

Lamoille River Paddlers' Trail

River Recreation Map and Guide

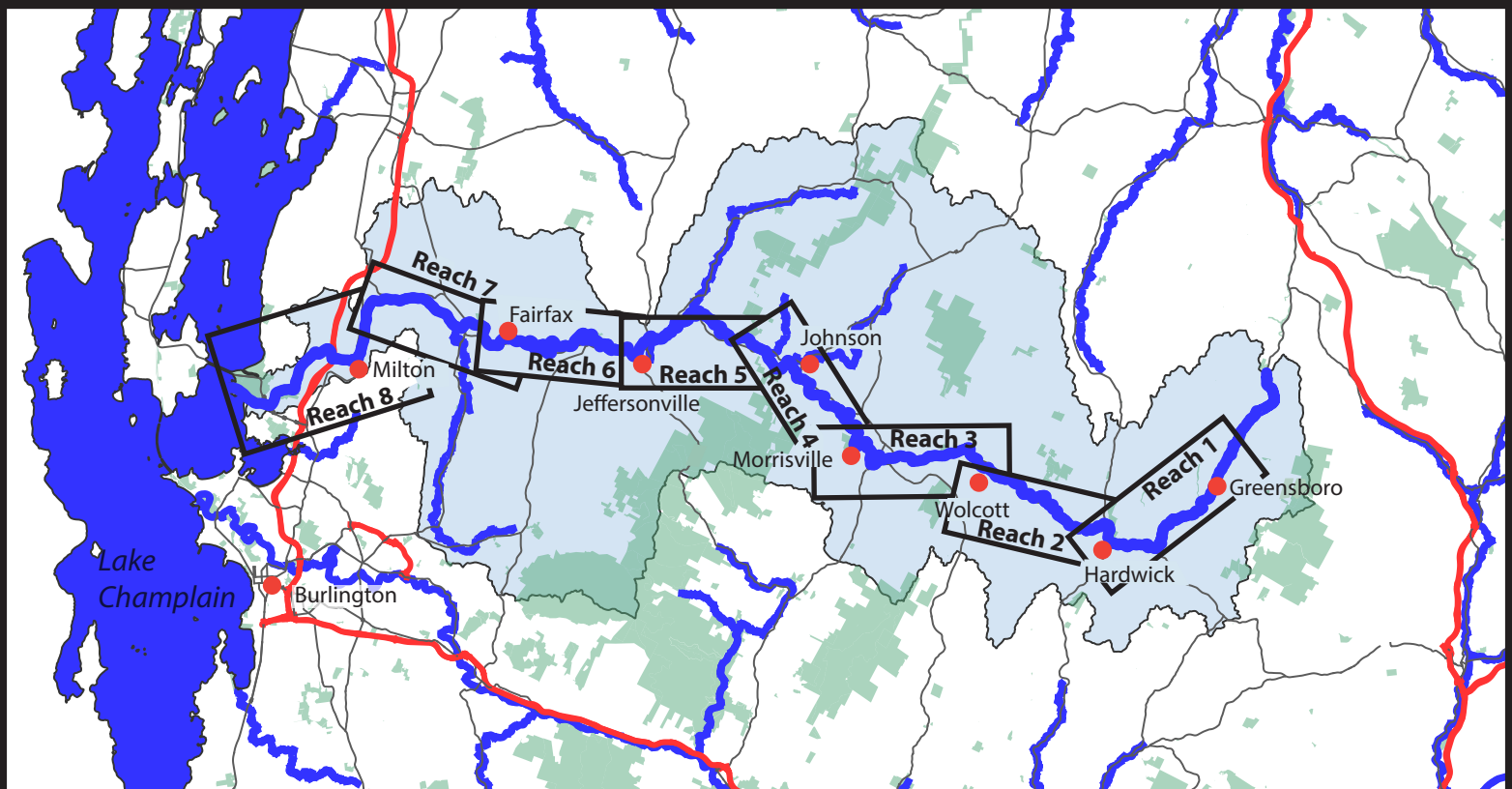


Canutte Dalmasse
Legacy Fund



Updated May 2016

Overview Map



Lamoille River Paddlers' Trail

The Lamoille River Paddlers' Trail is an emerging, community effort to develop new opportunities for paddling and fishing along the Lamoille River. Our vision is of a network of well maintained river access points, primitive campsites, and portage trails from the river's headwaters west to Lake Champlain. We recognize the region's rich ecology and productive working landscape and seek to facilitate recreational use compatible with the river valley's natural and social character.

