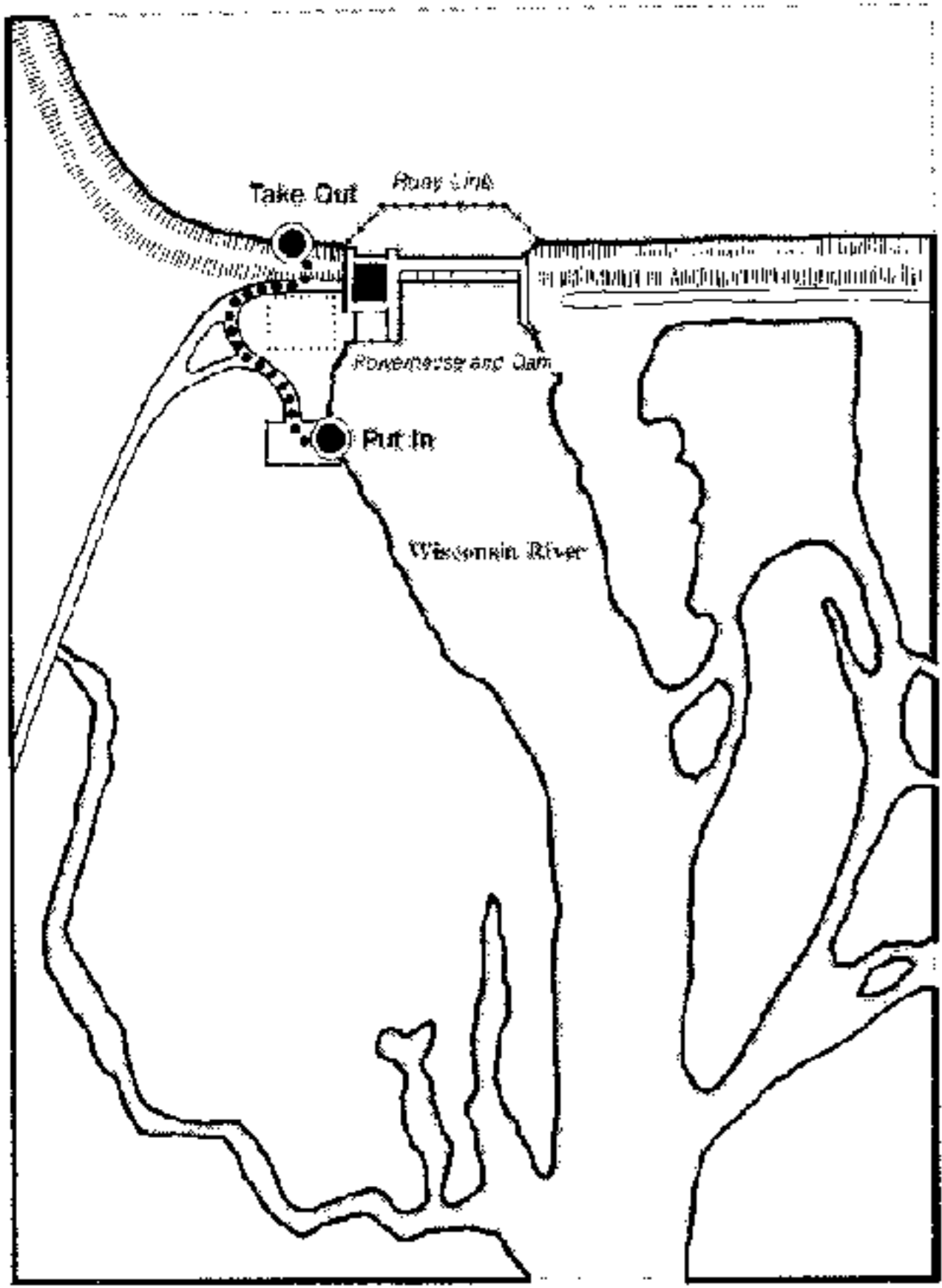


Canoe Portage and Boating Safety Information at the Dam

Petenwell Canoe Portage



Important Information for Boaters

A flashing red light is a warning that a flood gate is open. All boaters should always stay at least 300 feet upstream from the dam. For added safety, a restraining cable with orange floats and regulatory warning buoys has been installed, as shown on the above drawing. The cable is installed after spring breakup and is removed in late October. This cable spans the upstream powerhouse intake area and the gate section. Anchoring to the cable, except for emergencies, is prohibited.

