800-982-8410, www.northportmarine.com


-   753.8L **Tank Pond Landing, City of Alma, Public**
concrete ramp, handicap fishing pier

-  752.8L **Lock and Dam No. 4, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

Finger Lakes


-  752.8R **Lock and Dam No. 4 Landing, MN DNR**
carry-in

-  752.7R **Pioneer Landing, MN DNR**
plank ramp (backwaters, no access to main channel, canoes and small boats)


-  752.7R **Pioneer Campsite, Private**
camping, children's play area, concessions, groceries, restrooms, rental canoes & paddle boats, showers (fee) (651) 565-2242

Mississippi River




- 752.2L **Alma**
food, lodging
Buffalo County Sheriff (608) 685-4433


-  751.6L **Alma Landing, Wisconsin DNR/Alma**
concrete ramp, restrooms

Zumbro River



-  5.1R **Zumbro River, Kellogg Access, MN DNR**
carry-in

Pomme De Terre Slough

-   747.9L **Great River Harbor, Private**
concrete ramp (fee), cabins, camping, concessions, fuel & L.P. gas, yard games, boat rental (canoes, kayaks, hydro bike, paddle boat), free limo ride to town, restaurant (limited hours), showers, overnight slips, monitors channel 16, on season call (608) 248-2454 off season call (608) 894-3964 (November - April)
- 

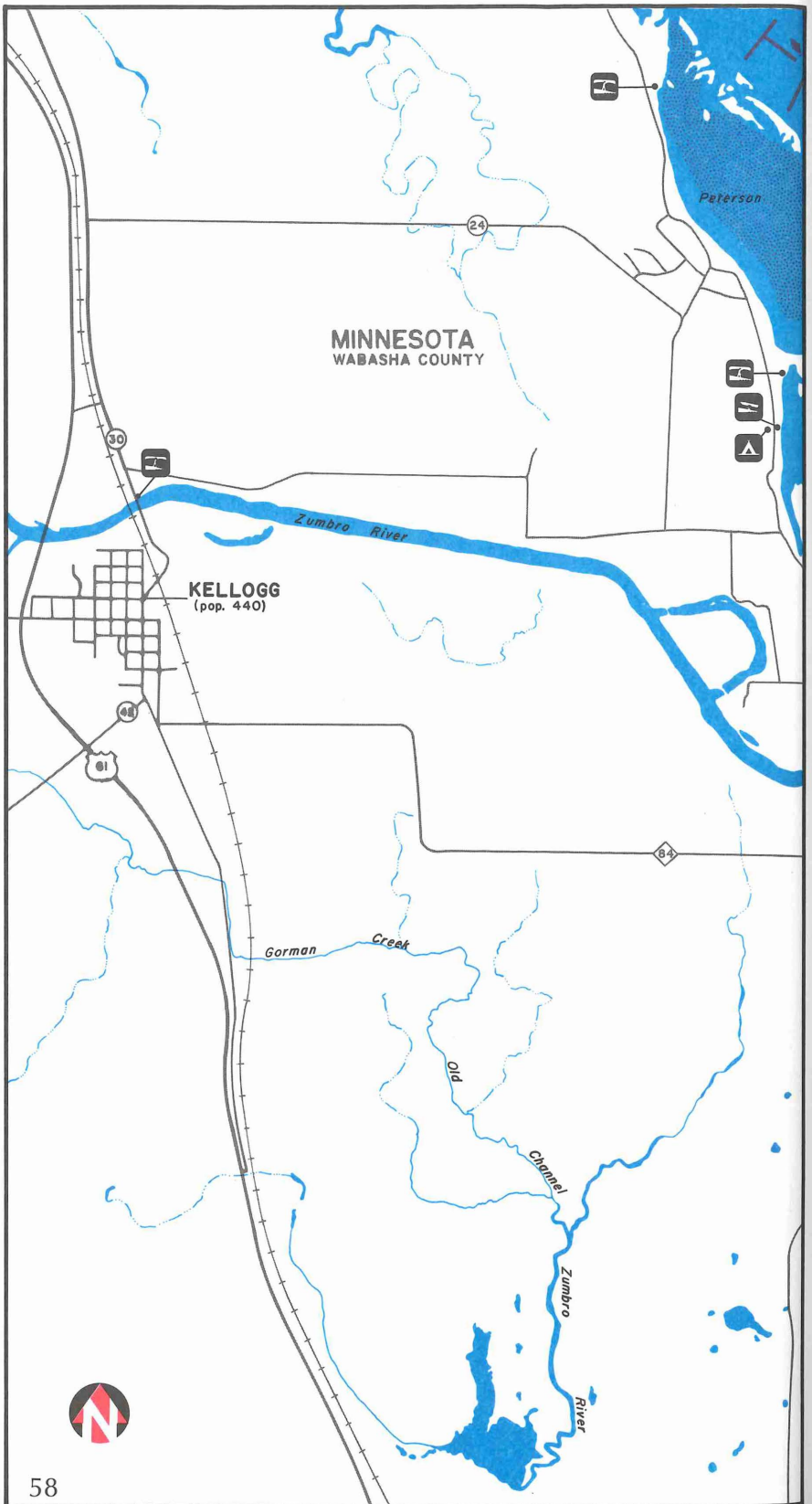
-  746.9L **Belvidere Slough Landing, WI DNR**
paved ramp

Murphy's Cut

-  747.5R **Halfmoon Landing, USFWS**
concrete plank ramp
-  747.3R **Halfmoon Canoe Access, USFWS**
carry-in (shallow water access - for small boats)

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.



MINNESOTA
WABASHA COUNTY

KELLOGG
(pop. 440)

Peterson

Zumbro River

Gorman Creek

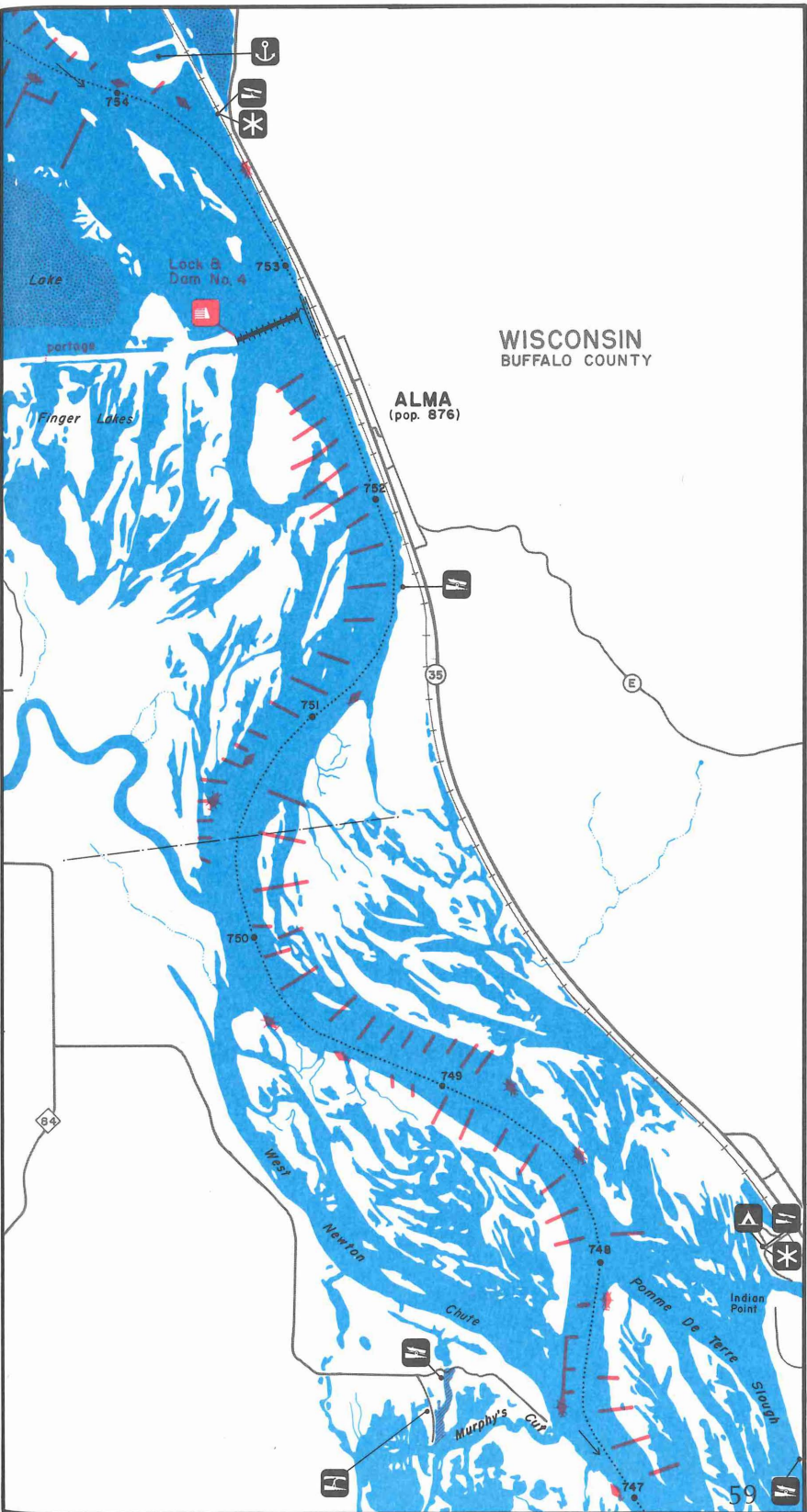
Old

Channel

Zumbro

River








WISCONSIN
BUFFALO COUNTY

ALMA
(pop. 876)


Goose Lake

-  746.8R **Goose Lake Public Access, MN DNR**
concrete plank ramp (shallow water access - for small boats)
-  744.7R **Weaver, Unincorporated**
bed & breakfast
-  744.6R **Weaver Landing, USFWS**
concrete plank ramp (shallow water access - for small boats), restrooms



Pomme De Terre Slough

- 745.8L **Buffalo City**
- 743.5L *food, lodging*
Buffalo County Sheriff (608) 685-4433
-  745.5L **Buffalo City Sportsman Village**
bait, fuel, lodging, boat rental, restrooms
-  744.3L **Buffalo City Landing, Buffalo City**
paved ramp


Whitewater River

-  743.3R **Whitewater River - Old Hwy. 61 Access, MN DNR**
carry-in

Spring Lake

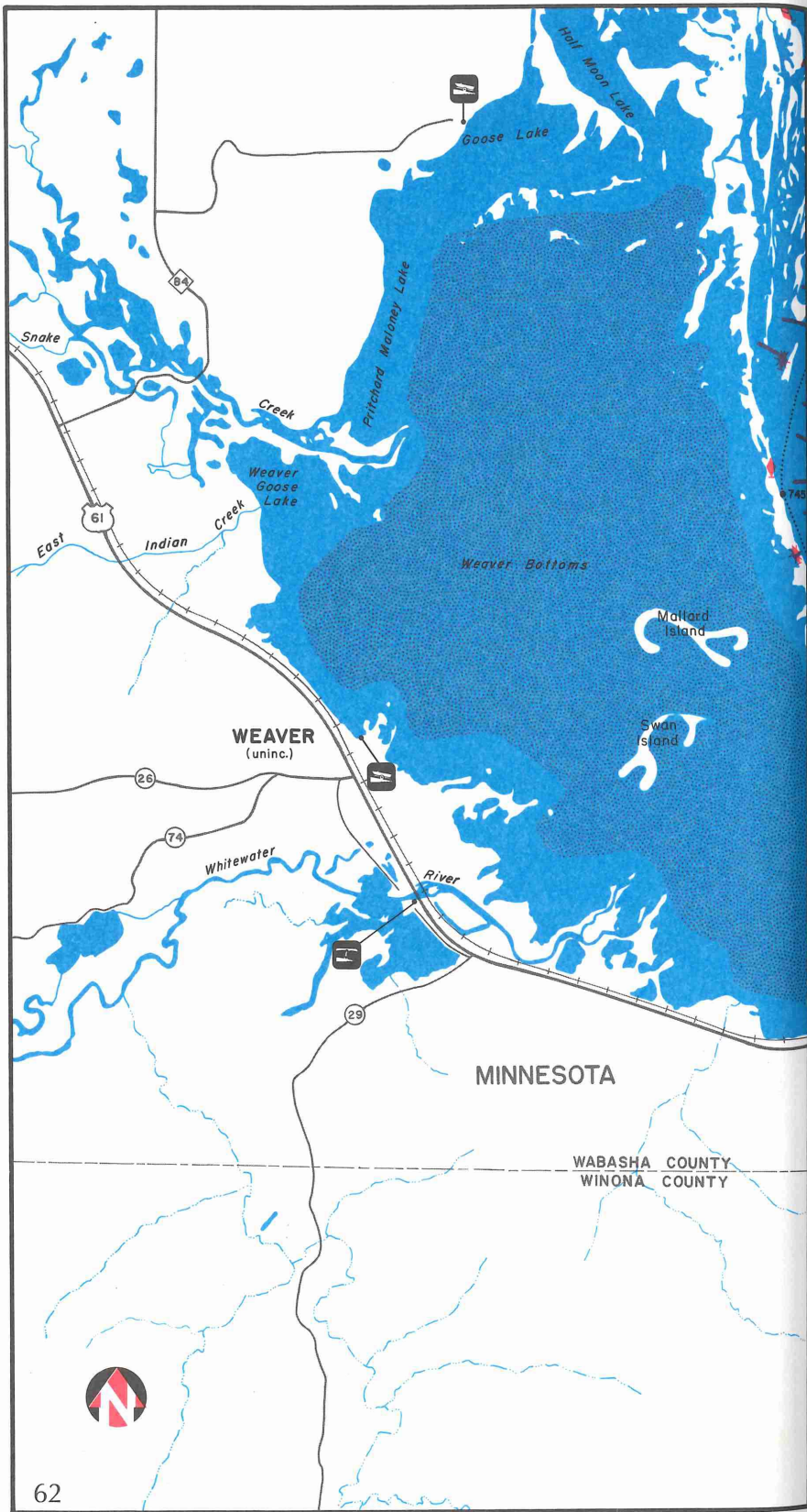
-  742.4L **Upper Spring Lake Landing, USFWS/Buffalo City**
gravel ramp
-  741.2L **Lower Spring Lake Landing, WI DNR/Buffalo City**
concrete slab ramp

