



Pukaskwa
National Park
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Campground Host Information Guide



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Welcome to Our Home Bii san go biishan endaaing

We, the Anishinaabe, are people of the north shore of Lake Superior. We have known this land, which is now called Pukaskwa National Park, for generations. Pukaskwa is a harsh land where the Anishinaabe have experienced disappointments and rewards.

As a child, how beautiful, strong, and refreshing it was - the feeling of living beside the lake. Families knew how to travel the land in any season and how to read the weather to have a safe journey. At Oiseau Bay, we would escape from the elements under a warm lean-to. We would quickly get a relaxing campfire going to break the wind. For the Anishinaabe, the land was where we grew up, where we experienced a sense of belonging - it was our home.

Pukaskwa is still a home for us. If you would like to learn more Anishnaabe teachings from this area, drop by the Anishinaabe Camp near the Visitor Centre. First Nation interpreters will give you a glimpse of some local traditions. It is a place for everyone to share our culture, and, if you're lucky, maybe some hot tea and bannock too. We look forward to seeing you.

Collette Goodchild, Elder of Biigtigong Nishinaabeg (Pic River First Nation)

Campground Hosts

Campground hosts provide a friendly, welcoming face to visitors to Pukaskwa National Park's Hattie Cove Campground. Whether it's recommending the best trail to hike at sunset, or helping to contact park staff in an emergency, Campground Hosts help make visitors from around the world feel at home in Pukaskwa.

If you are an experienced camper interested in sharing your love of the outdoors and Pukaskwa, please consider joining us this season for a one or two-week stay.

We select Campground Hosts based on experience and availability. To apply, simply complete and submit the Hattie Cove Campground Host application.

What we look for

- friendly, approachable, and welcoming personalities
- contagious love of the outdoors, camping, and people
- camping experience
- knowledge of Pukaskwa, Pic River, and Marathon area
- hosting experience at other parks or sites
- first aid certification is an asset
- ability to speak French is an asset

You should know

- Each year, we receive more applications to be Campground Hosts than we have spaces available. And, Campground Hosting isn't for everyone. Keeping this in mind, not all applicants will have the opportunity to be a Campground Host.

Arrival and Departure

Check-in: **Monday at 1:00 pm**

- Arrive at the campground kiosk and check in.
- Pick up the "Campground Hosts" bin.
- Set up on Campsite #6, the Campground Host Site
- Pukaskwa staff will visit you at your site to provide an orientation and answer your questions.
- Campground Host hours begin at 5:00 pm.

Check-out: **Monday at 12:00 pm**

- Leave a clean and welcoming site for the next Campground Hosts who will arrive at 1:00 pm.
- Stop by campground kiosk to drop off the Campground Hosts bin.
- Submit the evaluation form with your recommendations, highlights of your stay, and whether you would like to participate in the program next year.

Cancellation Policy

We depend on our hosts to make camping at Hattie Cove great. But we also know that sometimes things happen. If you're unable to make it to your hosting session, please let us know *as soon as possible* so that we can invite another host for that session.

In the event of a cancellation or the non-completion of a hosting session, Parks Canada reserves the right to ask hosts to return their complimentary Pukaskwa National Park Annual Pass.



Hosts Do

- make themselves available to greet and assist campers each night from 5 pm - 10 pm
- provide information and brochures to campers and explain park regulations when necessary
- assist campers with self-registration and purchasing firewood
- encourage good camping practices
- assist campers during an emergency by contacting Parks Canada staff
- walk through the campground twice per day
- keep records of activities and make recommendations for improving the host program at Hattie Cove

Hosts Do Not

- Collect camping or entry fees
- Register guests
- Reserve campsites
- Issue campsite permits
- Enforce park regulations
- Perform maintenance or repairs

Hosts' Kit Checklist

When you arrive, you will receive the Hosts' Kit. Please ensure all items are in the kit when you receive it. If items are missing, please let kiosk staff know so we can restock it.