On The River

Share the river. Give anglers a wide birth, and be efficient while loading and unloading boats at busy access points.

Respect wildlife. Observe wildlife from a distance, and do not disturb nesting birds or basking turtles.

Leave no trace. Carry out all trash including food waste.

Prevent the spread of invasive exotic species. Clean, drain, and dry your boats and gear thoroughly between each trip

Carry a map of the river with you, and know the location of dams and other hazards.

Use PFDs. All boats must carry an approved life jacket for each person

Note: All maps are oriented with downstream up. Read from bottom to top.

Legend

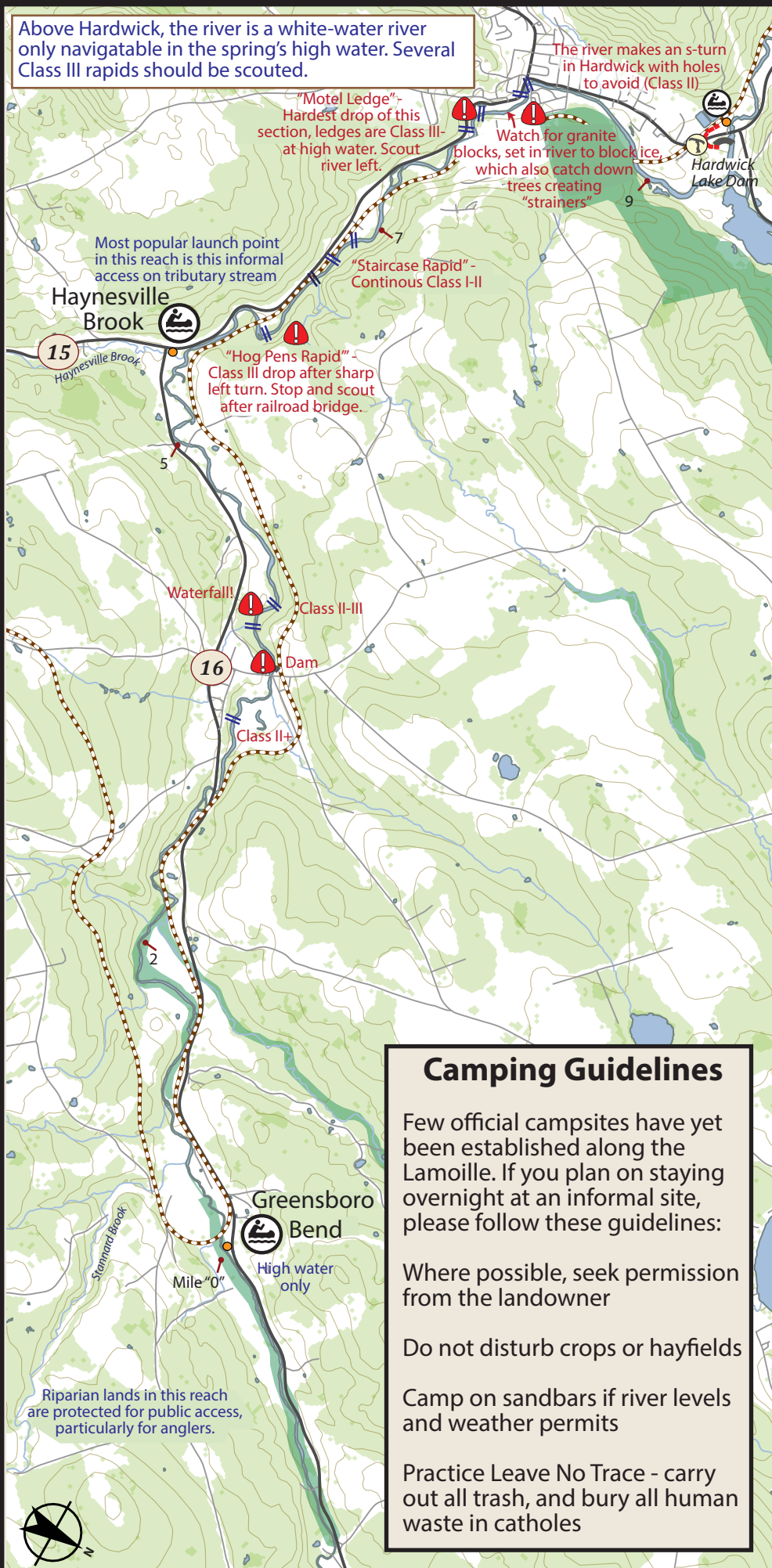


Scale: 1:20,000. (3 inches = ~1 mile)