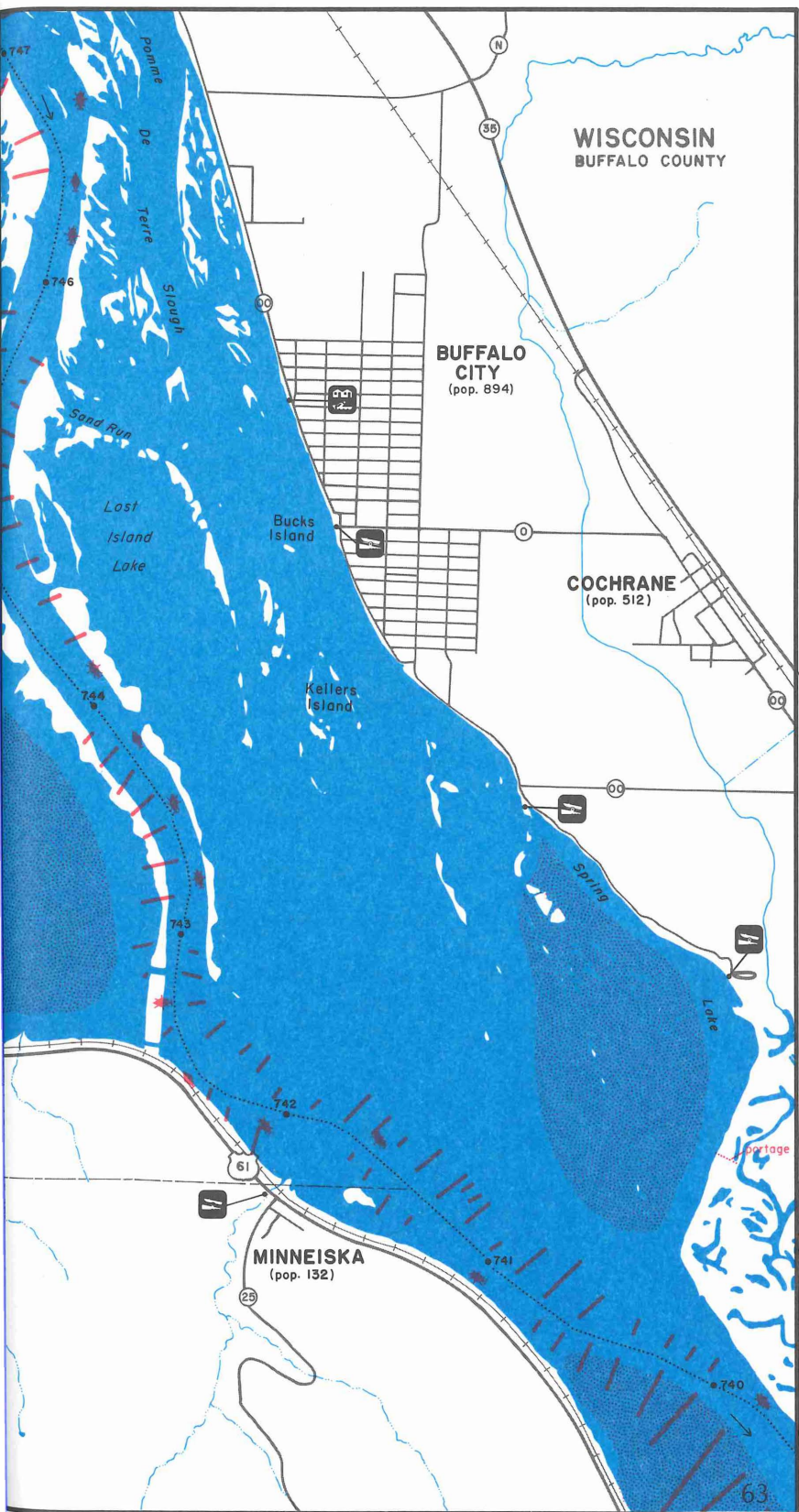
Mississippi River

-  741.8R **Minneiska Public Access, MN DNR**
concrete ramp
- 741.7R **Minneiska**
food
Winona County Sheriff (507) 457-6368

Boater's Notes







Mississippi River



740.0-738.0R **John Latsch State Park, MN DNR**
camping, wayside rest, restrooms



738.2R **Lock and Dam No. 5, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**



737.7R **Bass Camp Resort Inc., Private**
two concrete ramps (fee), camping, concessions, temporary dockage, fuel, lodging, canoe & boat rental, restrooms (507) 689-2415

Whitman Dam State Wildlife Area & Fountain City Bay



738.7L **Whitman Dam State Wildlife Area, WI DNR**
gravel ramp



736.5L **Bay's End, Private**
asphalt ramp (fee), courtesy dock, slip rental (608) 687-8216



736.6L **Indian Creek Resort, Private**
bait, temporary dockage, food, fuel, ice, lodging, pumpout, boat rental (608) 687-9581



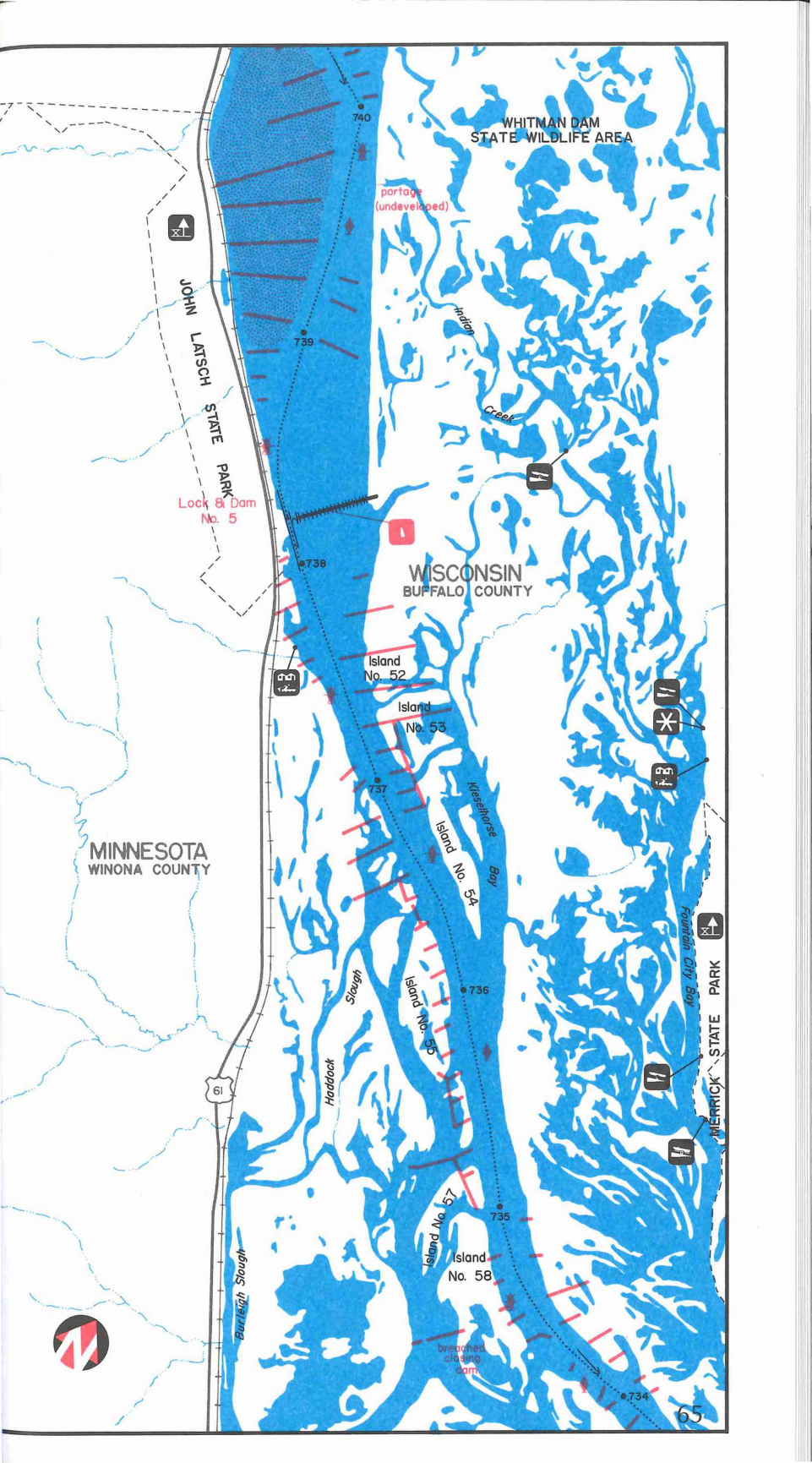
736.4-734.0L **Merrick State Park, WI DNR**
two asphalt ramps, camping, pop machine, restrooms, drinking water (608) 687-4936



736.5L **Merrick State Park, WI DNR**
asphalt ramp, camping, pop machine, restrooms, drinking water (608) 687-4936



735.2L **Merrick State Park, WI DNR**
asphalt ramp, camping, pop machines, restrooms, drinking water (608) 687-4936



WHITMAN DAM
STATE WILDLIFE AREA

portage
(undeveloped)

JOHN LATSCH
STATE PARK

Lock & Dam
No. 5

WISCONSIN
BUFFALO COUNTY

Island
No. 52

Island
No. 53

Island
No. 54

Island
No. 55

Island
No. 57

Island
No. 58

MINNESOTA
WINONA COUNTY

MERRICK STATE PARK



51

Mississippi River

732.9L Fountain City
food, lodging
Buffalo County Sheriff (608) 685-4433



732.8L Fountain City Boat Dock, Fountain City
concrete ramp, temporary dockage



732.1L Lower Fountain City Landing, Fountain City
two concrete ramps, temporary dockage

Straight Slough



731.3R Minnesota City Boat Club, Inc., Private
live bait, concessions, temporary dockage,
fuel, water (507) 689-2412



730.8R Verchota Landing, USFWS
concrete plank ramp



728.7R Upper McNalley Landing, USFWS
concrete plank ramp

Mississippi River



728.5R Lock and Dam No. 5A, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



728.4L Freddie's Fishing Pier, Private
fishing pier (fee), concessions



728.2L Breezy Point Marina, Private
concrete ramp

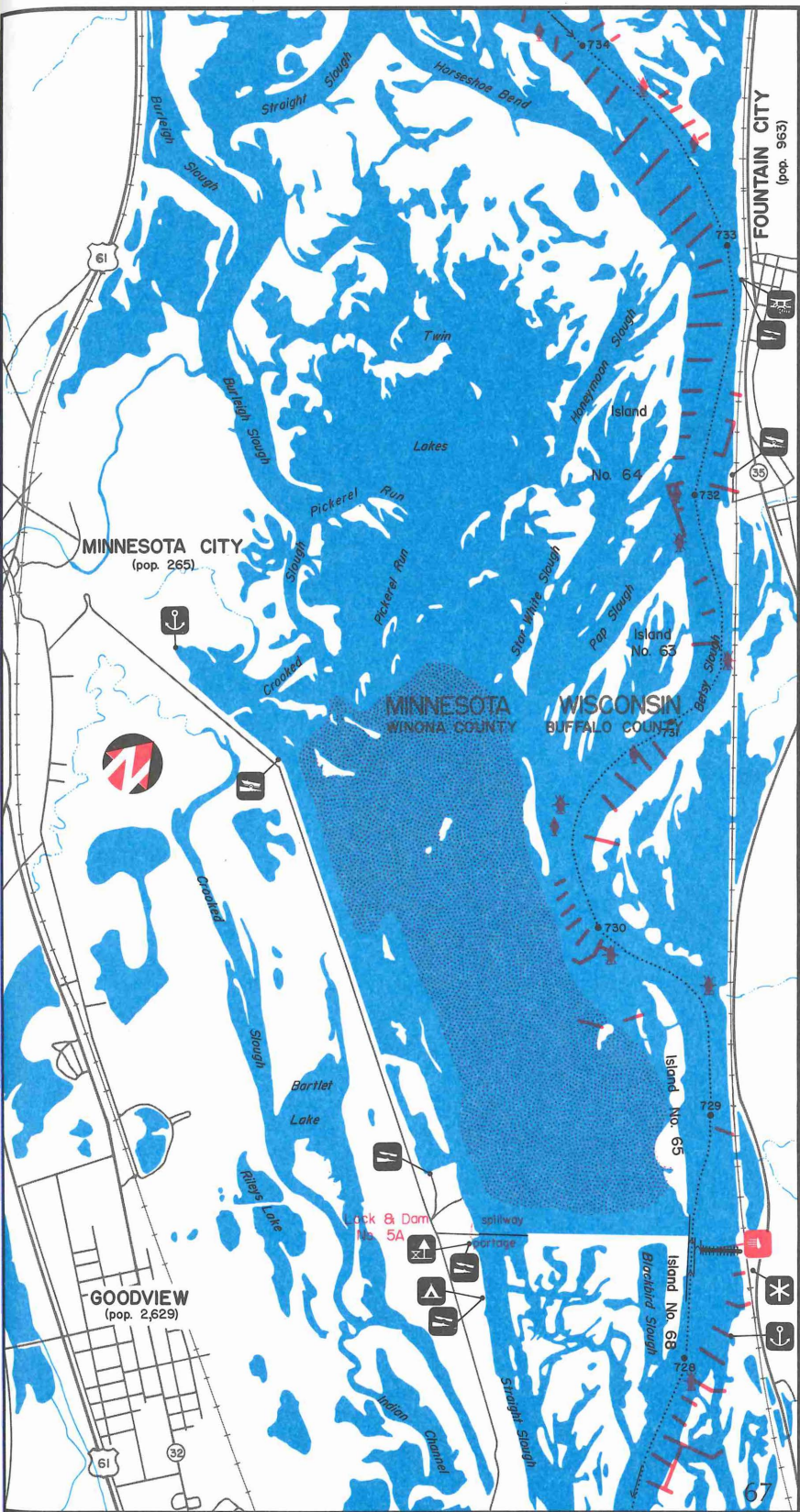
Straight Slough



728.2R Latsch Prairie Island Park and Access, Winona City
earth ramp, camping, concessions, picnic area, restrooms, drinking water