In Case of Emergency

- Park radio and charger
- "What To Do in an Emergency" laminated sheet

In Case of a Bear Encounter

- Flashlight
- Airhorn (Bear-horn!)
- Bare Campsite Brochures

Other Forms

- Lost and Found Report Forms
- Lost/Injured Person Forms
- Comments/Suggestion/Complaints Forms
- Campground Hosting Evaluation Forms

To Help You Provide Information

- 1 Coastal Hiking Trail Trip Planner
- 1 Coastal Paddling Route Trip Planner
- Campground Host Journal
- Campground Host Guide
- Local and regional tourism information

To Promote Park Programs

- Interpretive Program promotional posters
- Pukaskwa Maps and Guides

For You To Keep

- 1 token item in appreciation of your volunteering activity.

Please note: Campground Hosts are responsible for supplying their own transportation, clothing, food, camping, and cooking equipment. Parks Canada does not reimburse out-of-pocket expenses.



Hattie Cove Campground & Day Use Area

Bii to bii gong is the Anishinaabe name for Hattie Cove and means water between two rocks. This protected cove features a road accessible 67-site campground, with 29 electrical sites.

The campground is open May - Thanksgiving Monday. Victoria Day weekend through Labour Day weekend, flush toilets, hot showers, electrical campsites, and free WIFI in the Visitor Centre, are available.

During July and August, the Visitor Centre, featuring interpretive displays, a gift and coffee shop, and art exhibits, is open daily from 9am - 4pm.

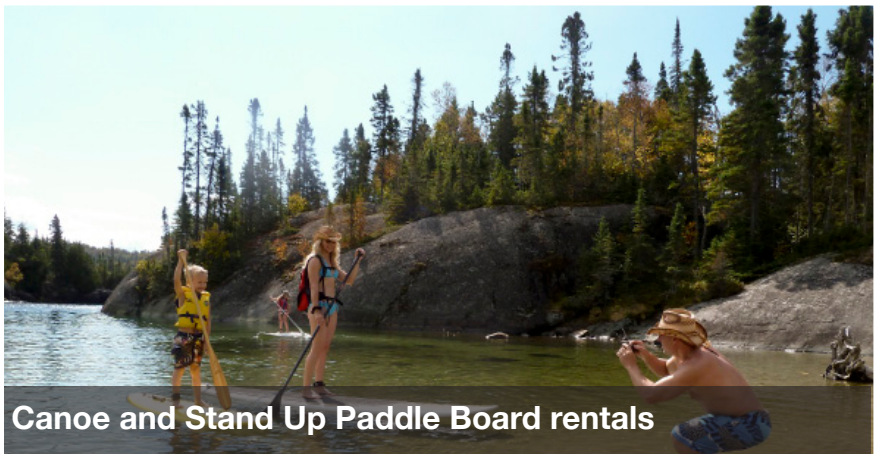
Hattie Cove is the most popular access point for backcountry campers who are hiking or paddling the Coastal Route.



White River Suspension Bridge



Parks Canada's Xplorers



Canoe and Stand Up Paddle Board rentals



Hattie Cove Prescribed Fire



Geocaching



Guided hike on the Bimose Kinoomagewan

Day Hiking Trails



Beach Trail

Easy 1.2km • 2m elevation gain/loss • 30 Minute hike return from Visitor Centre

Accessible trail; boardwalk & stable gravel surfaces.

Enjoy a boardwalk stroll to Pukaskwa's famous Horsehoe Bay & discover the delicate beauty of the nearby sand dunes. Experience a sunset at Horsehoe beach & embrace the sounds of the rolling waves.



Manitou Miikana

Moderate 2.0 km • 17m elevation gain/loss • 1.5 hour hike return from Visitor Centre.

Natural surface with built stairs; some obstacles, loose rocks & tree roots.

Want to slip away for a moment of peace and relaxation? Hike Manitou Miikana, the "Spirit Trail." Peek through a rocky ravine as you climb up for panoramic views of Lake Superior and the Pic River Dunes. Rest and enjoy the beauty from two viewing points along the trail.

