

This route, except for a short paddle through Shannon Lake, follows the Nictaux River entirely, as it winds its way down the north face of the South Mountain, on its way to the Annapolis Valley floor. Winding through undeveloped woodland, it offers a genuine feeling of remoteness, and will test the paddler's moving water skills. There are three sets of rapids on the route, and all can be bypassed via portages. The river is part of the Nova Scotia Power Nictaux Development, and water levels will fluctuate with the demands of power generation. It is recommended that this route be taken only during moderate to high water levels. Low water levels do not allow enough water volumes for easy passage down the route. This route can be done in whole (2 days) or in parts depending on what access area you chose.

Please note that the South Shore Annapolis Valley Trail is a multi-use trail. There is a waterfall located at the eastern area of the dam. Refer to Michael Haynes' *Hiking Trails of Mainland Nova Scotia* for a more detailed description. Due to water fluctuations, many prefer to paddle the canal and carry into the head pond of the Nictaux Dam for a paddle exploration and return in one day.

Length: 21 km
Time: 2 days
Approach: South from Middleton 28 km along Highway 10 past Albany Cross and the intersection of the West Dalhousie Road. Continue on Highway 10 from Albany Cross 1.6 km to bridge at Shannon River. Entries left side of Highway 10 at bridge or east and find portage or canoe carry. It is a short distance south of the Shannon River Canoe Access Park.

Entry, Exit Points:
 Shannon Lake: Left (EAST) on Portage 1 at bridge, to Shannon Lake.
 Scotchman's Lip: North from Albany Cross 4 km to intersection of Squirreltown Road. Right (EAST) on Squirreltown Road 4km to Scotchman's Lip on Nictaux River.
 Nictaux River Dam: The road leading to the dam is 8 km south of Highway 201 on Highway 10. Turn east on dirt road owned by NS Power to dam. Park and carry across the South Shore Annapolis Valley Trail and launch at the head pond. This road is sometimes gated.
 NSP Canal: Nova Scotia Power canal crosses Highway # 10 approx 5 km south of Highway 201 in Nictaux. There is a limited parking and please do not block the gates to the NS Power road that runs alongside the canal.

Parking:
 Shannon Lake: Park at the Shannon River Access Park and walk back. There is a woods road nearby that some chose to park at.
 Scotchmans Lip: At launch area.
 Nictaux River Dam: At dam site.

Landmarks: 1. Shannon River Canoe Access Park - owned /managed by the County of Annapolis.

Route Classification: Intermediate.

Portage Information:

1:	200m	Short carry to lake. In lower water levels, small lifts or lining may be required for a short distance.
2:		Navigable in moderate to high water. May require short lifts or lining.
3:		Navigable in moderate to high water. May require short lifts or lining.
4:	400 m	On left (WEST) side of river at head of rapids.
5:	600 m	On left (WEST) side of river at head of rapids. Carry along the South Shore Annapolis Valley Trail and launch into the NSP head pond.
6:		On left (WEST) Cross the Trail and launch below dam (NORTH).