728.2R Prairie Island Campground, Private
concrete ramp (fee), 1/3 mile of sand beach for swimming and landing boats, camping, concessions, boat dock & landing, firewood, canoe rental, restrooms, showers, drinking water (507) 452-4501



Straight Slough

see map on page 69



728.2R

Latsch Prairie Island Park and Access, Winona City
asphalt ramp, camping, concessions, picnic area, restrooms, drinking water

Mississippi River



728.5R

Lock and Dam No. 5A, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

728.5-
723.4L

Winona area
food, lodging
Winona County Sheriff (507) 457-6368



726.2L

Dick's Marina, Private
concessions, fuel (230' gas dock), overnight dockage, pumpouts, repairs, restrooms, ship's store, showers, monitors channel 16
(507) 452-3809



725.8L

Winona Municipal Harbor Public Access, Winona City
concrete ramp



725.8L

Latsch Island East, USFWS
concrete ramp



725.6L

Latsch Island Park and Landing, Winona City
gravel ramp, picnic area

725.6L

Bluff Siding, Unincorporated
food, Buffalo County Sheriff (608) 685-4433



725.4R

Levee Park, Winona City
restrooms, temporary dockage



724.8R

Winona Yacht Club, Private
temporary dockage, fuel, pumpouts, repairs, restrooms, supplies, ice & refreshments
(507) 454-5590



724.7R

St. Charles Street Public Access, Winona City
concrete plank ramp

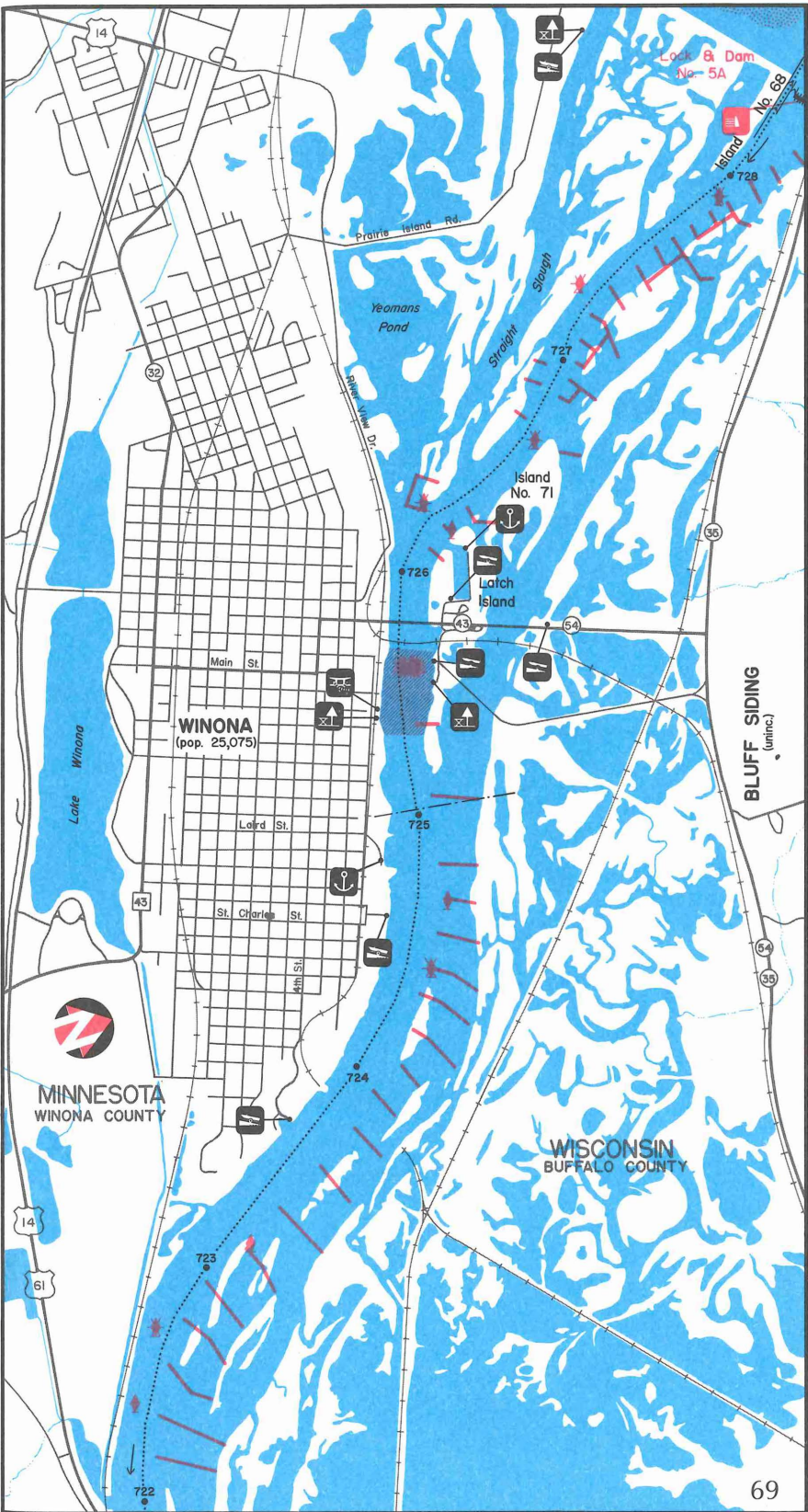


723.7R

East 5th Street Public Landing, Winona City
asphalt ramp

No wake zones

Special "slow - no wake zones" (indicated with red hatch marks on map) are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.





BLUFF SIDING
(uninc.)

Mississippi River



see map on page 71

720.8R **Homer, Unincorporated**
Winona County Sheriff (507) 457-6368

 719.5L **Trempealeau Wildlife Refuge Access, USFWS**
concrete ramp (electric motors only)

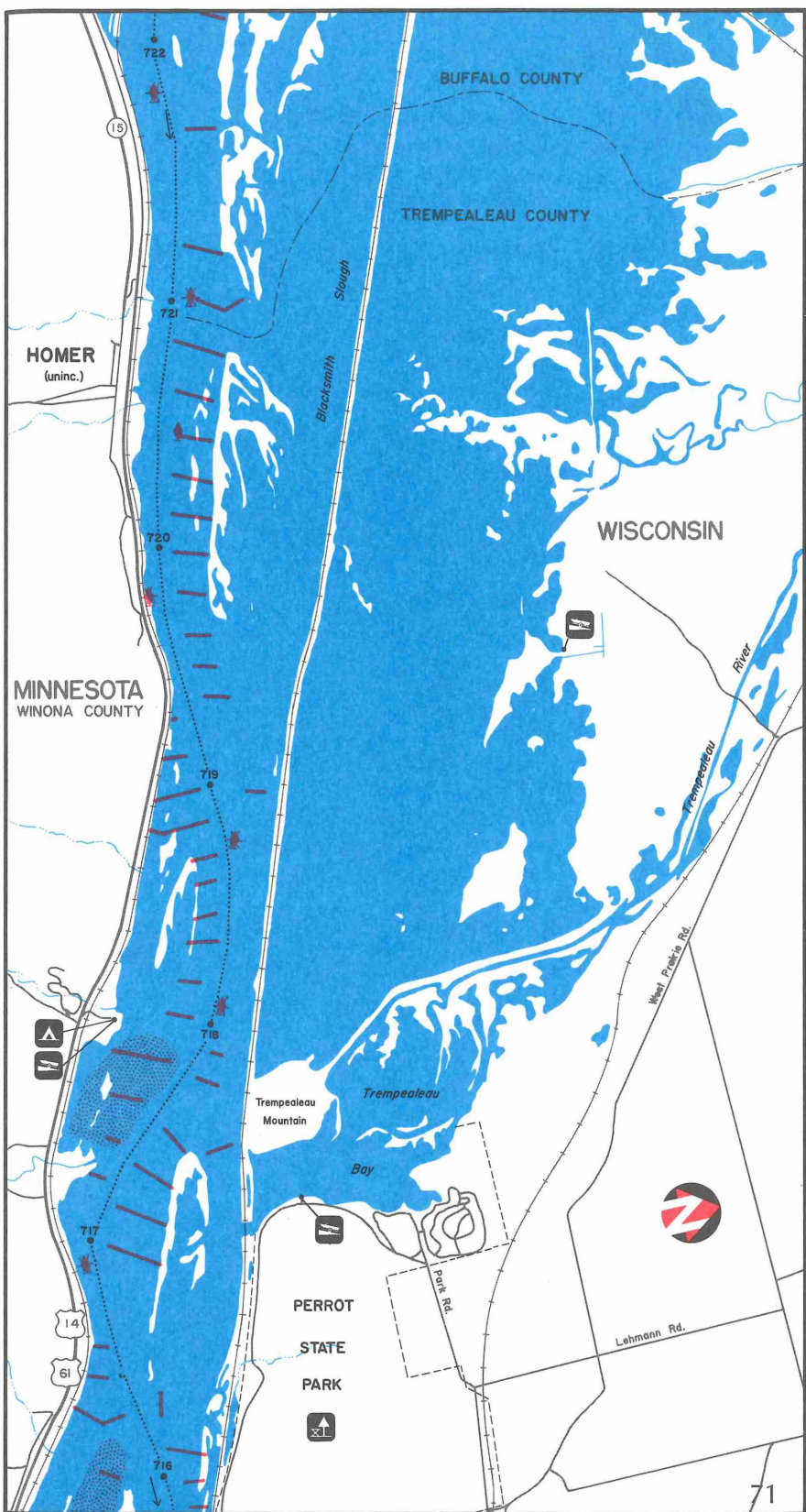
  718.0R **Winona KOA Campground, Private**
*concrete ramp (fee), camping & camping
cabins, concessions, docking (fee), gift shop,
groceries, showers (fee) (507) 454-2851*

Trempealeau Bay

  717.1-
715.8L **Perrot State Park, WI DNR**
*concrete plank ramp, camping, pop machine,
canoe rental, restrooms, Great River Trail,
drinking water (608) 534-6409*

Boater's Notes









Mississippi River

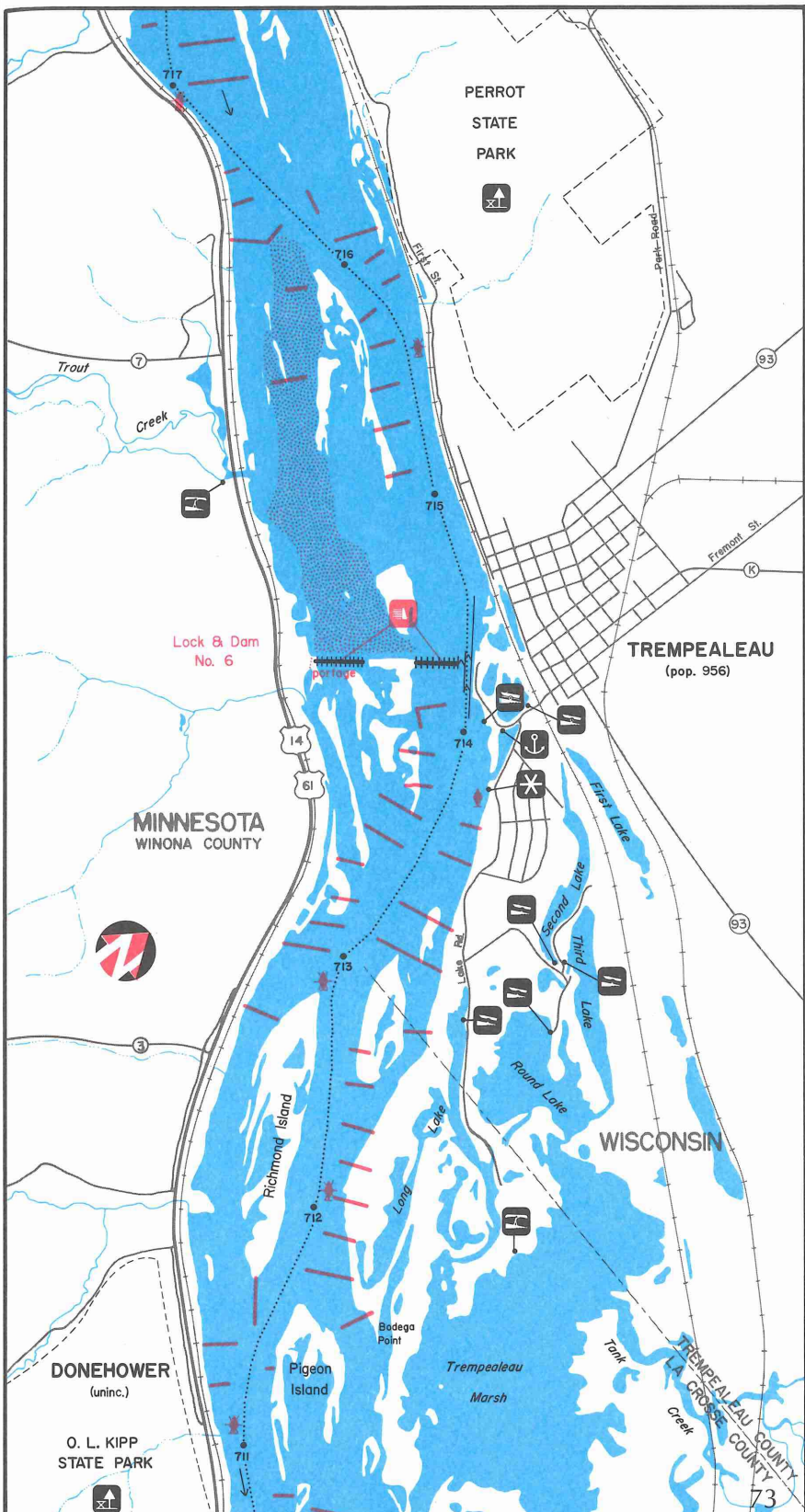
- 
717.1-715.8L **Perrot State Park, WI DNR**
concrete plank ramp, camping, pop machine, canoe rental, restrooms, Great River Trail, drinking water (608) 534-6409
- 
715.4R **Trout Creek Public Access, MN DOT**
carry-in
- 714.5-714.0L** **Trempealeau**
food, lodging
Trempealeau County Sheriff (715) 538-4351
- 
714.3L **Lock and Dam No. 6, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
- 
714.0L **Trempealeau Landing, WI DNR**
two paved ramps
- 
714.0L **Trempealeau Public Landing, Trempealeau**
concrete ramp
- 
714.0R **Trempealeau Marina, Private**
concrete slab ramp, transient docking, pumpouts, ship's store, showers (fee) (608) 534-6033, (800) 627-4629, fax (608) 534-7713
- 
713.8L **Larry's Landing Hungry Point, Private**
bait & tackle, temporary dockage, food, fuel, snacks, boat rental (608) 534-7771
- 
711.6-707.3R **O. L. Kipp State Park, MN DNR**
Great River Road

Second, Third, Long and Round Lake

- 
713.0L **Second Lake Access, WI DNR/USFWS**
gravel ramp
- 
713.0L **Third Lake Access, WI DNR/USFWS**
gravel ramp
- 
712.8L **Long Lake Landing, USFWS**
concrete plank ramp
- 
712.8L **Round Lake Landing, USFWS**
gravel ramp

Trempealeau Marsh

- 712.0L** **Lonetree Landing, USFWS**
carry-in



PERROT
STATE
PARK



Trout
Creek

Lock & Dam
No. 6

TREMPEALEAU
(pop. 956)

MINNESOTA
WINONA COUNTY



WISCONSIN

DONEHOWER
(uninc.)