Developed by the Vermont River Conservancy through a 2015 CVNHP Water Trails Grant From The Lake Champlain Basin Program, the Canutte Dalmasse Legacy Fund, and the Vermont Community Foundation's Green Mountain Fund.

Cartography by Noah Pollock.

1. Greensboro to Hardwick



Camping Guidelines

Few official campsites have yet been established along the Lamoille. If you plan on staying overnight at an informal site, please follow these guidelines:

Where possible, seek permission from the landowner

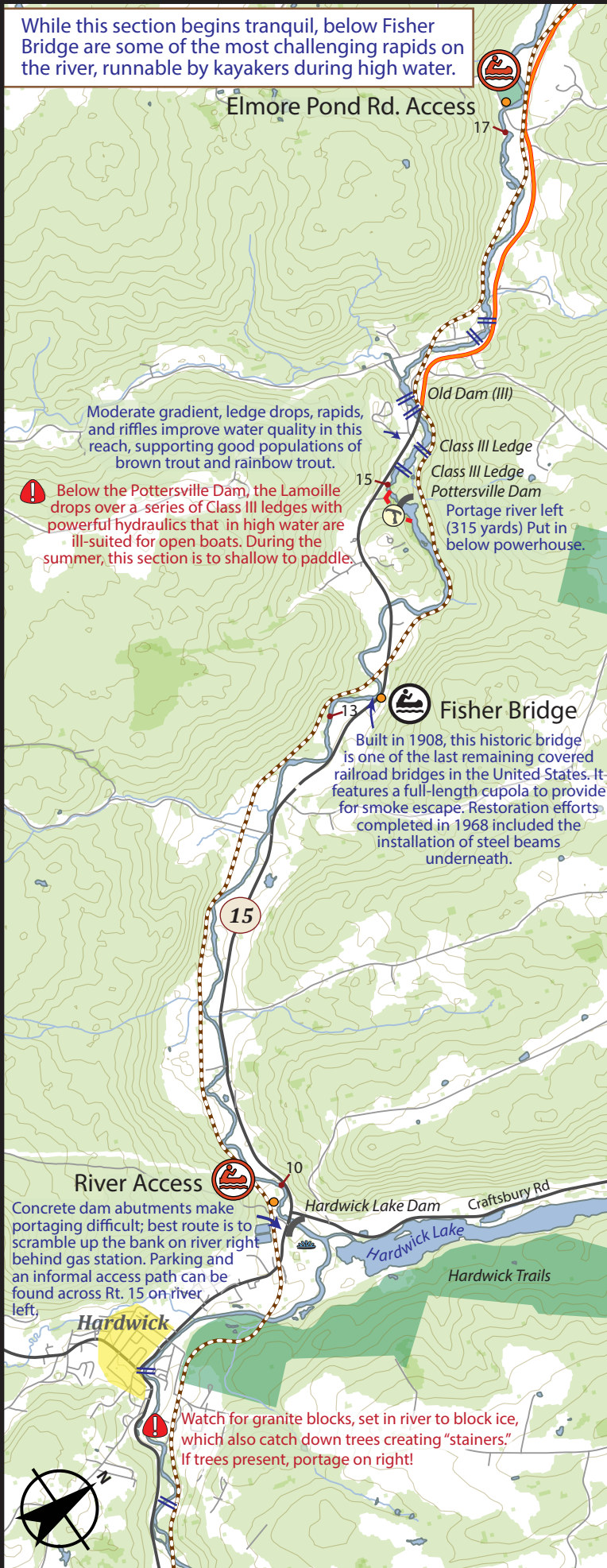
Do not disturb crops or hayfields

Camp on sandbars if river levels and weather permits

Practice Leave No Trace - carry out all trash, and bury all human waste in catholes