Bimose Kinoomagewnan

Moderate 3.7km • 12m elevation gain/loss • 2 hour hike return from Visitor Centre

Natural surface with built stairs; some obstacles, loose rocks & tree roots.

Learn the Seven Grandfather Teachings from Ojibway elders and youth on Bimose Kinoomagewnan, the "Walk of Teachings." Read elders' stories about love, honesty, respect, wisdom, truth, humility, and bravery in local culture. See how the next generation understands these teachings through their accompanying artwork as you hike around Halfway Lake.



Southern Headland Trail

Moderate 2.2 km • 15m elevation gain/loss • 1 hour 15 minute hike return from Visitor Centre.

Natural surface with built stairs; some obstacles, loose rock & tree roots.

Experience the 'wild shore of an inland sea.' This rugged trail juts into Lake Superior with views of Hattie Cove, Pulpwood Harbour, and Horseshoe Bay. Search the cracks and crevices of the rocky headland where tiny arctic-alpine plants, including bird's-eye primrose and encrusted saxifrage, are protected from Superior's storms.

Hattie Cove Fire Walk via The Coastal Fire Trail

Easy 1 km • 2km elevation gain/loss • 20 minute hike return from Visitor Centre.

Natural surface; few tree roots.

Experience a day in the life of the Pukaskwa Fire Crew. See how the fire crew planned, ignited, and extinguished the Hattie Cove Prescribed Fire, and see the changes from before, during, and after the fire. This short, easy interpretive walking trail is located at the start of the Coastal Hiking Trail.