O. L. KIPP
STATE PARK



TREMPEALEAU COUNTY
LA. CROSSE COUNTY

73

Mississippi River



711.6-
707.3R

O. L. Kipp State Park, MN DNR
Great River Road



707.1R

Dakota Public Access, MN DNR
concrete plank ramp (shallow water - small
boats only)

706.9R

Dakota
food
Winona County Sheriff (507) 457-6368

Lake Onalaska

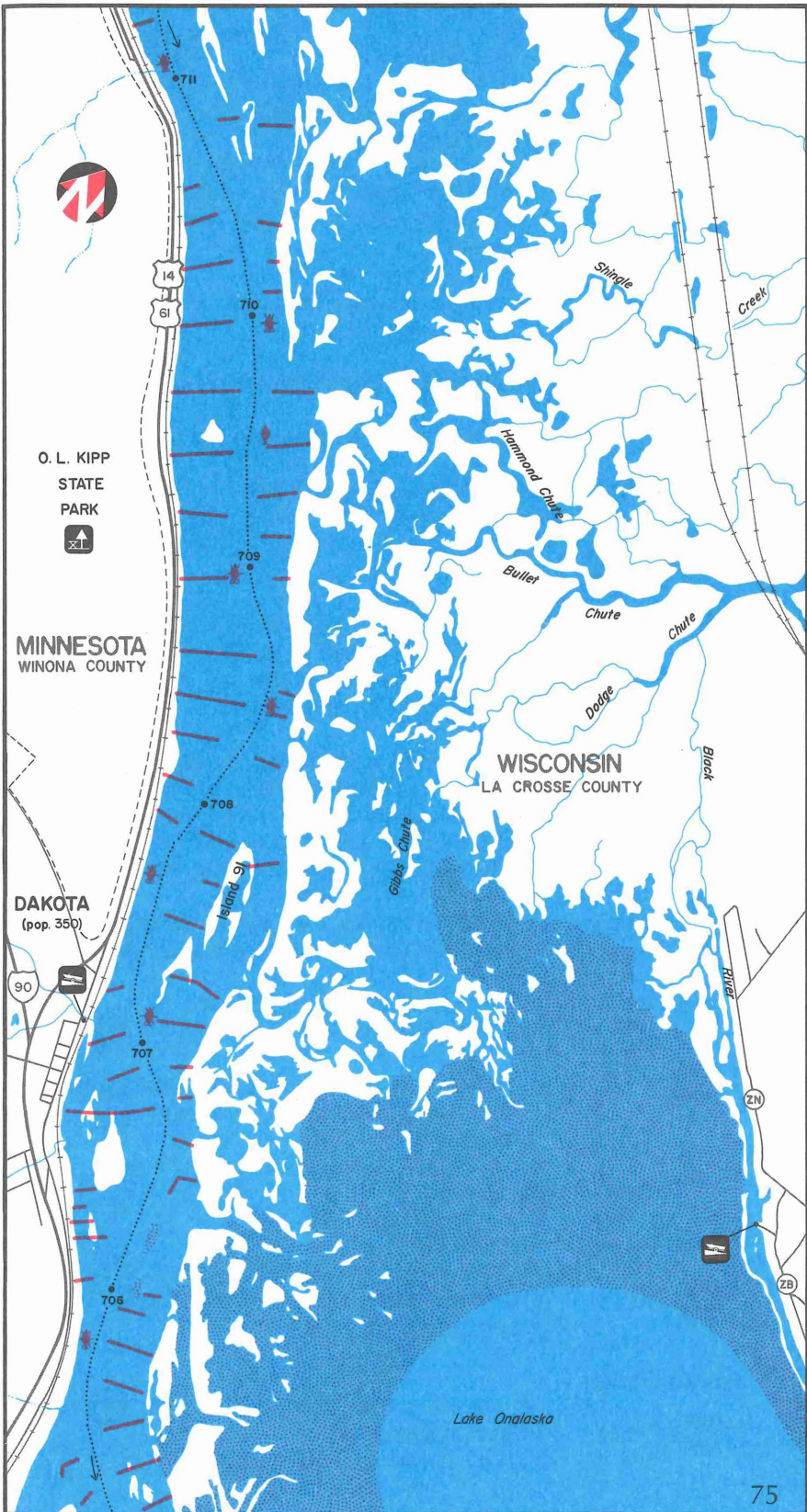


706.2L






**Brice Prairie Landing, USFWS/Onalaska
Township**
two hard surface ramps, restrooms

Boater's Notes












Mississippi River

- 705.0R** **Dresbach, Unincorporated**
food, lodging
Winona County Sheriff (507) 457-6368
-  **702.5R** **Lock and Dam No. 7, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
-  **702.2R** **Upper I-90 Access, Minnesota DNR**
two concrete ramps
-   **701.9R** **Dresbach State Travel Information Center, MN DOT**
state information, picnic area, restrooms,
-  **701.8L** **Lower I-90 Landing, USFWS**
concrete ramp


Lake Onalaska

-  **704.3L** **(a) North Shore Landing, Private**
concrete ramp, camping, concessions, lodging,
boat rental (stump field area - use caution)
(608) 781-0288
-  **704.0L** **(b) Schafer's Boat Landing, Private**
bait & tackle, fishing, lake & river maps
available (free), motorboat rental, restrooms,
snacks, drinking water, (stump field area - use
caution) (608) 781-3100
-  **704.0L** **(c) Mosey's Landing, Onalaska Township/USFWS**
two concrete ramps (stump field area - use caution)
-  **703.1L** **(d) La Crosse Sailing Club, Private**
private docks (rental) (608) 781-2226
-   **703.0L** **(e) Nelson Park and Landing, La Crosse County**
concrete ramp, picnic area, restrooms
-  **701.8L** **(f) Upper Dike Landing, La Crosse County**
gravel ramp

French Lake

-  **701.7L** **(g) Lower Dike Landing, La Crosse County**
gravel ramp

French Slough

-  **699.8L** **(h) Al's Marina, Private**
docking, paddle boat rental (608) 784-3308

Black River

703.0-
701.4L

Onalaska

food, lodging,
La Crosse County Sheriff (608) 785-9629



701.8L

(i) Fisherman Road Landing, USFWS
concrete slab



701.7L

(j) Sias Isles Boat Livery, Private
gravel ramp (fee), camping, concessions, fuel,
restrooms (608) 783-5623



701.5L

**(k) Black River French Island Landing, City of
La Crosse**
gravel ramp

701.3-
695.5L

La Crosse

food, lodging
La Crosse County Sheriff (608) 785-9629



700.4L

(l) Black's Cove Marina & Boat Rental, Private
temporary & overnight dockage, ice, pop
machine and pizza, repairs, restrooms, shower
(with overnight docking), drinking water,
monitors channel 16 (608) 781-1212



700.2L

(m) Midway Hotel, Best Western
dockage (free to registered guest of hotel),
lodging, restaurant (608) 781-7000



699.5L

(n) Logan Street Landing, City of La Crosse
two paved ramps



699.4L

(o) Clinton Street Landing, City of La Crosse
two paved ramps



699.4R

(p) Bob's Bait Shop Marina, Private
bait & tackle, docking, restaurant (608) 782-5552



699.4R

(q) Clinton Street Landing West, City of La Crosse
two concrete paved ramps



699.3L

(r) Copeland Park, City of La Crosse
picnic area, restrooms, drinking water



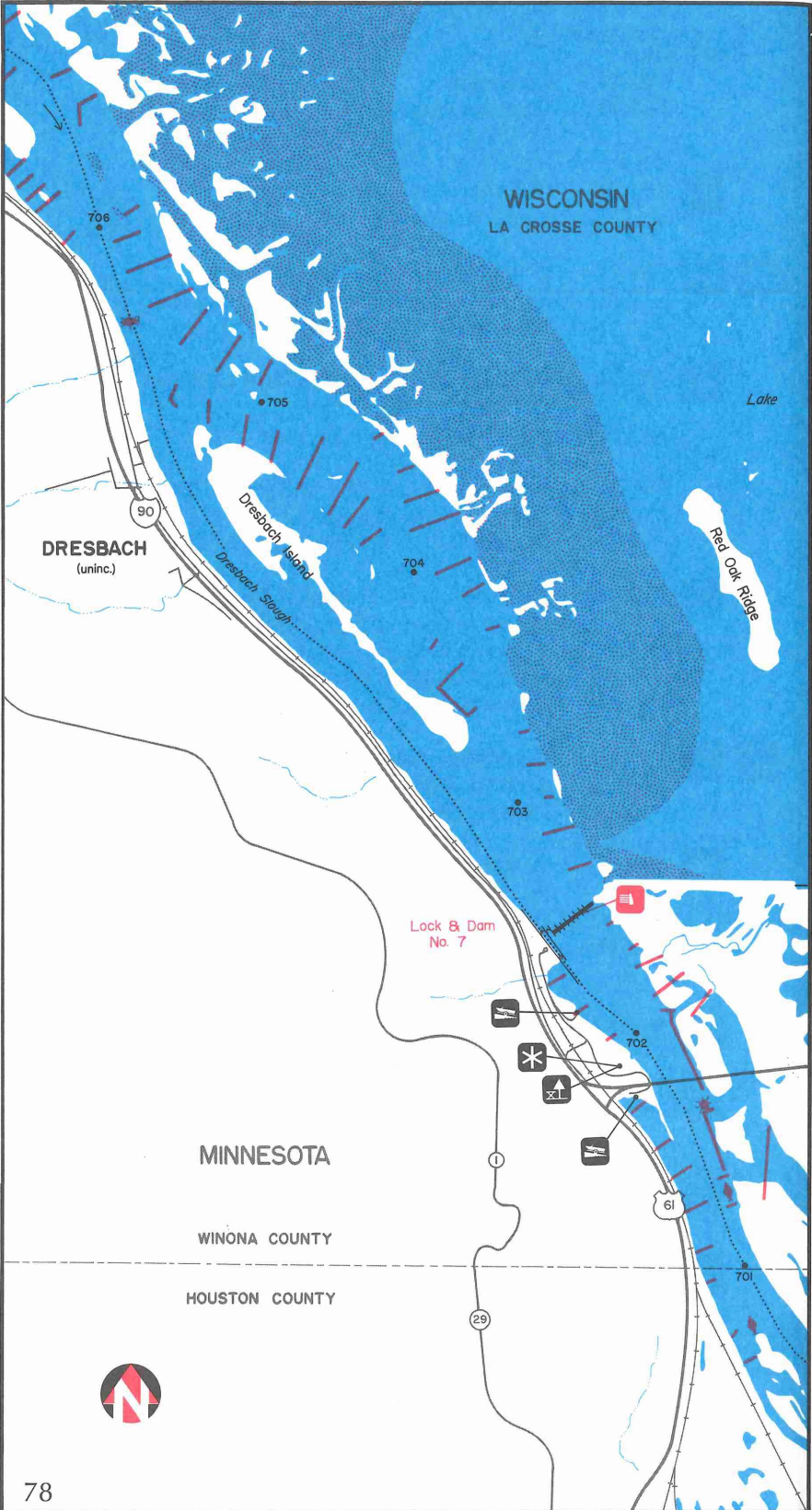
699.3L

(s) Copeland Boat Stop, Private
live bait (minnows & night crawlers), fuel,
rowboat rental, restrooms, snacks, drinking water
(608) 782-1325



699.4L

(t) Beacon Bay Marina, Private
temporary dockage, fuel, haul out, pumpouts,
repairs, restaurant, restrooms, supplies
(608) 784-8586



WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE COUNTY

Lake

Red Oak Ridge

DRESBACH
(uninc.)