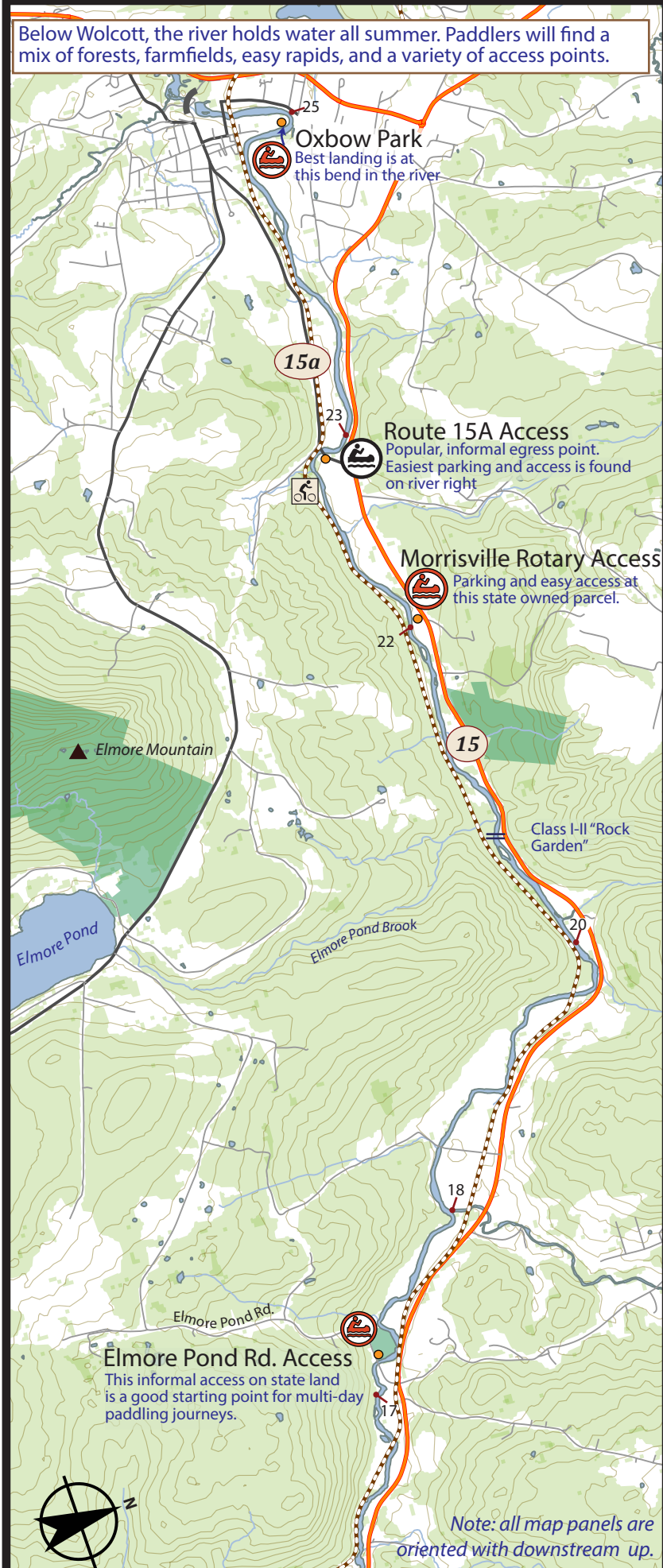
2. Hardwick to Wolcott

While this section begins tranquil, below Fisher Bridge are some of the most challenging rapids on the river, runnable by kayakers during high water.