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Cowling Meadows

JOINS MAP 2

Scragg Lake

Scotchmans Lip
3
E

2
Flat Rapids

Multi-Use Trail

Squirreltown Road

10

East Lake

Shannon Lake

Zwicker Lake

Waterloo Lake

Albany Cross

10

1
E

1

West Dalhousie Road

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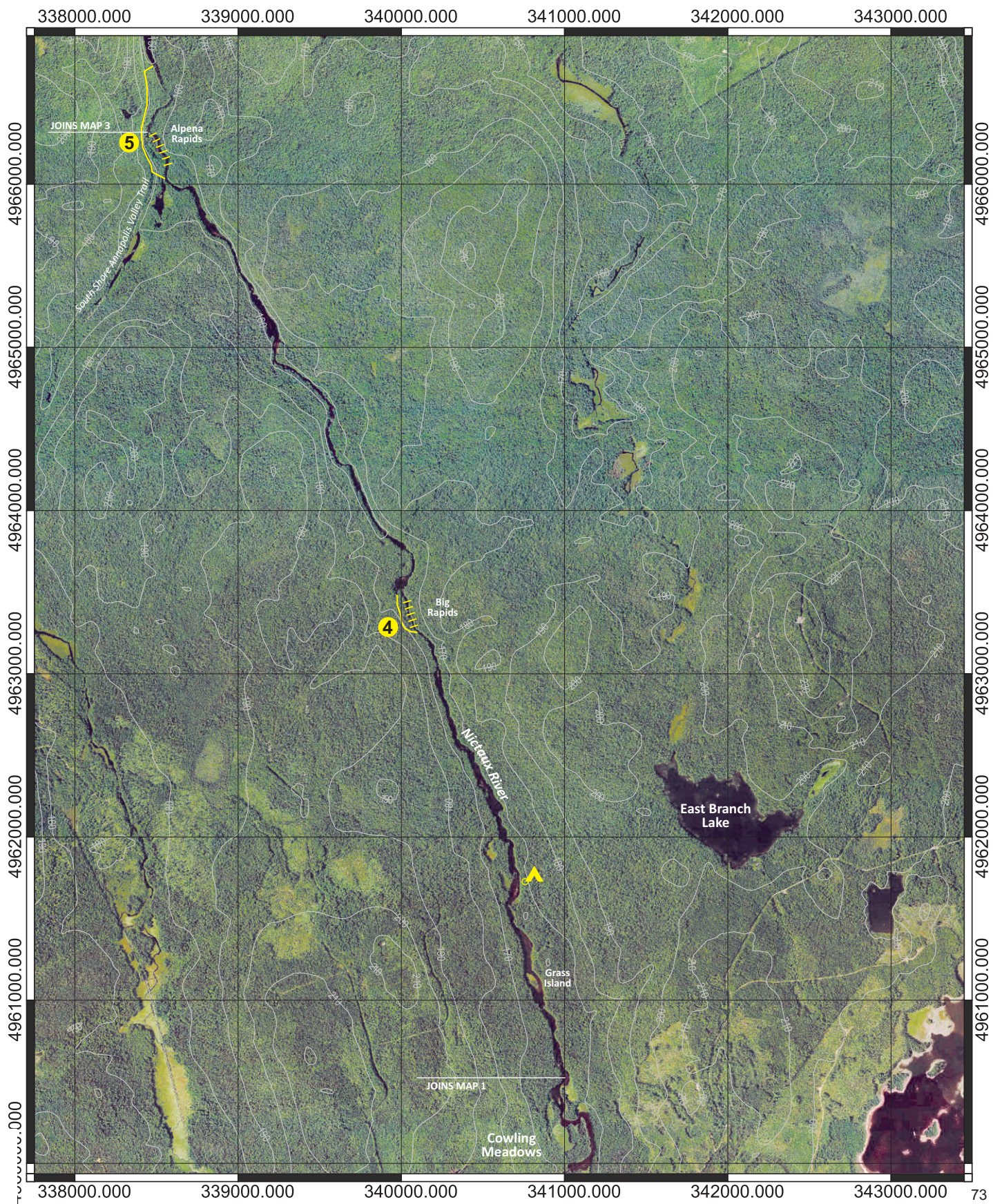
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Nictaux River



