

Route 4 is also catalogued in this guide as an overnight route, but offers several day trip opportunities as well.

The route consists of 13 lakes and connecting streams, and encompasses developed areas such as Liverpool Head and Geier Lakes, as well as very remote areas such as Allison and Gull Lakes. Portages are generally well marked and in good condition. Fisher and Eleven Mile Lakes are rock strewn and can be prone to high winds, and canoeists are advised to consider wind conditions when traversing these two lakes. There are several sandy beaches along the route, and many suitable campsites. The old Ranger camp on the east side of Rocky Lake may offer a dry refuge in bad weather.

You can also begin this route at Sandy Bottom Lake (see Route 3). If you are a guest at the Milford House, you can launch at either Geier Lake or Boot Lake. If you are not a guest, ask permission from the Milford House staff, who may allow you to park on their property and access these lakes.

The region is steeped in history. *“A trail that followed the Ribbon of Lakes through this wilderness was once the domain of the Mi'kmaq. Guiding for both fishing and hunting flourished in this region and is the backdrop for Albert Bigelow Paine's book called the Tent Dwellers circa early 1900's.”* Source: Through the Woods; A collected History and Reflection of the Milford Area and Communities, 2005.

The Medway Lakes Wilderness Area was designated in 2015.

Length: 35 km

Time: 3-4 days for complete circuit

Approach: South from Annapolis Royal approximately 20 km on Highway No. 8 to South Milford

Entry, Exit Points:

Liverpool Head Lake: 0.5 km north of intersection of Highway No. 8 and the Virginia Road at South Milford. Launch where lake adjoins highway.

Lake Munroe: 8 km south of South Milford on Highway No. 8. Launch where lake adjoins highway.

Eleven Mile Lake: 3 km south of Lake Munroe at a steel gate and gravel road on east side of Highway 8. East along gravel road approximately 1 km to shore of Eleven Mile Lake.

Lynch Mill: East along gravel Crown road from Pitts Lake at Milford 18 km to old gravel pit at Lynch Mill.

Parking: Church, limited parking
South Milford Community Hall

Landmarks:

1. Church
2. South Milford Community Hall
3. Milford House

Route Classification: Intermediate

Portage Information::