Similar cable and floats have been installed just downstream from the turbine discharge area. These hydro units are remote controlled and can come on without warning. Safe boating procedures are a must, especially near dams!

Because Petenwell is a flowage, it naturally becomes more shallow further upriver. The waters also conceal shallows in other unexpected areas, even long distances from shore. The northern portions of the Wisconsin River and Yellow River areas of the flowage, as well as the west shore south of the railroad bridge, also have shallow, stumpy areas. Therefore, proceed with caution.

Boaters may occasionally encounter floating debris from upriver or which broke loose from the shoreline. If the debris poses a water hazard, please mark it and notify the power company.

Telephone: 608/565-7961 or 715/422-3722.

Watch for the following signs at the Petenwell dam:

DANGER

Hydrogenerator will start automatically and without warning, causing dangerous water currents and surges.

Keep your boat at a safe distance from powerhouse and dam.

Wisconsin River Power Company

WARNING

Boating beyond barriers is prohibited. Anchoring to cable is prohibited.

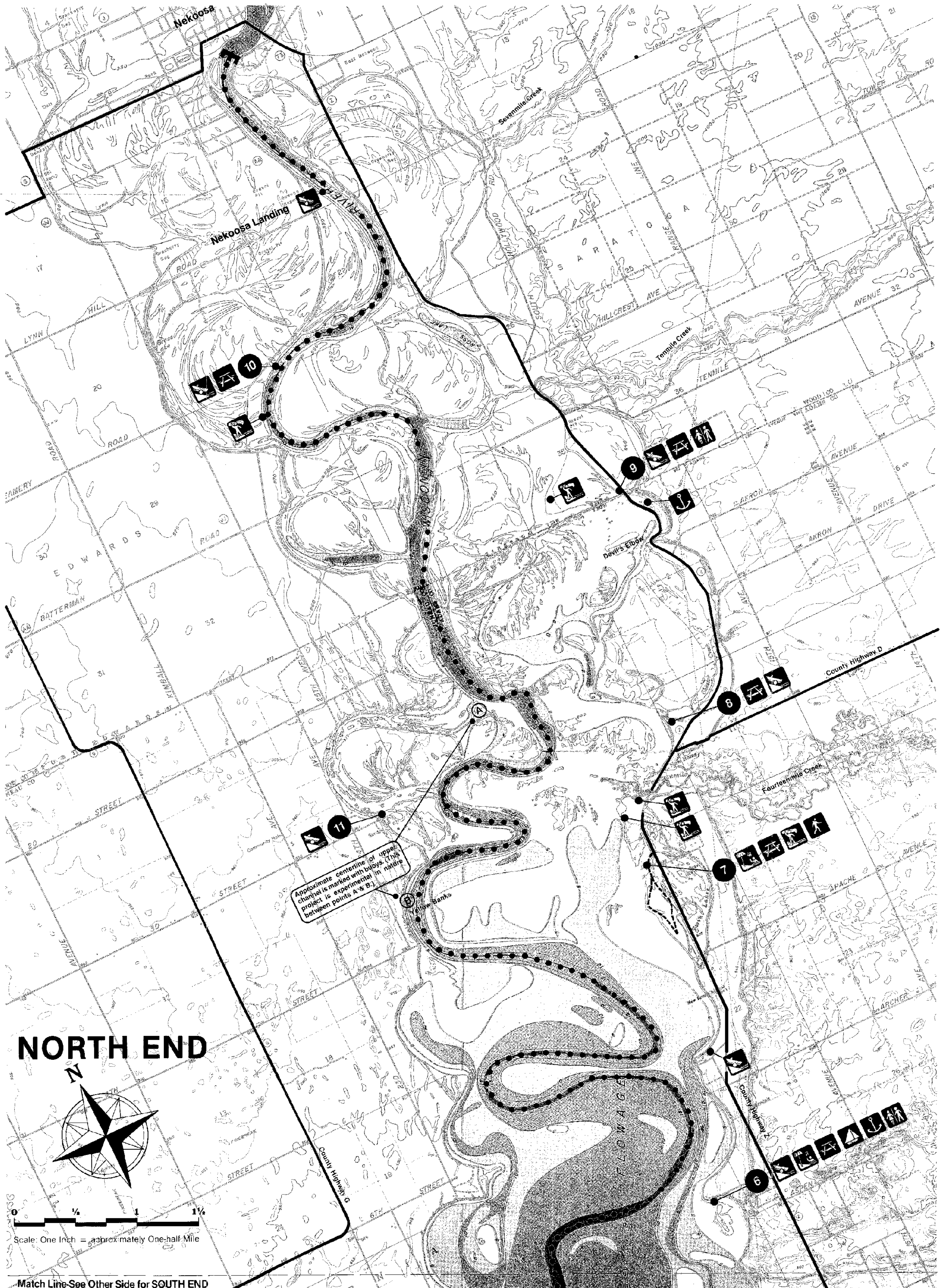
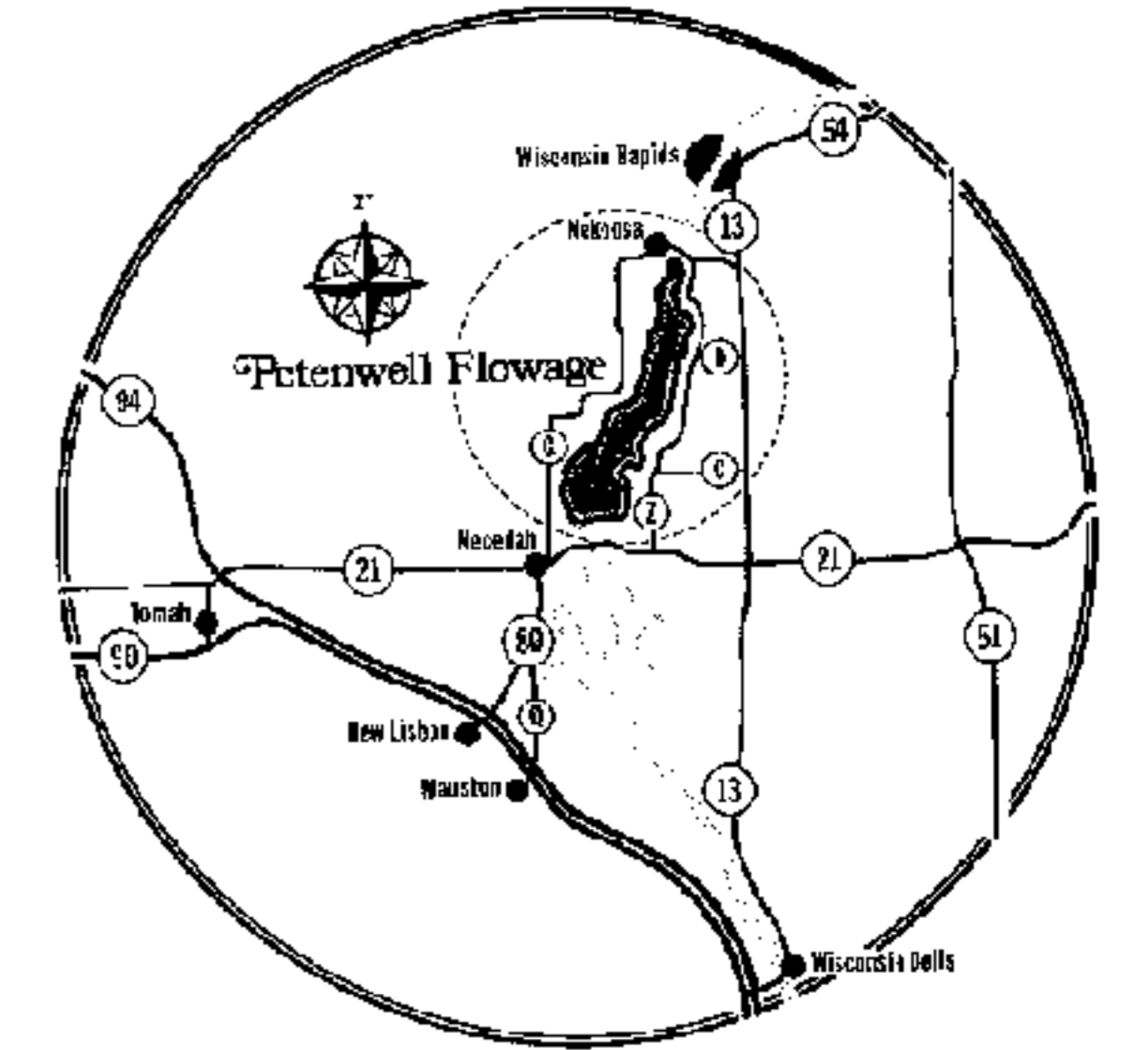
As authorized by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Wisconsin River Power Company
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
License #1984