90

Dresbach Island
Dresbach Slough

704

703

Lock & Dam
No. 7

702

MINNESOTA

WINONA COUNTY

HOUSTON COUNTY

1

29

61

701





ONALASKA
(pop. 9249)

LA CROSSE
(pop. 48,347)

Mississippi River

701.3-695.5L **La Crosse**
food, lodging
La Crosse County Sheriff (608) 785-9629

699.5-698.5R **La Crescent**
food, lodging
Houston County Sheriff (507) 724-3379


Blue Lake


 **699.1R** **Allen's Boat Livery & Access**
concrete ramp (fee), boat rental, restrooms
(507) 895-6207


West Channel


 **698.8R** **Sportsmen's Landing, MN DOT**
concrete slab

Mississippi River

 **698.4R** **Pettibone Park, City of La Crosse**
concessions, restrooms, drinking water

 **697.4R** **Bikini Yacht Club, Private**
daily excursion cruises (May - Oct.), temporary dockage, food, fuel, lodging, pumpouts, repairs, restrooms, ship's store, transient slips
(608) 784-0556

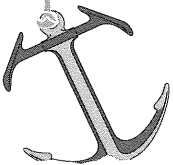
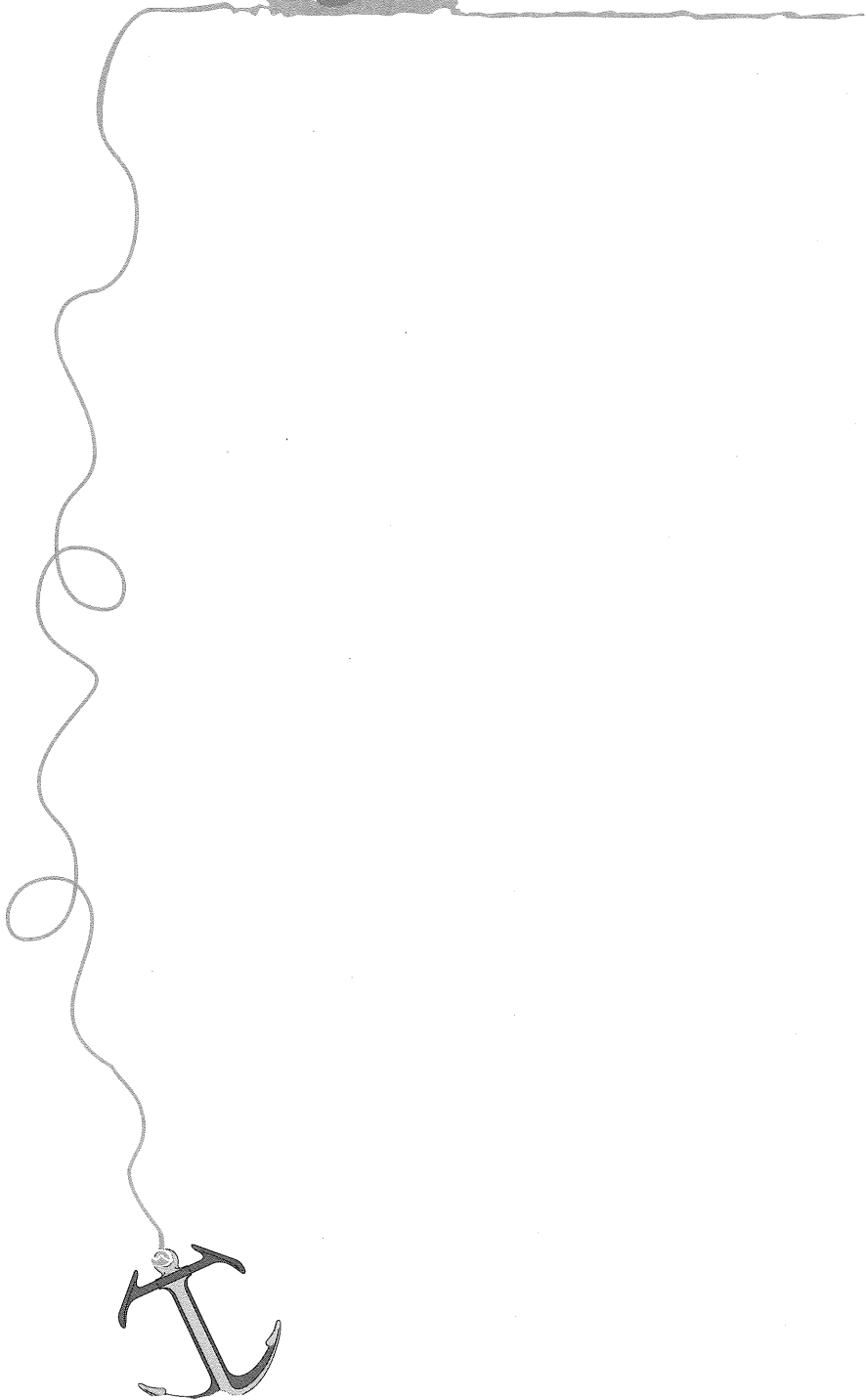
 **696.8R** **La Crosse Pettibone Boat Club, Private**
concrete ramp, temporary dockage, food, fuel (diesel available), pumpouts, restaurant
(608) 784-7743, reservations for overnight docking and gas dock (608) 785-2011

 **696.7L** **La Crosse Municipal Boat Harbor, City of La Crosse**
concrete ramp, temporary dockage, fuel, laundry, pumpouts, restrooms, showers, supplies
(608) 782-7077

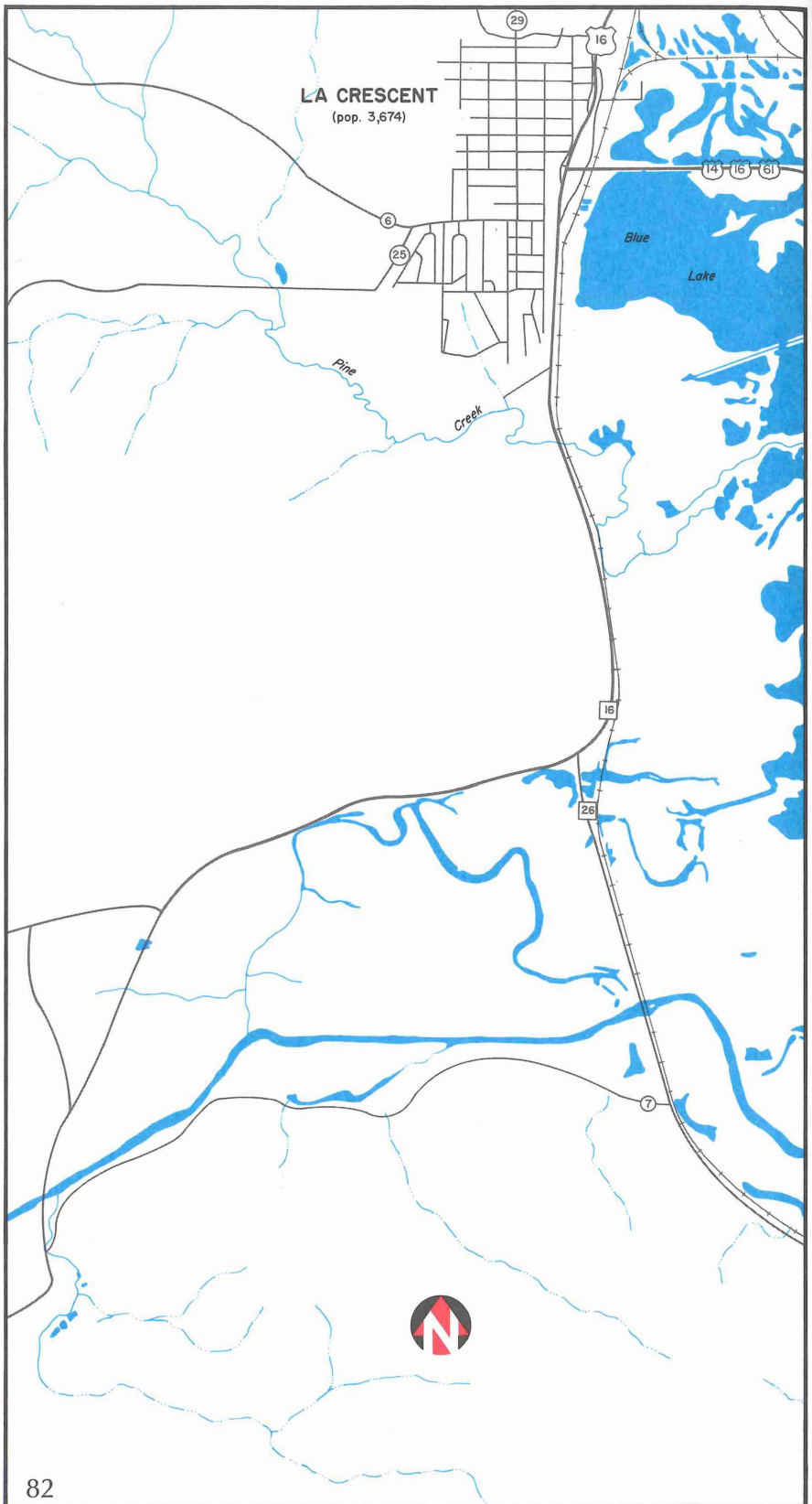
 **696.1L** **Green Island Park, City of La Crosse**
picnic area

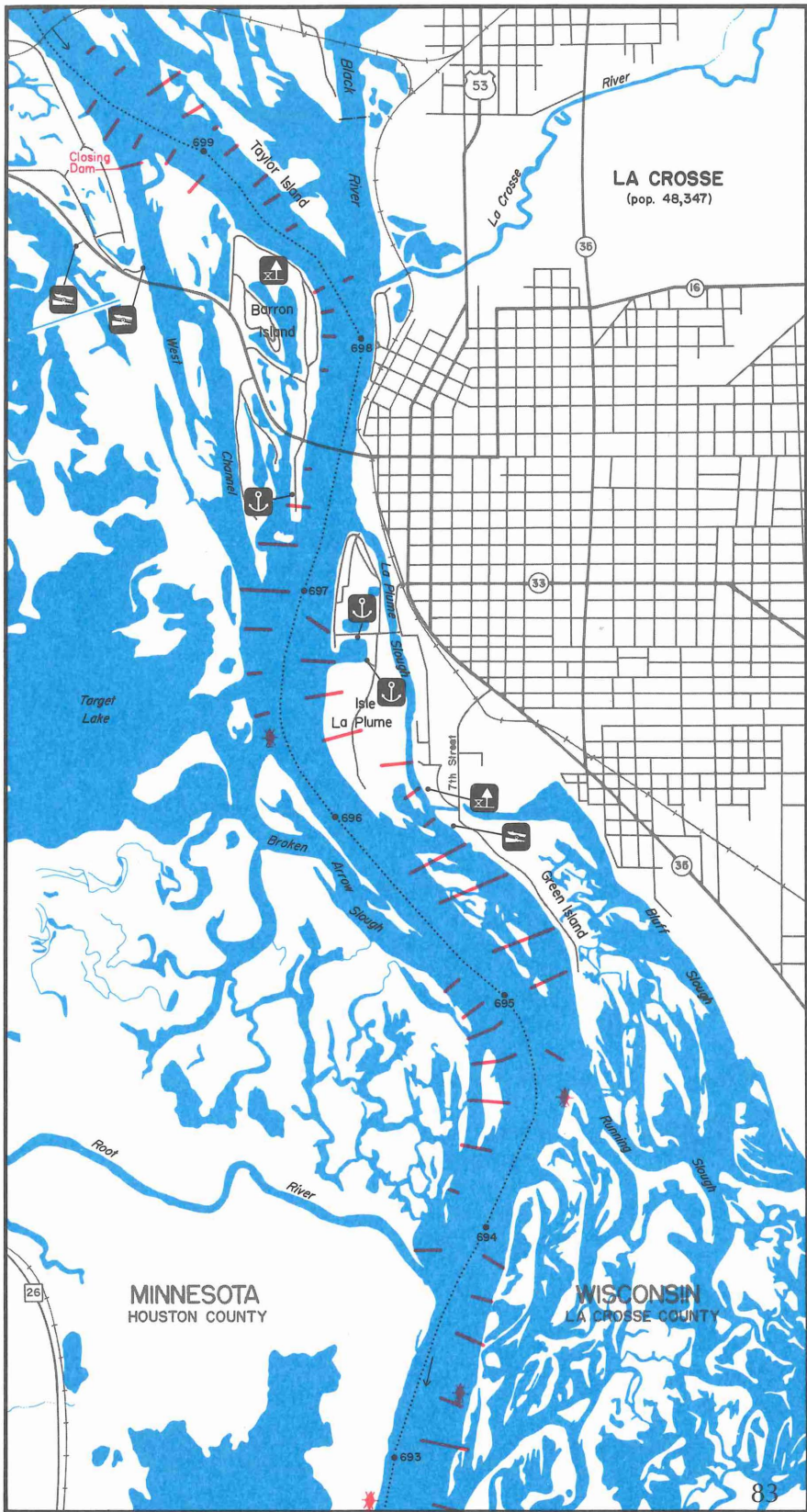
 **695.8L** **Green Island Ramp, City of La Crosse**
paved ramp

Boater's Notes



LA CRESCENT
(pop. 3,674)





Wigwam Slough



692.8L

Upper Goose Island Landing, La Crosse County
concrete ramp



692.0L

Goose Island Landing, La Crosse County
two concrete ramps



691.7L

Goose Island County Park, La Crosse County
camping, concessions, picnic area, canoe rental, restrooms, drinking water (608) 788-7018



690.6L

Hunter's Point Landing, USFWS/La Crosse County
gravel ramp

Mississippi River



690.5R

Lawrence Lake Marina, Private
paved ramp (fee), bait, concessions, temporary dockage, fuel, pumpout, boat rental (507) 482-6615

688.9R

Brownsville
*food
Houston County Sheriff (507) 724-3379*



688.9R

Sandbar Campground, Private
gravel ramp, camping, fuel, restrooms, reservations (507) 482-6664



688.4R

Wildcat Campground & Landing, Houston County
*two concrete slab ramps, camping (fee) - (30 day sites and 30 seasonal sites), concessions, picnicking, restrooms, reservations & site rental, shelters, showers, drinking water
May - September (507) 482-6250*