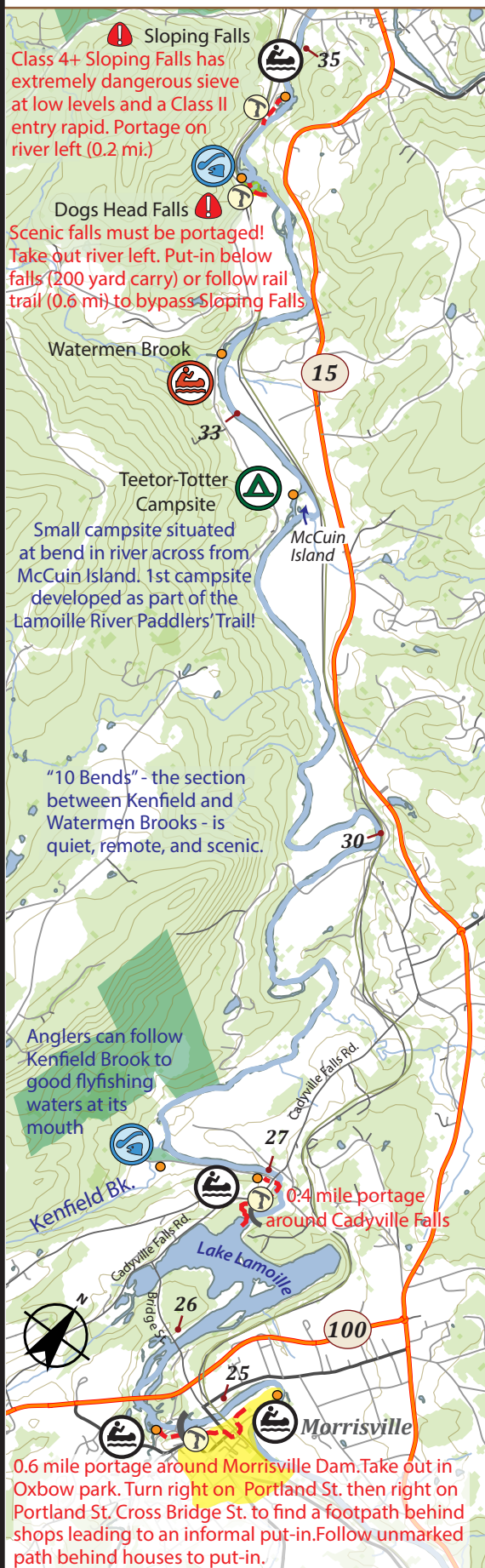
3. Wolcott to Morrisville

Below Wolcott, the river holds water all summer. Paddlers will find a mix of forests, farmfields, easy rapids, and a variety of access points.