Flowage Statistics and Water Levels

Surface Area	23,040.00 Acres
Net Head	41.00 Feet
Maximum Hydrogeneration	22,000.00 KW
Maximum Flow Through Units	7,400.00 CFS
Maximum Recorded Flow	57,000.00 CFS
Maximum Spring Elevation	924.90 Feet
Maximum Recreation Season Elevation	923.90
Minimum Recreation Season Elevation	922.90
Maximum Winter Drawdown Elevation	916.90
Normal Fallwater Elevation	881.90
Maximum Recorded Fallwater Elevation	891.20

NOTE: All elevations are according to United States Coast and Geodetic Survey (USC&GS).



Reprint: 5/93

Help control litter! Pack it in and pack it out.
with the land-use restrictions outlined above.
person found littering or vandalizing company
property in any way, or otherwise not complying
with the land-use restrictions outlined above.
CWP/CO (or WRP/CO) will pay up to a \$500.00
fine for information leading to the arrest of any
person found littering or vandalizing company
property in any way, or otherwise not complying
with the land-use restrictions outlined above.
CWP/CO (or WRP/CO) will pay up to a \$500.00
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with the land-use restrictions outlined above.

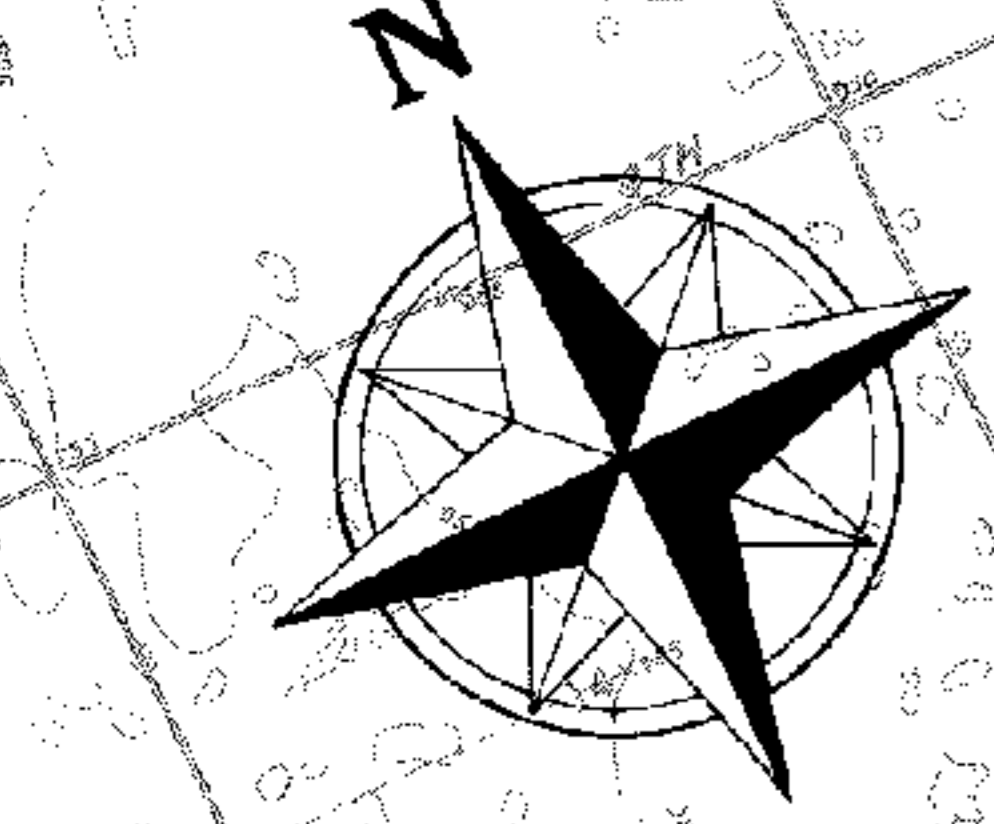
Wisconsin River Power Company
Central Office, P.O. Box 8050
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54498-8050
Telephone: 715/422-3722
Photo Credit: Dr. Scott Nielsen