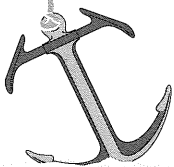
Channel Marker 684.7 to Stoddard

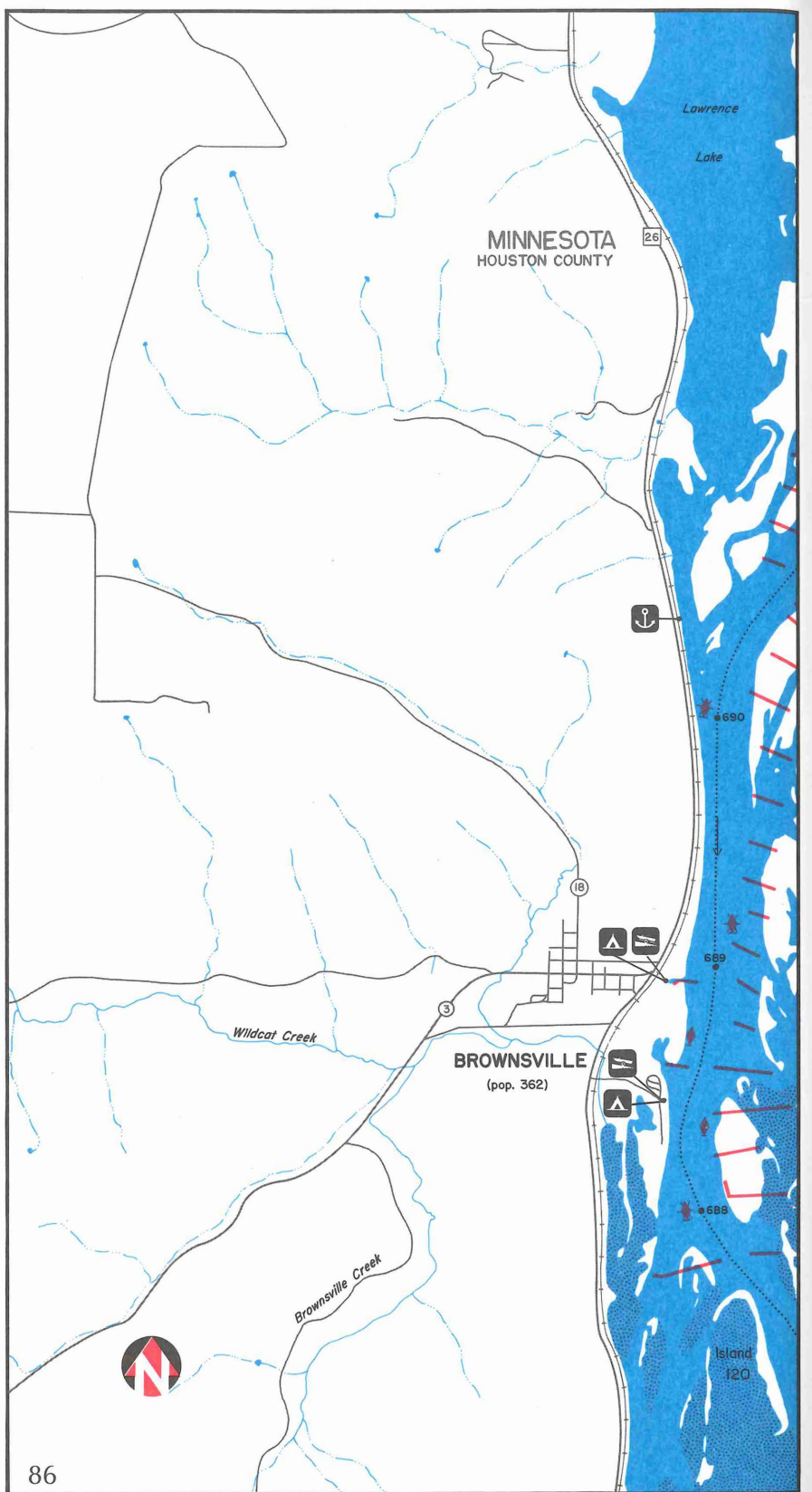


686.7L

Waters Edge Motel, Private
concrete slab ramp, camping, concessions, boat rental, restrooms (look for channel marker 684.7 to Stoddard - stump field area - use caution) (608) 457-2126

Boater's Notes





Lawrence
Lake

MINNESOTA
HOUSTON COUNTY

26



690

689

3

1B

Wildcat Creek

BROWNSVILLE
(pop. 362)

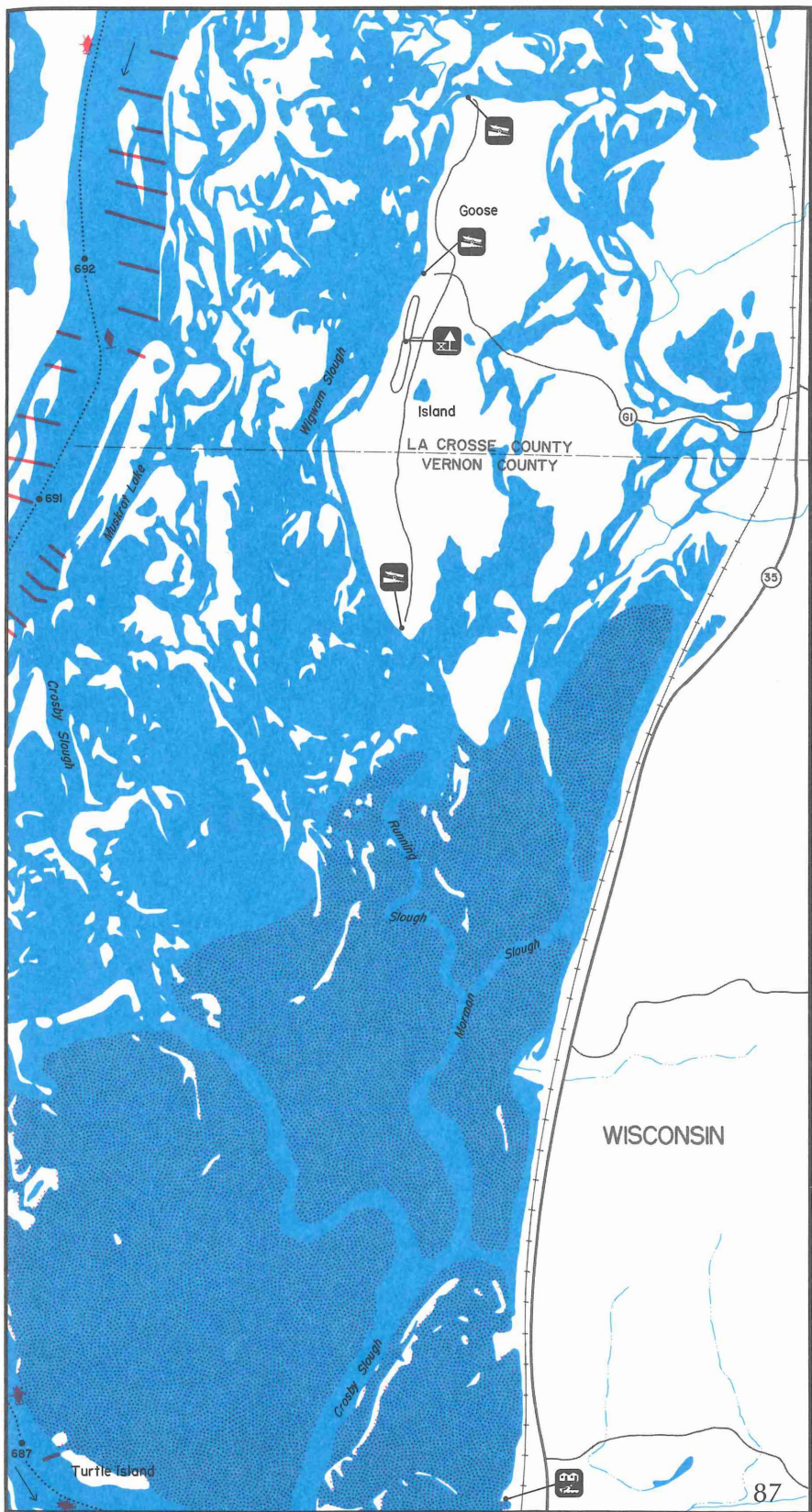


685

Brownsville Creek

Island
120





Channel Marker 684.7 to Stoddard



686.7L

Waters Edge Motel, Private

concrete slab ramp, camping, concessions, boat rental, restrooms (look for channel marker 684.7 to Stoddard - stump field area - use caution) (608) 457-2126

686.0L

Stoddard

food, lodging (stump field area - use caution) Vernon County Sheriff (608) 637-2123



685.7L

Stoddard Park Landing, City of Stoddard

concrete ramp (stump field area - use caution)