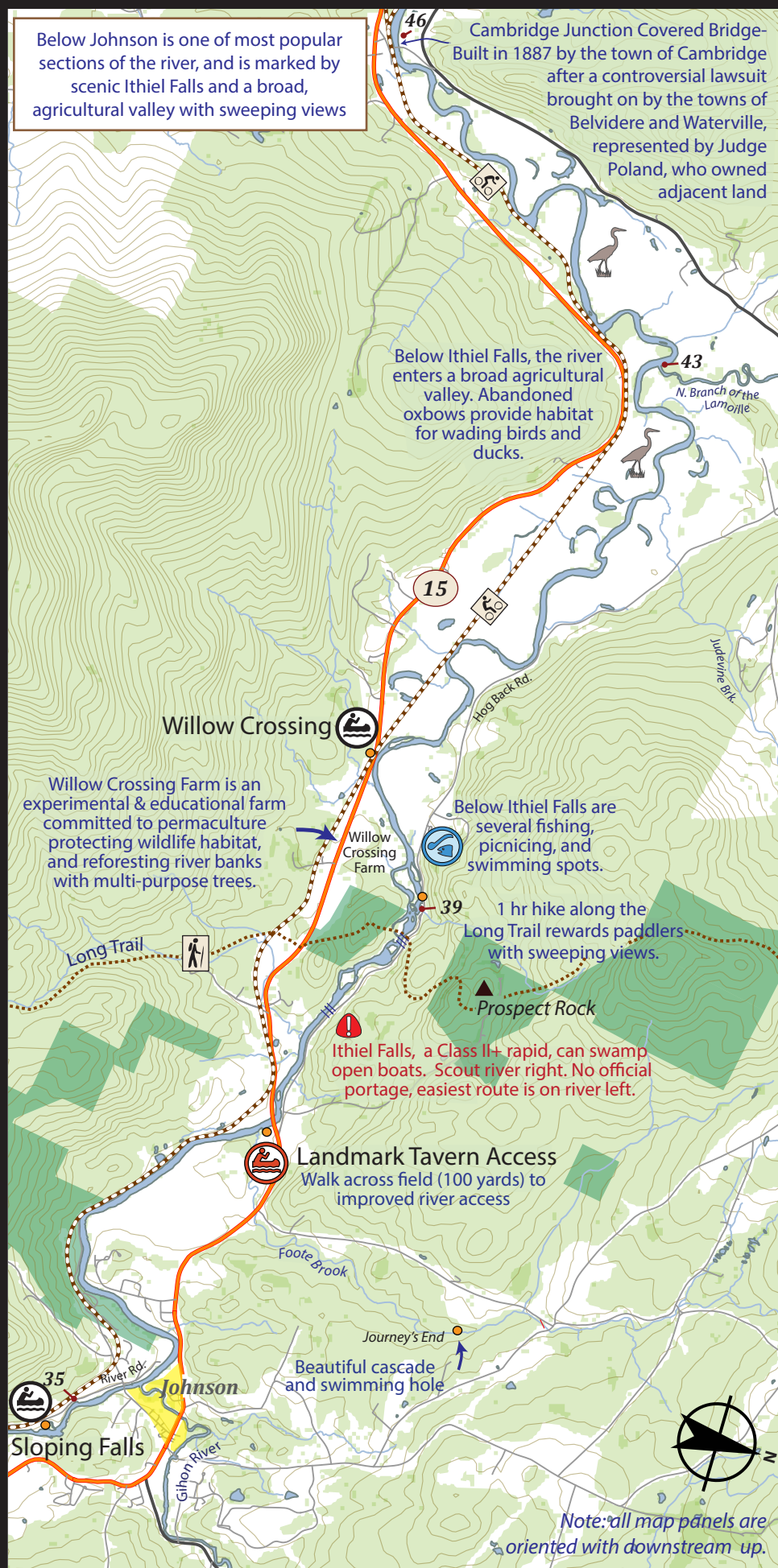


4. Morrisville to Johnson

This reach provides variety for paddlers, and includes lake paddling, the remote 10-Bends section, and two waterfalls that must be portaged.