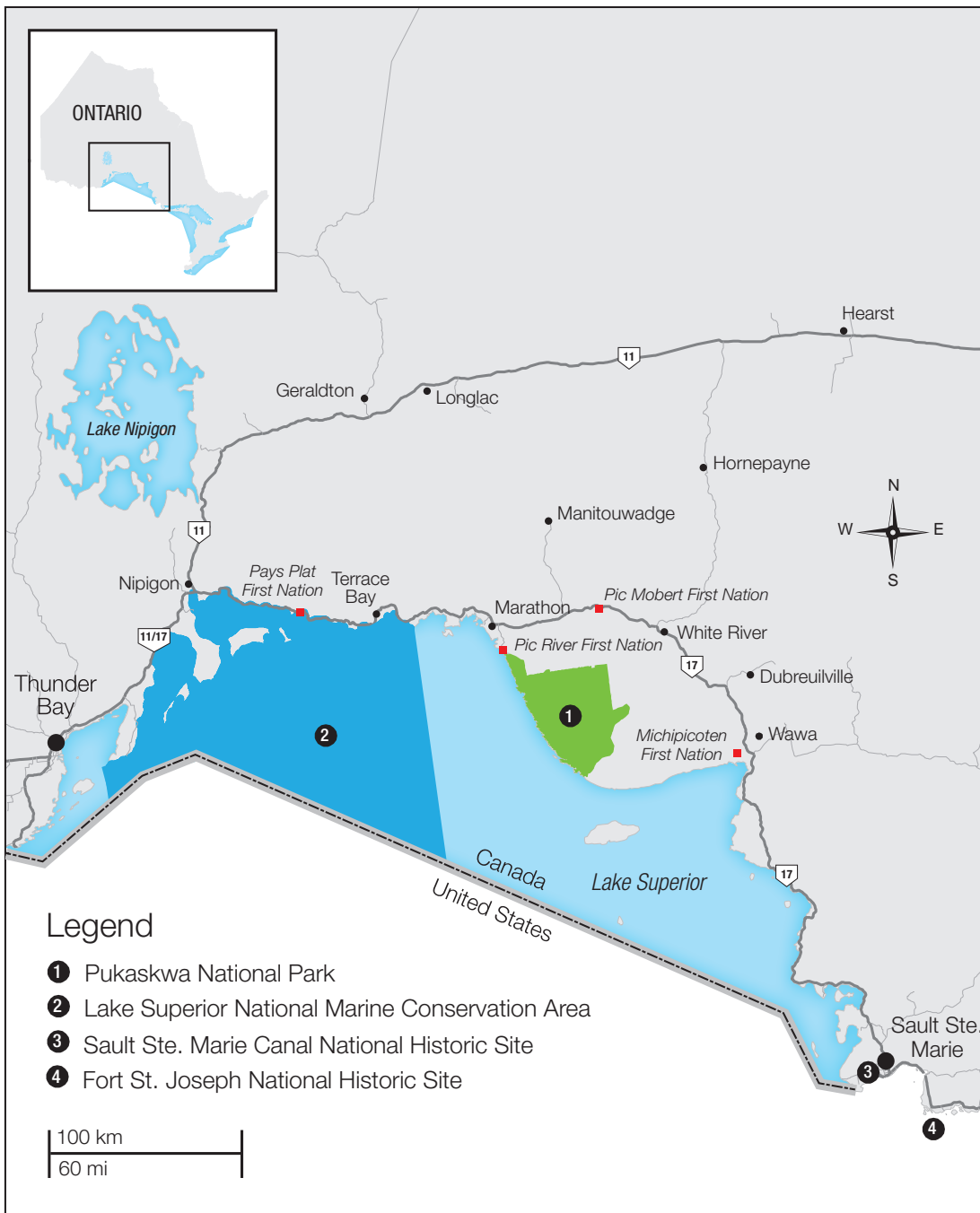
White River Suspension Bridge

Difficult 18km • 15m elevation gain/loss • 8-9 hour return hike from Visitor Centre.

Natural surface; some obstacles, loose rock & tree roots.

Craving adventure? This full-day hike to the White River Suspension Bridge is not for the faint of heart. Part of the rugged and beautiful Coastal Hiking Trail, the White River Suspension Bridge crosses 23 m high above Chigaamiwinigum Falls. Check with park staff for current trail conditions. We strongly recommend taking food, water, sunscreen, bug

Getting Here



By Car or Bicycle

Follow TransCanada Highway 17 to Highway 627. Take Highway 627 15 km to Pukaskwa National Park and the Hattie Cove Campground and Day Use Area.

By Plane

Several major airlines, including Air Canada, Porter, and WestJet, provide service to Thunder Bay, ON (YQT) and Sault Ste Marie, ON (YAM).

By Bus

Greyhound Canada offers bus service to Marathon, ON. Taxi service is available from Marathon to Pukaskwa.

By Canoe or Kayak

Paddling on Lake Superior is only recommended for experienced paddlers. Pukaskwa's Hattie Cove is well hidden and difficult to find. Be sure to landmark carefully when paddling this stretch.

En Route

Be sure to visit these Parks Canada places on your way to Pukaskwa National Park.



Driving Times and Distances

Driving Distances & Times	km/mi	hrs:mins by car		km/mi	hrs:mins by car	
Marathon, ON	25/16	0:25		Duluth, MN	620/385	8:30
Thunder Bay, ON	320/200	4:00		Minneapolis, MN	865/535	10:30
Sault Ste. Marie, ON	415/260	5:00		Detroit, MI	970/605	11:00
Winnipeg, MB	1000/620	12:00		Chicago, IL	1180/730	13:30
Toronto, ON	1110/690	13:30				
Ottawa, ON	1200/745	15:00				



Pic River Sand Dunes

Nearby Communities



Pic River First Nation

Pic River is the nearest community. If there's an item on your list that you've forgotten, you need to fill up with gas, buy ice, or you're just looking for a few snacks, two stores are in the community to serve you.



Town of Marathon

Marathon is the closest full-service community. Two large grocery stores, three hardware stores, and several other businesses can provide all the food, fuel, and supplies you require for a backcountry trip. (Park staff buy trip food locally all the time!).



Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie

If you prefer pre-packaged backcountry meals or require specialty food items or equipment, the cities of Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie have several grocery and camping supply stores to meet your needs.