Raft Channel

681.2R

Reno, Unincorporated

(stump field area - use caution) Houston County Sheriff (507) 724-3379



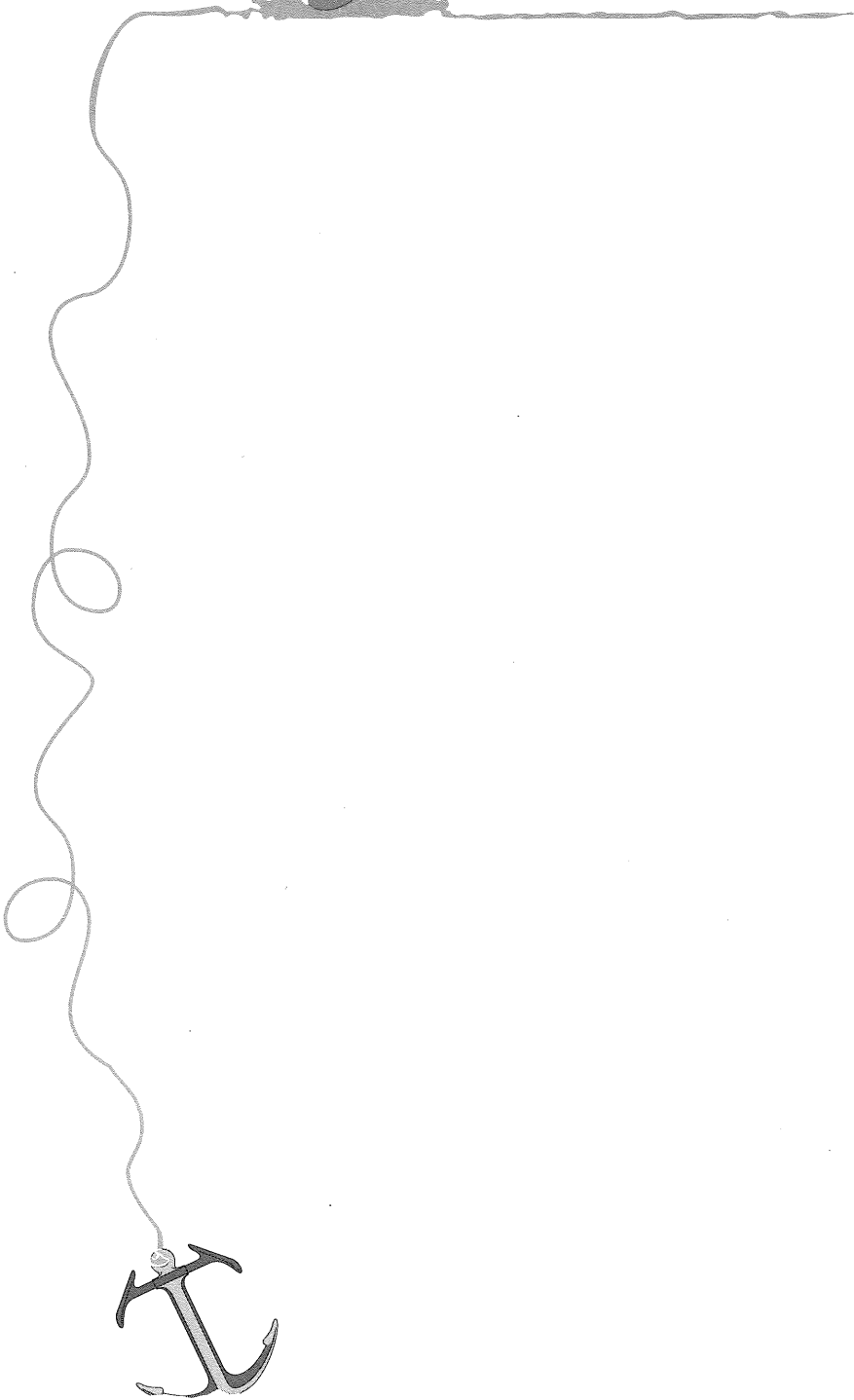
681.4R

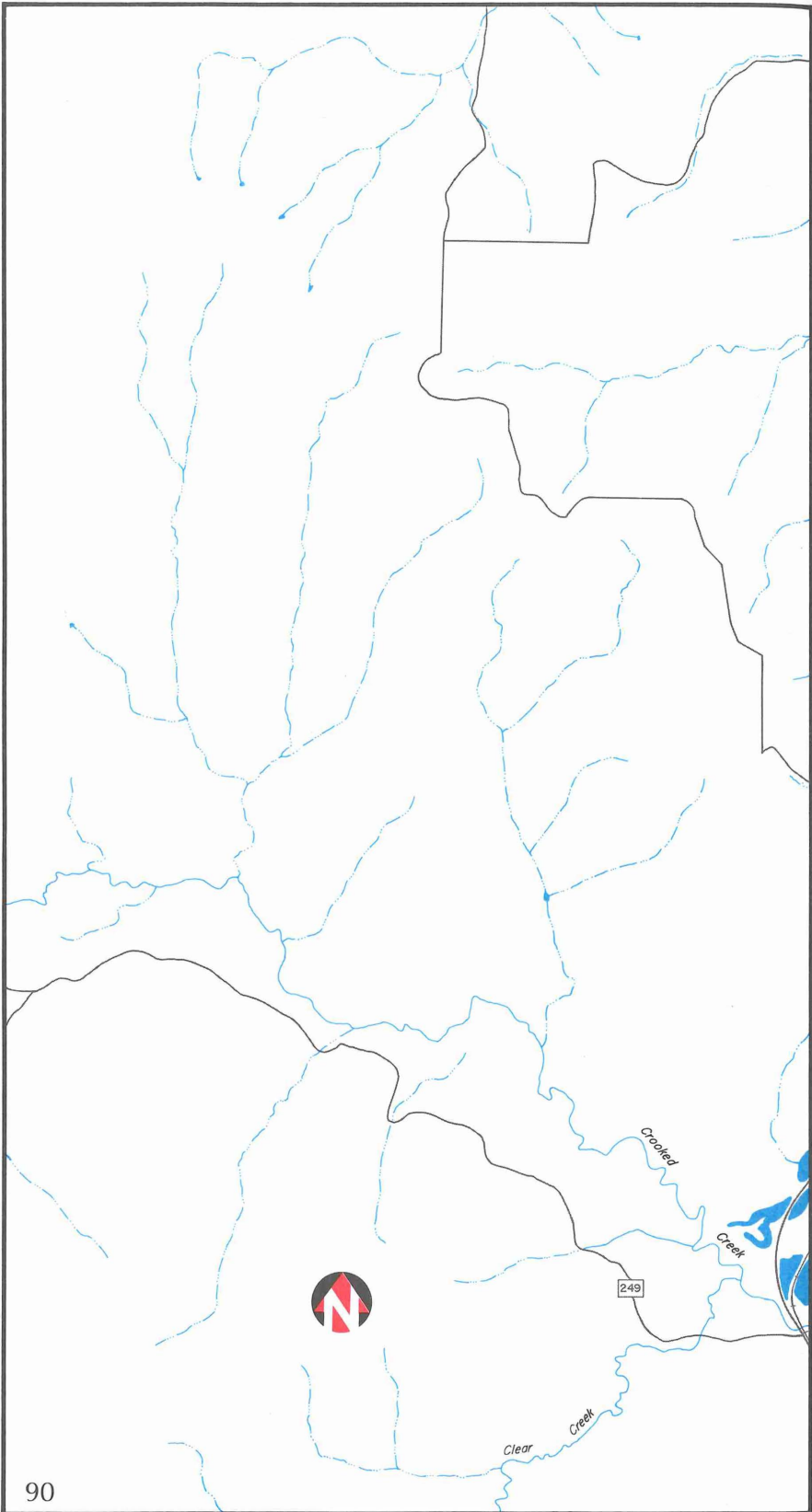
Reno Public Access, MN DNR

carry-in at Lock & Dam No. 8

Boater's Notes

Boater's Notes



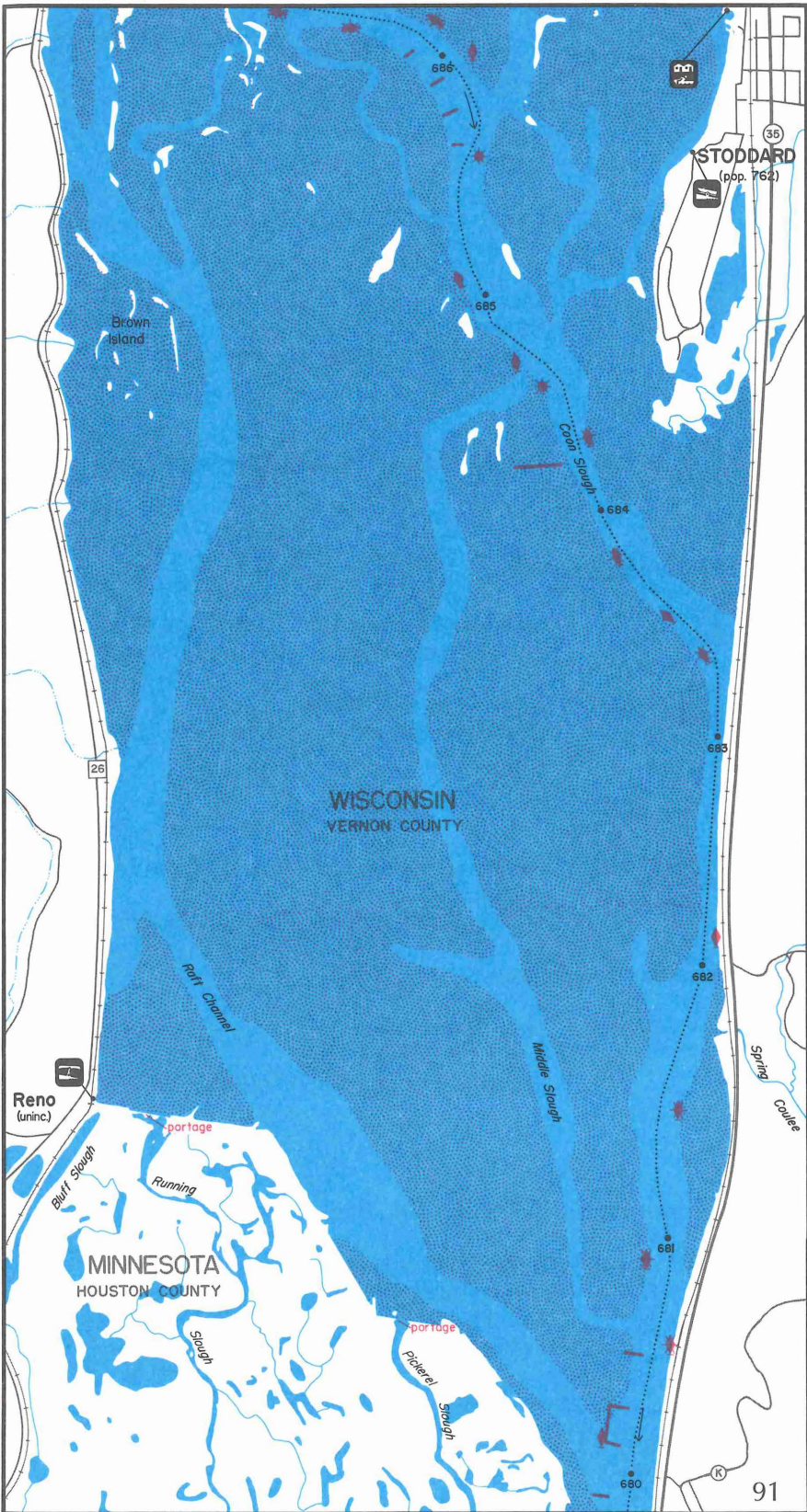


249

Crooked

Creek

Clear
Creek



Brown Island

STODDARD
(pop. 762)

WISCONSIN
VERNON COUNTY

Reno
(uninc.)

MINNESOTA
HOUSTON COUNTY

91

Mississippi River

679.5L **Genoa**
food, lodging
Vernon County Sheriff (608) 637-2123



679.3L **Genoa Harbor, Village of Genoa**
concrete ramp



679.2L **Lock and Dam No. 8, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
comfort station, observation platform

Thief Slough



677.8L **Dairyland Power Access, Dairyland Power Co-op**
concrete ramp

Ice Haul Slough



677.0R **Millstone Landing, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
gravel ramp (shallow water access for small boats)



676.0R **Visgers Landing, USFWS**
concrete plank ramp (shallow access for small boats)

Bad Axe River



675.2L **Bad Axe Landing, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
paved ramp, restrooms
Vernon County Sheriff (608) 637-2123

Minnesota Slough, Iowa

673.8R **New Albin, Iowa**
bait & tackle, food, gas
Allamakee County Sheriff (319) 568-4521

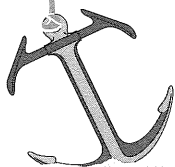
Note:

For copies of river guides for Iowa, please contact:

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace Street Office Building
East 9th and Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Iowa DNR: (515) 281-5145
www.state.ia.us/government/dnr

Boater's Notes



Clear Creek

Bluff

Slough

Ice Haul Slough

Winnebago Creek

14

11

11

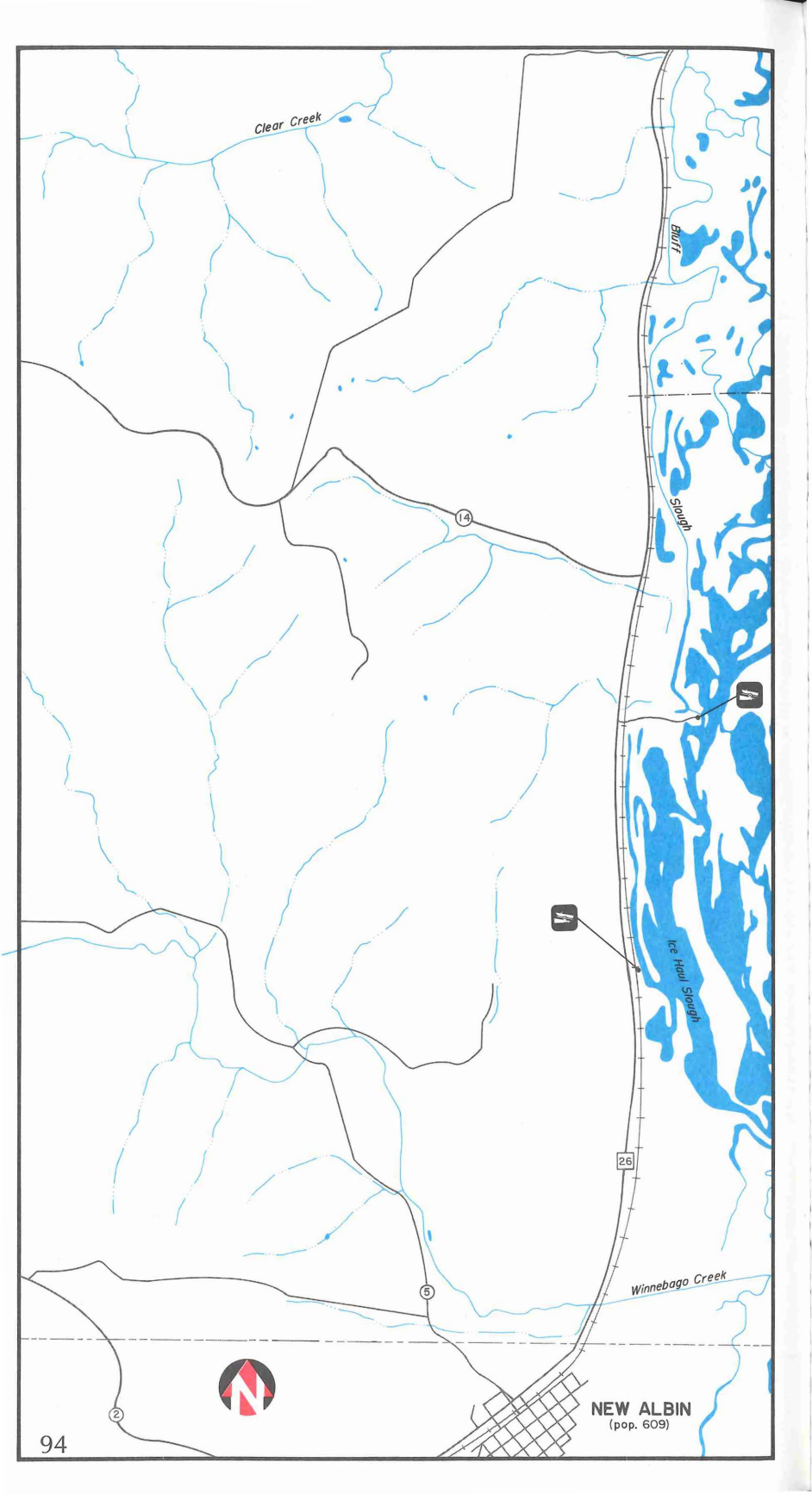
26

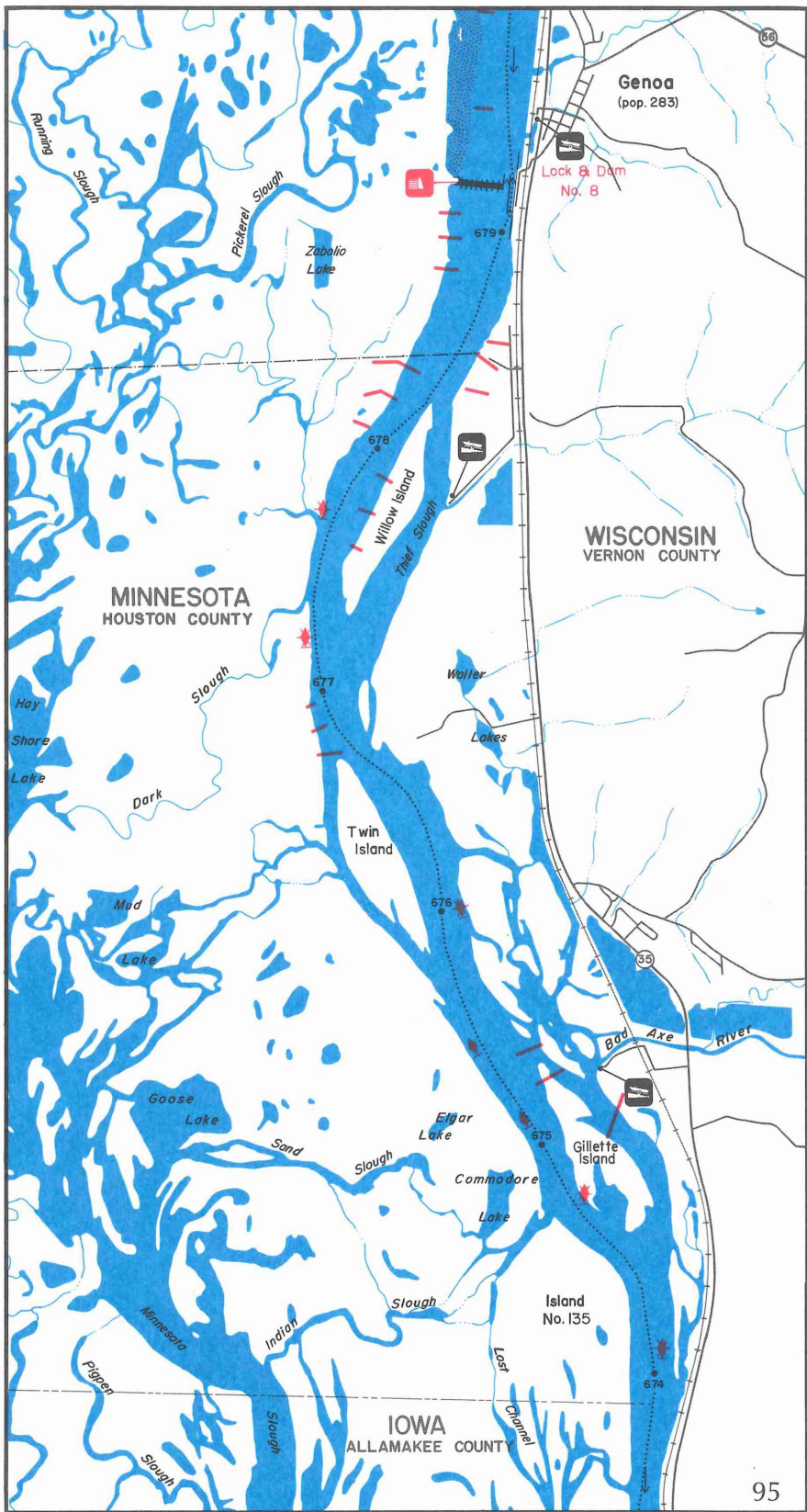
5

2



NEW ALBIN
(pop. 609)