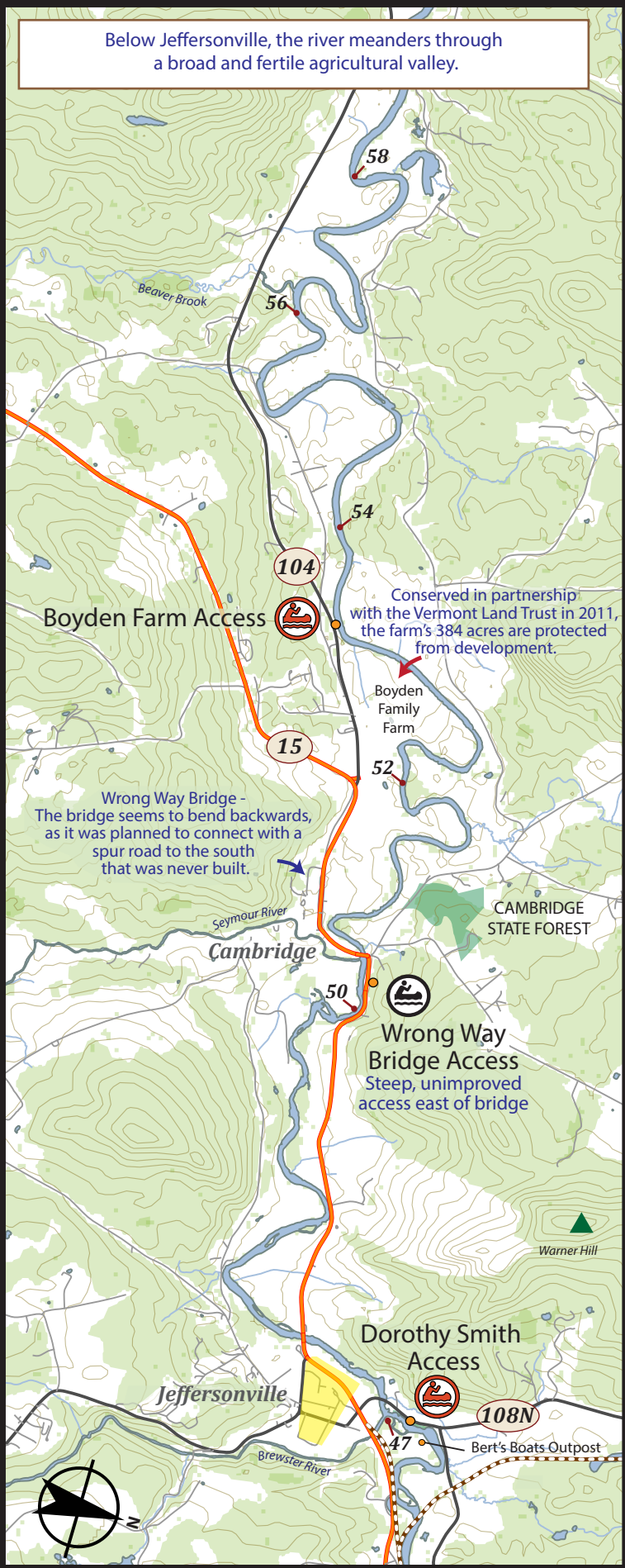


5. Johnson to Jeffersonville



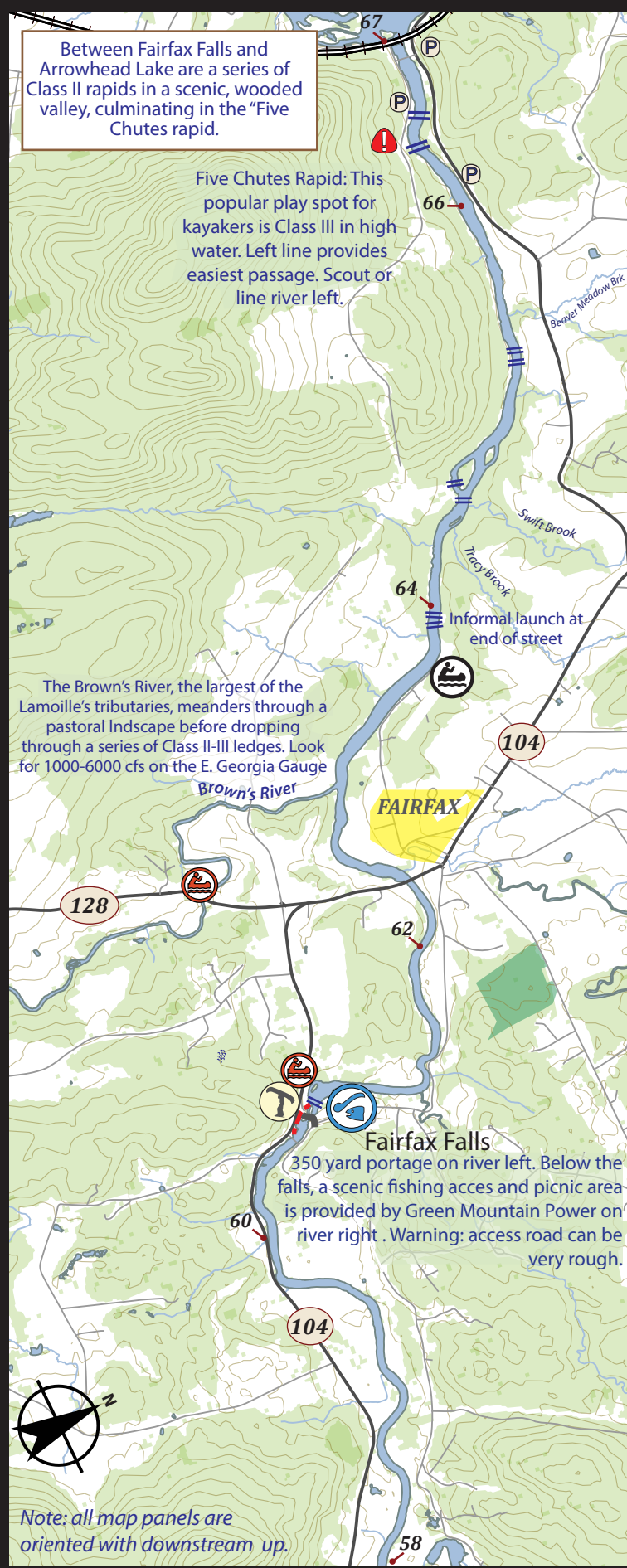
6. Jeffersonville to Fairfax

Below Jeffersonville, the river meanders through a broad and fertile agricultural valley.



7. Fairfax to Arrowhead Lake

Between Fairfax Falls and Arrowhead Lake are a series of Class II rapids in a scenic, wooded valley, culminating in the "Five Chutes rapid."



8. Arrowhead Lake to Lake Champlain

Without sediments from the Lamoille, the Lake here would be 150' deep!

Home to many turtles, including the endangered spiny softshell. Do not land - observe from a distance!

VT Fish and Wildlife Access
Improved boat launch

SANDBAR STATE PARK

The river changes character near its outlet in Lake Champlain. Paddlers will find slower currents, lake paddling and a wide river that winds through a protected floodplain forests. Three falls are found in this reach, all of which are home to hydroelectric dams.

Lake Champlain

Sandbar Wildlife Management Area and State Park, which encompasses the delta formed as the Lamoille brings sediments into Lake Champlain, protects vital habitat for wading and migratory bird, as well as deer, fox, coyote, beaver, mink, otter, and muskrat. While much of the Wildlife Management Area is off limits to the public, the State Park features a 2000 foot sand beach, concessions, and paddle sport rentals.

SANDBAR WILDLIFE AREA AND REFUGE

This ridgeline is part of the Champlain Thrust Fault, which also formed Lone Rock Point, Mt. Philo, and Snake Mtn. to the south

For centuries, Abenaki had permanent settlements along the river and shoreline near here

Lake Sturgeon, which used to spawn in these waters, have been around for 135 million years! Averaging 3-5 feet in length, they live to be 55-150 years old. An historic sturgeon fishery ended in 1967 following declines in populations due to overfishing, dam construction, and river channelization.