Weather and Safety



Rugged and Remote

Pukaskwa National Park is spectacular. It is also a remote, rugged place where rescues take time. Remember: you are responsible for your own safety.



Temperatures and Monthly Rainfall

Pukaskwa's cool, sunny summer days are perfect for exploring, or a quick swim. But, remember that snow can fall in June and September.

Month	Low	High	Rainfall
May	3°C / 37°F	14°C / 57°F	74 mm / 3"
June	6°C / 43°F	17°C / 63°F	90 mm / 3.5"
July	9°C / 48°F	20°C / 68°F	81 mm / 3"
August	10°C / 50°F	20°C / 68°F	87 mm / 3.5"
September	6°C / 43°F	15°C / 59°F	102 mm / 4"
October	1°C / 34°F	9°C / 48°F	87 mm / 3.5"



Sunrise and Sunset Times

Worried about having enough time? There's plenty of sunshine to reach your day's destination.

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
May 21	6:00 am	9:25 pm
June 21	5:45 am	9:50 pm
July 21	6:05 am	9:40 pm
August 21	6:45 am	8:50 pm
September 21	7:30 am	7:45 pm
October 21	8:15 am	6:45 pm



Bears

Black bears live in Pukaskwa, and are occasionally seen around Hattie Cove. Bear boxes are available for overnight food and supply storage in the campground. When you arrive, Parks Canada staff will explain what to do if you encounter a bear, or hear reports of a bear, in the campground.



Lake Superior Conditions

Lake Superior is cold and unpredictable. Although water near the shore may be warmer, the lake's average temperature is only 4°C / 39°F year-round. Hypothermia can start within 5-10 minutes if you are not wearing a wetsuit or dry suit.

Fog is common and can last for days.



Bugs

Bring your bughat, bugspray, or nerves of steel.

Blackflies peak late May - June

Mosquitoes peak mid June - July

Horse and Deer Flies peak July - August

Deer Ticks No known reports. If you do find a deer tick, please notify park staff.



Doctors and Veterinarians

We hope you don't need medical help on you're here, but if you do, there is a clinic, a pharmacy, and a **hospital in Marathon.**

The closest permanent veterinary service is in Thunder Bay. Mobile services do travel to Marathon. Check with park staff for a current schedule. If you're bringing your best friend, be extra cautious on the trails.



Inland cobble beach on the Coastal Hiking Trail.

Pukaskwa Pits

Pukaskwa pits can be found in the cobble beaches along the coast. As local elder Proddy Goodchild says, “No one knows for sure what the Pukaskwa Pits were used for. We only know that some are very old, and some are not so old.”

Help us protect these ancient structures. **Do not move rocks or alter the pits.**



Wildlife Cameras

We use cameras to monitor coastal wildlife

Wildlife cameras are used in Pukaskwa National Park for wildlife conservation purposes. Concerned about your privacy? So are we. That's why we delete images

of visitors captured on our cameras. However, images that show illegal activities that may have serious impact on wildlife or put safety of visitors at risk may be used for law enforcement purposes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Parks Canada provide firewood for Campground Hosts?

Yes, Parks Canada provides firewood to campground hosts for the duration of their hosting stay.

Where can I purchase propane?

Propane is not provided as part of the Campground Host program. It can be purchased in Marathon at Canadian Tire, Home Hardware, or SPG.

Where is the trailer dumping station?

The trailer dumping station is located near the Administration building as you exit the park.

Where can I fill my trailer's water tank?

The water fill station is located at the park exit.

Where can I purchase ice?

Ice can be purchased at Cando's Corners in Pic River.

Where is the pay phone?

The pay phone is located outside the Visitor Centre, by the waterfront deck.

Where can I do my laundry?

The closest laundromat is located in the Town of Marathon.

Where can I fish?

Fishing is permitted in Pukaskwa National Park. Ontario Fishing Regulations apply. Eating fish from Halfway Lake is not recommended due to naturally high levels of mercury.