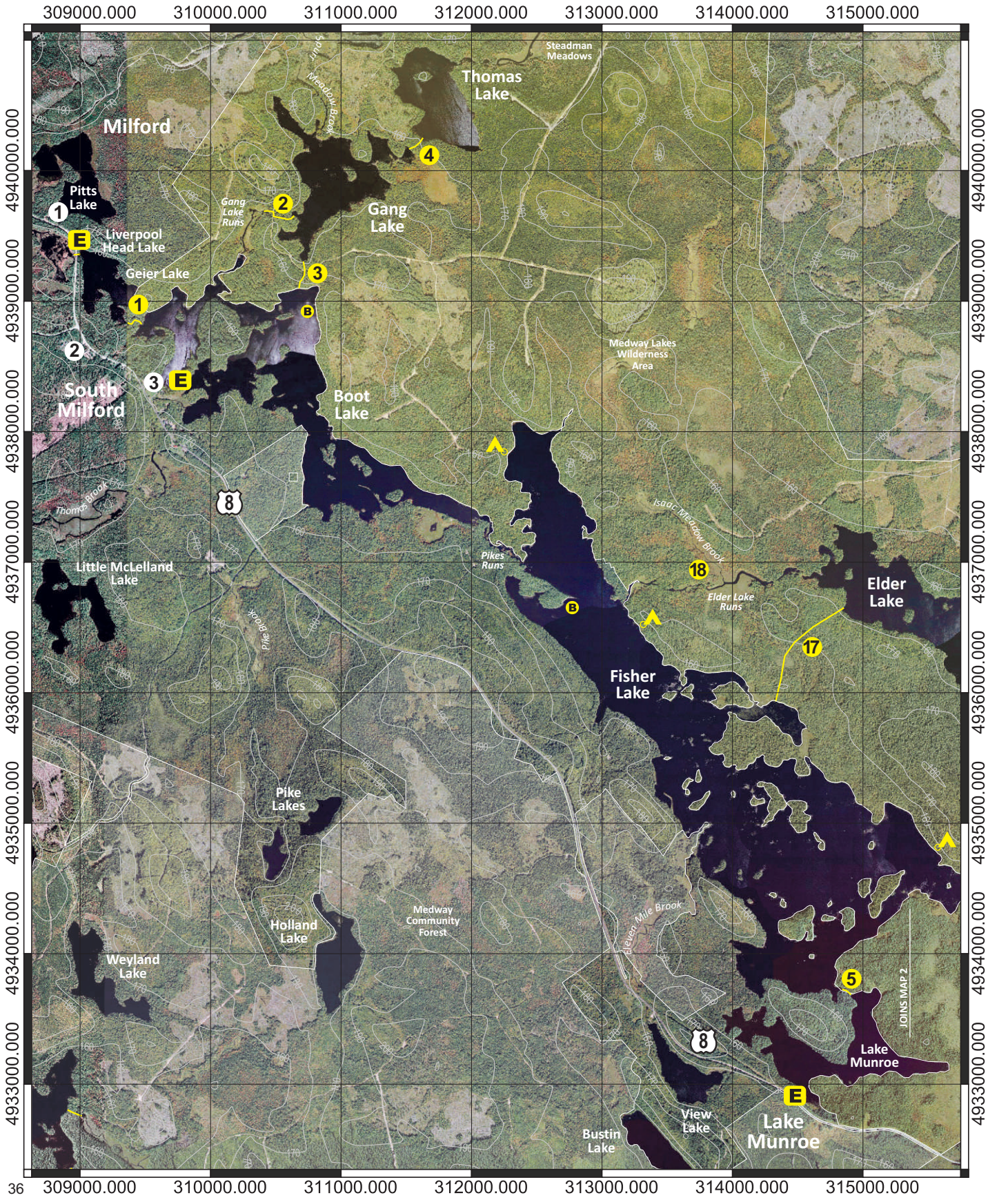
1. 123m On right (SOUTH) side of outlet of Liverpool Head Lake. Carry along gravel road and turn right just before bridge.
2. 269m On left (NORTH) side of Gang Lake Runs. Cross bridge and carry across gravel road on right to Gang Lake.
3. 220m On north side of Boot Lake at beach. Carry across gravel road to small cove on Gang Lake.
4. 125m On right (SOUTHEAST) side of inlet from Thomas Lake.
Pikes Runs: Moderate current flowing from Boot Lake into Fisher Lake. Easily navigable.
5. 80m Carry from northeast cove to Fisher Lake
6. 500m Big River Runs and entry to Route 23, Mersey River.
7. Navigable. Short but fast current flowing from First Branch Lake into Eleven Mile Lake.
8. 2565m Thomas Cove and Entry, Exit point for Route 7, Hendry Lake.
9. 75m Navigable in moderate to high water levels by lining and small lifts up Runs to Rocky Lake.
10. 155m Low water carry.
11. 60m Low water carry.
12. 50m In small cove on left (WEST) side of inlet from Allison Lake.
13. 600m On right (EAST) side of Gull Lake Runs.
14. 85m On left (WEST) side of Hubley Runs.
15. 810m On left (WEST) side of Lynch Mill Stream at bend in stillwater, 200 m north of Hubley Runs. Portage not well marked, but can be used with care. Carry west from stream to upland bog. Sharp left (SOUTH) turn in bog and continue west to Little Sundown Lake.
16. 400m+ Navigable in high water levels. Low water levels will require a carry out of Little Sundown Lake along the bog until you reach a navigable section of brook.
17. 935 m Low water carry. Crosses hardwood ridge and upland bog.
18. Navigable in moderate to high water levels, with a few small lifts and very short carries.
19. 150m Driveable in a 4WD vehicle. Launch in small pond.