Genoa
(pop. 283)

Lock & Dam
No. 8

WISCONSIN
VERNON COUNTY

MINNESOTA
HOUSTON COUNTY

IOWA
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY

AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH BOATING ON THE RIVER

MN Department of Natural Resources Type of Program

DNR Information Center

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
DNR Information: (651) 296-6157 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-888-646-6367
www.dnr.state.mn.us

Enforcement, boating
and water safety
education, public
access, and resource
management

Telecommunications Device for
the Deaf : (651) 296-5484 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-800-657-3929

License Bureau

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4026
(651) 296-2316 or in
Minnesota Toll Free: 1-800-285-2000

Watercraft licensing
and titling

Region V/Rochester

2300 Silver Creek Road Northeast
Rochester, MN 55906
(507) 285-7420

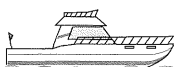
Resource management
in S.E. Minnesota

Region VI/Metro

1200 Warner Road
St. Paul, MN 55106
(651) 772-7900

Resource management
in Metro Region

Federal Agencies



Type of Program

U.S. Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard Info. Line
US Toll Free (800) 368-5647
TDD (800) 689-0816
Boating Safety: www.uscgboating.org
Auxiliary: www.cgaux.org
or
Group Upper Mississippi River
via Marine Radio on Channel 16

Aids to navigation,
inspection of boat
manufacturers, federal
regulations, marine
event permits and
pollution control

Federal Communications Commission

US Toll Free (888) 225-5322
www.fcc.gov

Administration,
information, licensing
and regulation of
radio communications

Army Corps of Engineers

Public Affairs
St. Paul District
190 East 5th Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 290-5200
www.usace.army.mil

Administration of locks
and dams, channel
maintenance and river
charts



County Sheriffs

Enforcement, search and rescue and general water safety

Minnesota

Dakota County

1580 West Hwy 55, Box 247
Hastings, MN 55033
(651) 437-4211

Goodhue County

620 West 6th Street, Box 32
Red Wing, MN 55066
(651) 388-2823
Water Patrol (651) 385-3192

Houston County

Court House Square
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 724-3379

Wabasha County

618 Broadway Avenue
Wabasha, MN 55981
(651) 565-3361

Winona County

201 West 3rd Street
Winona, MN 55987
(507) 457-6368

Wisconsin

Buffalo County

407 South Second Street
Alma, WI 54610
(608) 685-4433

La Crosse County

400 North Fourth Street-Room 107
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 785-9629

Wisconsin (continued)

Pepin County

747 Avenue West
Box 39
Durand, WI 54736
(715) 672-5944

Pierce County

432 West Main Street
Box 477
Ellsworth, WI 54011
(715) 273-5051

Trempealeau County

1720 Main Street
White Hall, WI 54773
(715) 538-4351

Vernon County

Dunlap Street
Viroqua, WI 54665
(608) 637-2123

Emergency Numbers

In Minnesota

Phone 911 (on a cell
phone this will connect
you with the State Patrol)

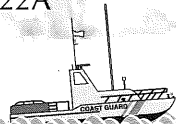
Coast Guard Distress

VHF-FM Marine Radio
Channel 16

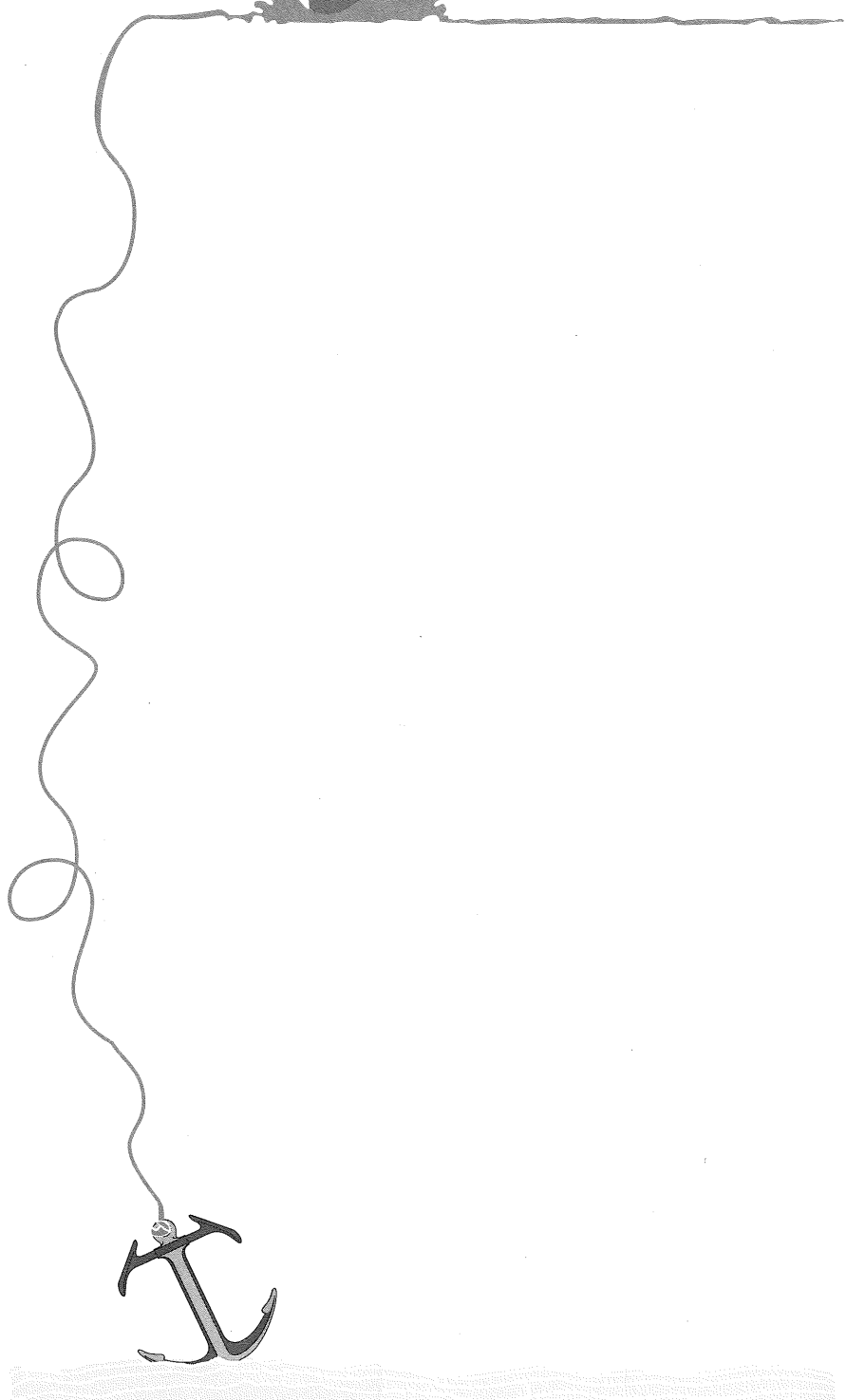
Coast Guard

Non-emergency

VHF-FM Marine Radio
Channel 22A



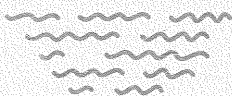
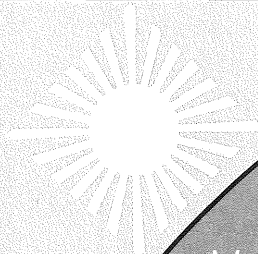
Boater's Notes



Float Plan

To _____

Date _____



Fold in half

SAMPLE FLOAT PLAN

If you are planning on an extended or even a weekend boating or fishing trip, you should leave a float plan with someone who can notify the county sheriff, should you not return as scheduled.

1. Description of Boat

Length overall _____ feet

Color _____

Manufacturer _____

Registration number MN _____

2. Persons on Board (names and addresses)

3. Trip Plan

Departing From _____ Departure Date / Time _____

Destination _____ Date & Estimated Return Time _____

May be contacted by calling _____

4. Vehicle

Parking location _____

Description and license of vehicle _____

5. If not returned by (date / time) _____, call

_____ County Sheriff's Department

at (_____) _____.

BUOYS AND MARKERS

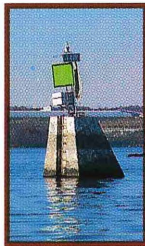
GREEN
Port (left) side
when traveling
upstream



Can Buoy



Green Daymark may
have green or white
flashing light



Green Daymark
may have green or
white flashing
light (note river mile
placard)

RED
Starboard (right)
side when traveling
upstream



Nun Buoy



Red Daymark may
have red or white
flashing light



Red Daymark
may have green or
white flashing light
(note river mile
placard)

INFORMATION/REGULATORY MARKERS



Slow - no wake



Danger

G 1
Mis

T
I
a
c
to G 1376
sc
cl
Missi
M
L
DATE

Equal o
Minnes
viduals
marital
entation

G 1376 .E63 M57 1998

Mississippi River guide

T
li
a
C
to
sc
ci
M
L

G 1376 .E63 M57 1998

Mississippi River guide

DATE	ISSUED TO

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

646 State Office Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155



DEMCO

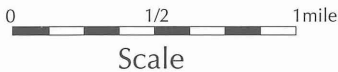
Equal o
Minnes
viduals
marital
entation

he
di-
ex,
ri-

or the

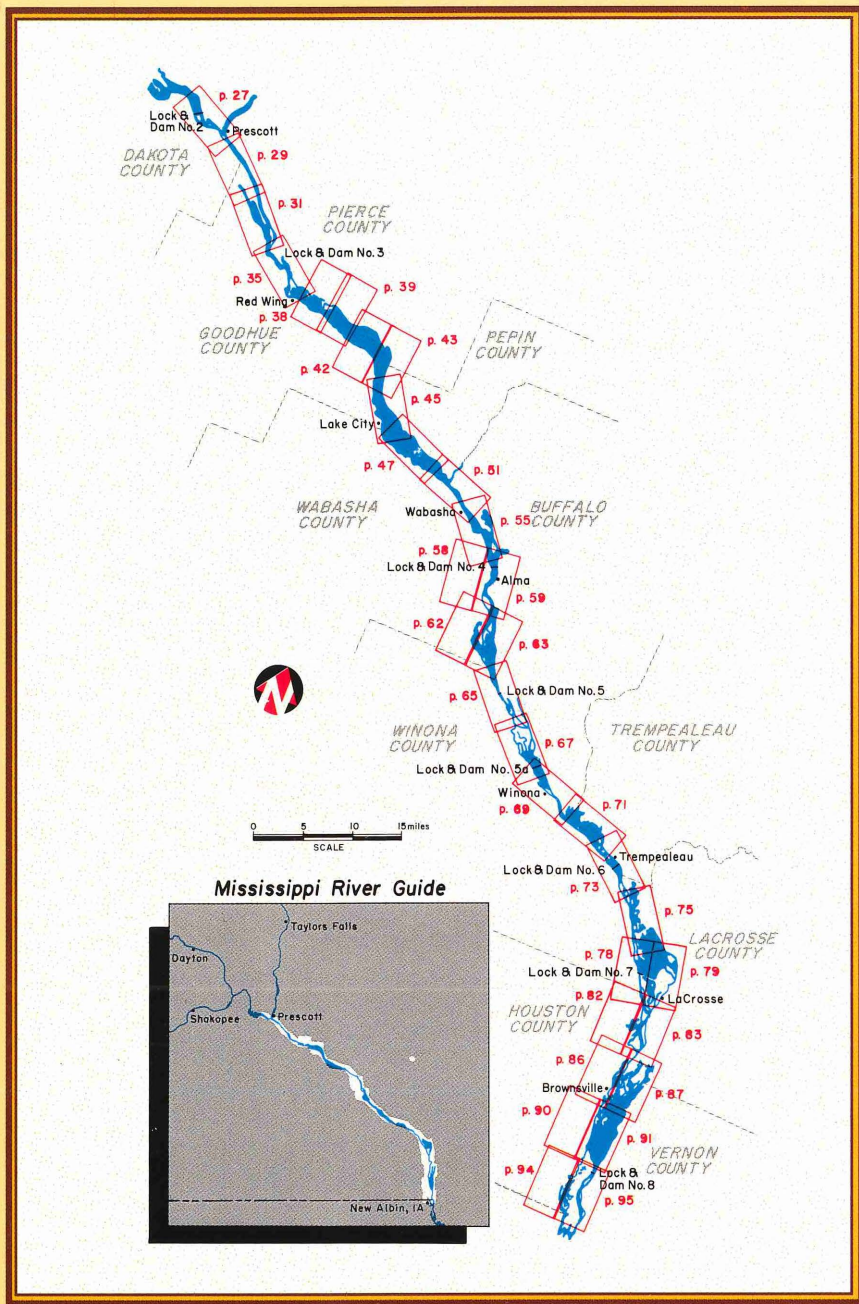
Office of Civil Rights
U.S. Coast Guard
Washington DC 20593 - 0001

-  Public Access - trailer
-  Public Access - carry in
-  Marina
-  Docking Facility
-  Park
-  Resort
-  Private Campground
-  Other
-  Dam
-  Stump Field
-  Slow - No Wake Zone
-  Rapids
-  Wing Dam
-  Daymark
-  Lighted Daymark
-  Navigation Light
-  River Mile
-  Current Direction
-  Aerial Cable
-  State Park Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Mid-Channel Sailing Line

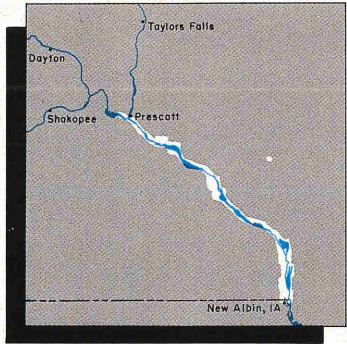


Warning

Wing dams, stumpfields, daymarks, lighted daymarks and navigation lights were mapped using estimated locations; actual locations may vary. The user is warned to exercise caution when navigating near the mapped hazards.



Mississippi River Guide



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul MN 55155-4046