Can I drink the water?

Yes. Unless otherwise posted, the tap water in Hattie Cove is potable.

Do First Nations people have to pay to use the park?

No and yes. Camping and entry fees do not apply to members of the Robinson Superior Treaty Group (RSTG). They do, however, have to pay for things such as firewood. The RSTG is comprised of First Nations bands from Thunder Bay to Michipicoten, including Fort William, Lake Helen, Gull Bay, Rocky Bay, Pays Plat, Long Lake, Pic 50 Heron Bay, Pic Moberg, Michipicoten, Namagoosisagagun, Poplar Point, Sand Point, Animibiigoo Zaa'igan Anishinabek (formerly Lake Nipigon First Nation), and Whitesand.

First Nations people who do not belong to these bands do pay fees.

Legal Considerations

Insurance

Parks Canada provides a Group Personal Accident policy for volunteers under the age of 80 who sign a Parks Canada Volunteer Agreement Form. Parks Canada provides volunteers, excluding those who operate aircraft, with \$10,000,000 coverage for third-party (public) liability.

Volunteers over the age of 80 are responsible for their own insurance coverage.

Liability

The Government of Canada, Parks Canada, and/or Parks Canada employees are not responsible for personal injury or any loss, theft, or damage to the volunteer's property.

How To Use the Radio

A park radio is provided to contact Parks Canada staff in the event of an emergency. To use the radio:

1. Turn on the radio.
2. Ensure the radio is on Channel 2 for Hattie Cove.
3. To contact Parks Canada staff, press and hold down the “call” button while you say the name or section of the staff you are trying to reach, followed by your name/role, and the word “over” to indicate that you are done speaking. For example, to call the Duty Officer, say, “Duty Officer, Campground Host. Duty Officer, Campground Host, over.”
4. When they hear your call, Parks Canada staff will reply with their name/section only. For example, “Duty Officer, over.”
5. Press and hold the call button while you relay your message. Say “over” when you are done. Release the call button to listen to the person on the other end.
6. When the conversation is over, say “Campground Host clear” to indicate you have nothing else to say.

Tips for Using the Radio

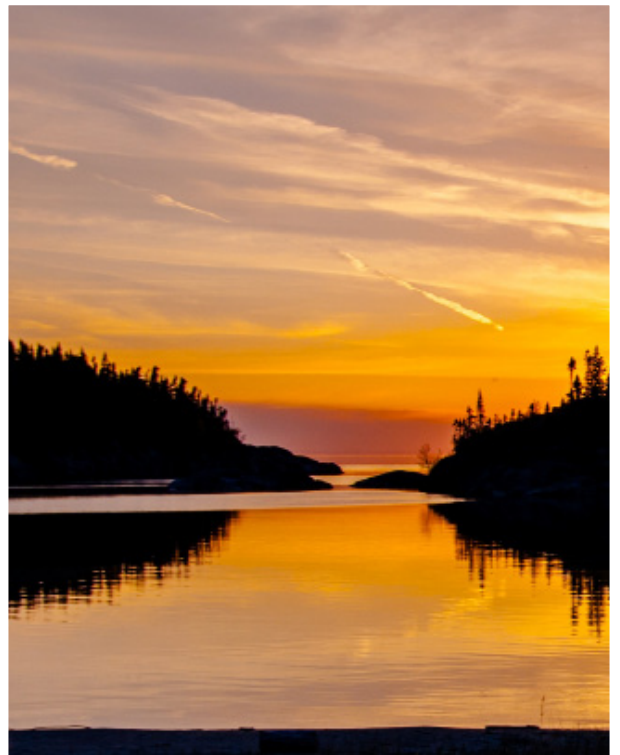
1. Remember: Everything you say can be heard by others, including members of the public.
2. Say it short and sweet.
3. Do not transmit names or the nature of serious events, such as a death, over the radio.