SCALE 0 1000 METRES

Route 18, Map 2





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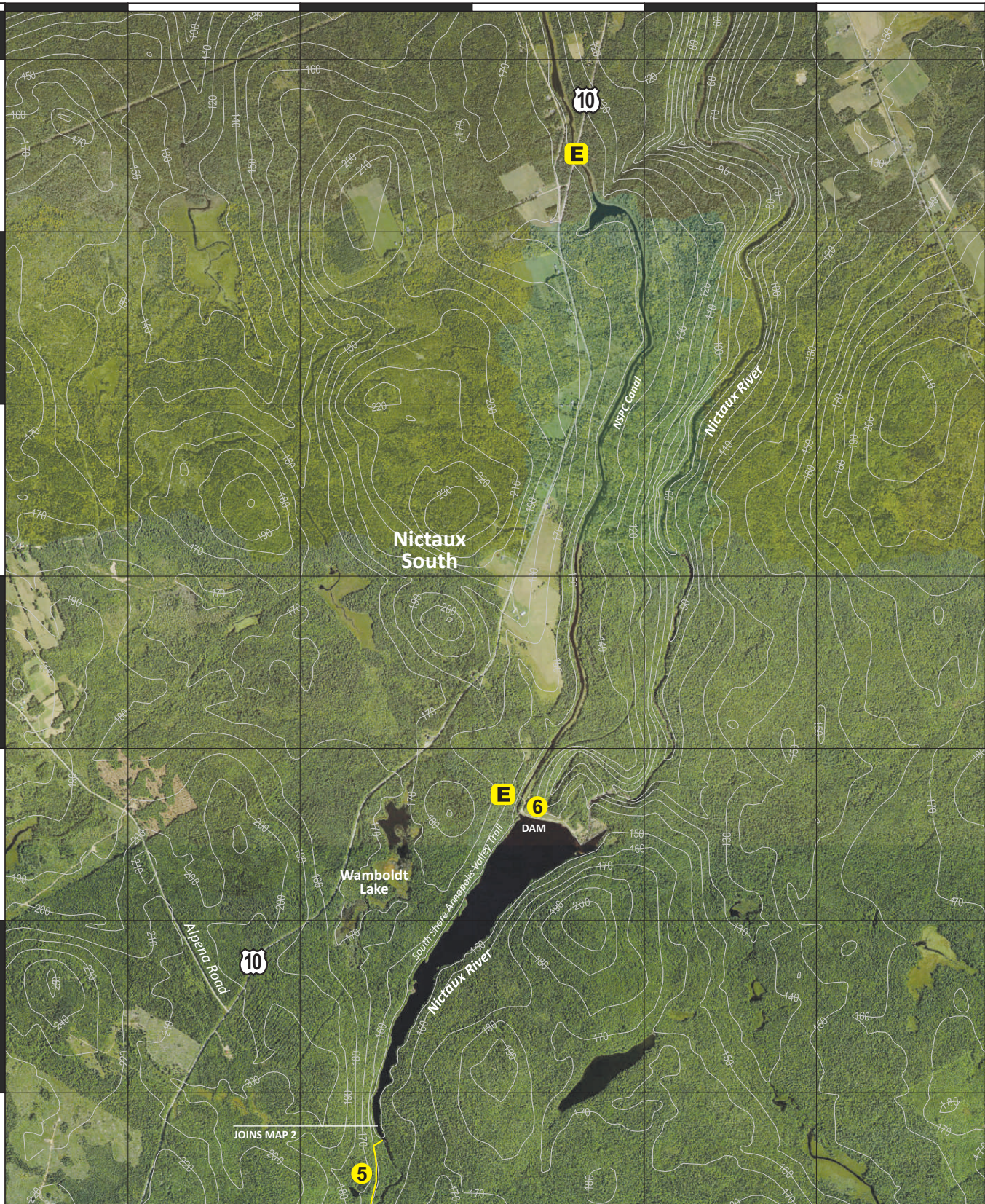
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E

Nictaux South

NSPR Canal

Nictaux River

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DAM

Wamboldt Lake

Nictaux River

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Alpena Road

South Shore Annapolis Valley Trail

JOINS MAP 2

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Disclaimer

The Municipality of the County of Annapolis does not have control over the canoe routes, portages or wilderness tent areas listed in this guide, and therefore assumes no responsibility for the safety of the canoeist paddling the route, walking the portage, or using the wilderness tent areas.

We recommend that users approach all canoe routes and wilderness tent areas in a safe and responsible manner, and conduct visual inspections whenever possible and practical.

Conditions can change through fluctuating water levels, addition of natural debris, and commercial logging activity.

As we are not the owners of any of these lands or routes, any special arrangements must be made directly with the owners and you are accountable to them for any damage, loss or other problems that you may cause.

Although the information in this guide is believed to be accurate, we assume no liability for any errors or omissions that may exist, or for changes that may have occurred on the routes after the publication of this guide.

We recommend, as a supplement to the information herein, that you use Natural Resources Canada 1:50,000 topographical series maps of the general canoe routes.

Annapolis County Recreation Services requests that you read the sections on Safety, Equipment, Trip Planning and Wilderness Ethics before you travel on the lakes and waterways of the region.

Always tell someone where you are going and when you are returning. Please be aware that many portages/canoe carries are not marked.

Map Legend

Entry, Exit Point



Landmark



Portage



River Section



Rapids



Existing Tentsite



Beach



Highway 101, Exit



Public Highway



Highlighted for clarity:



Municipal Boundary



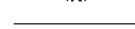
Contour/ Elevation



Grid North



Grid Line



Scale Bar