Milford Lakes



SCALE 0 1000 METRES

Route 4, Map 1

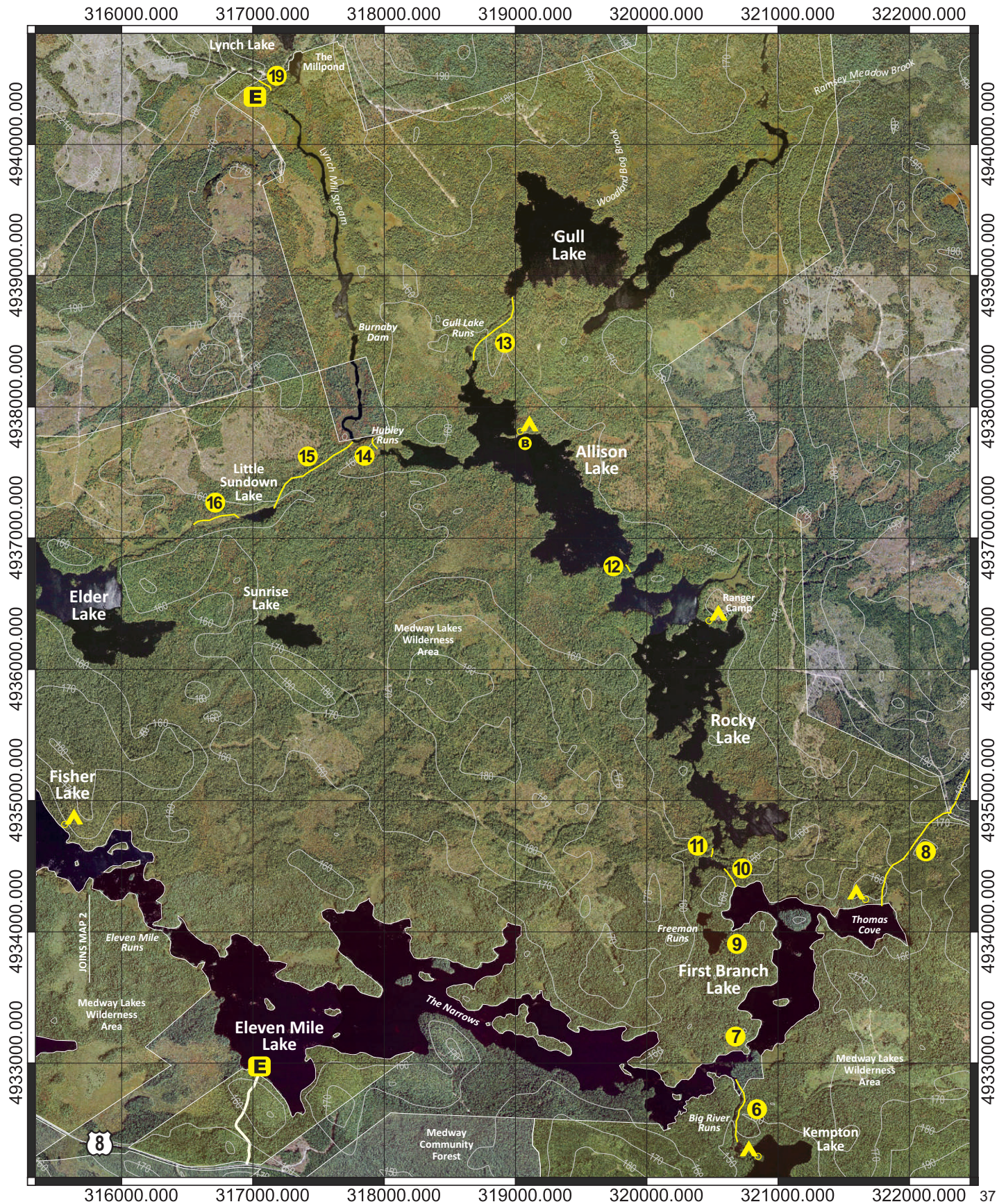


Milford Lakes



SCALE 0 1000 METRES

Route 4, Map 2



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