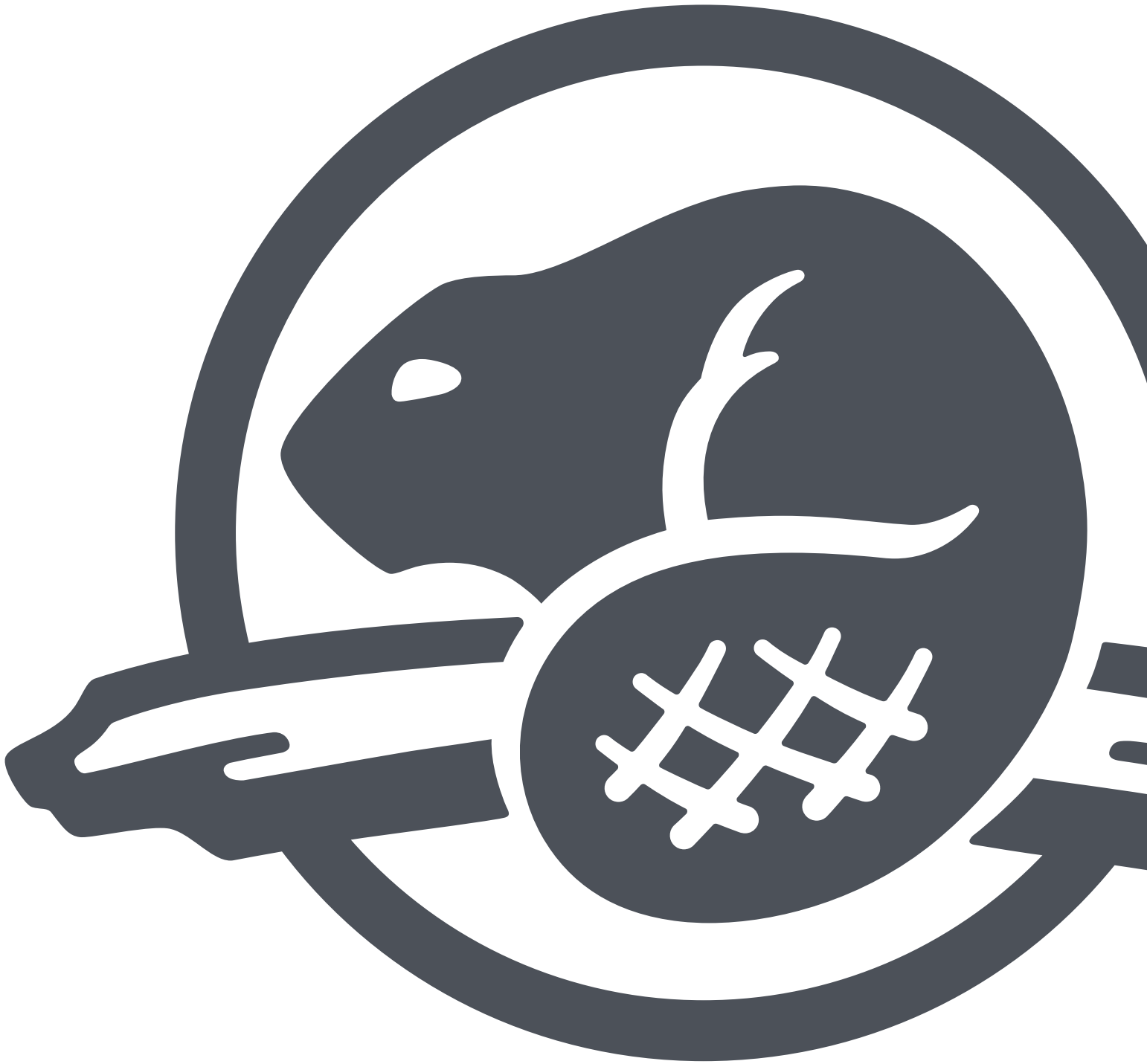
In an Emergency

During normal business hours, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, contact the Duty Officer by radio.

After hours, use the radio provided to contact Parks Canada dispatch or by calling

1-877-852-3100.





Information

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