UVM Boat House

100 yard carry around Peterson Dam

Peterson Dam

When completed in 1948, the Peterson Dam flooded four waterfalls, multiple rapids, and "Sturgeon Hole" - prime fish spawning habitat for walleye, salmon, and sturgeon. In 2003, the power company agreed to remove the dam in 20 years, but the plan was blocked by the Vermont Public Service Board, citing concerns over the costs of dam removal and conflicts with Vermont's goal of increasing the use of renewable energy.

For an excellent guide to paddling in this section, check out "A Paddler's Guide to the Champlain Valley" (2015), by Margaret Holden and Cathy Frank

Clark Falls Launch

Clark Falls

Milton Falls

Milton Falls Portage Takeout

1.1 mile carry around Clark Falls and Milton Dam.
Directions: turn right on Rugg Ave, then turn right on Main Street. Turn left on Route 7. After 0.3 miles, turn right on Ritchie Ave. Follow this winding road to boat launch.

Arrowhead Lake's 8.8 miles of shoreline provide hours of flatwater paddling. Watch for ospreys, swallows, ducks, and red wing blackbirds, and snapping turtles in the marshy areas in the Lake's northern end.

Watch for stumps still standing nearly a century after being logged prior to construction of the dam in 1919!

The late Meeri Zetterstrom (known to many as "Grandma Osprey" worked with the power company to restore osprey by installing nesting platforms on Arrowhead Lake.

Locally owned, 4 turbine, 10 MW windfarm. All power is purchased by the Burlington Electric Department

Georgia Mountain Windfarm

Look for glacial striations on a rocky outcrop on this island

Arrowhead Lake Access



Note: all map panels are oriented with downstream up.