\$1.00



NORTH END



Scale: One Inch = approximately One-half Mile

Match Line-See Other Side for SOUTH END

Flowage Map

This Petenwell Flowage area base map, while representing the best information currently available to the Wisconsin River Power Company (WRPCo.), should not be relied upon entirely by those using flowage waters and land for fishing, boating, swimming, hiking and other recreational activities. Individuals must use extreme caution because of the size, complexity, and constantly changing conditions of Castle Rock Flowage. The information on the map is a composite of United States Coast and Geodetic Survey (USC&GS) data and underwater contour data provided by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UW-SP) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Persons desiring more information or wishing to report particular incidents or conditions observed on Petenwell Flowage may contact a WRPCo. representative at Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Telephone: 715/422-3722.

Origins

The Petenwell Flowage consists of 23,040 acres and is the second largest inland body of water in Wisconsin. It was built in the late 1940s for hydroelectric generation and flood control. The flowage is on Wisconsin's Central Plain or Central Sand, the ancient bed of Glacial Lake Wisconsin that was a prehistoric, one-million-acre body of water.

The Wisconsin River

The Wisconsin River is the hardest working river in the nation. From its headwaters on the Wisconsin-Michigan border in Lac Vieux Desert, it falls more than 1,000 feet on its 500-mile journey through the state, before emptying into the Mississippi River at Prairie du Chien.

Since the Ice Age, the mighty river has scoured gorges and cut great rapids and waterfalls, whose roar has been replaced by the hum of turbines and waterwheels at 26 hydroelectric dams. The energy generated each year would supply the electrical needs of every home in Madison for a year.

The Wisconsin, long notorious for devastating floods, is now partially controlled by 21 reservoirs (flowages) on the river. Each reservoir is lowered prior to spring runoff in anticipation of high water when spring break-up begins.

The Petenwell Dam and the Castle Rock Dam (its sister downriver) are unique, because they are built on sand and were the first such projects undertaken in the United States. The concrete dams are classified as "floating-type construction" with imbedded cutoff walls that penetrate deep into the glacial sands, permanently anchoring them.

Conditions Vary Greatly

Prior to construction of the Petenwell Dam, the lake bed was farmland, prairie, and forested knolls and was bisected by the meandering Wisconsin River. As with most man-made flowages, Petenwell is relatively shallow and quickly becomes turbulent on windy days. Bottom conditions and depths vary considerably. Boaters are urged to become familiar with this map before any activity on the flowage.

Open to the Public

Since flowage establishment, most of WRPCo.'s surrounding land has been open to the public for hunting, fishing, hiking, nature observation, skiing, and other recreational activities. Also, several 40-acre blocks have been dedicated as school forests. The flowage's namesake, Petenwell Rock, is just downriver from the dam and has been conveyed to the state to ensure preservation as a geological landmark. WRPCo. has entered lease agreements with Juneau and Adams counties for public parks and has shared the cost of developing plans for park growth and improvements.

The power company has opened selected portions of its east dike to public use for fishing, hiking, and nature observation, on a trial basis. Hunting and trapping are not permitted. The area offers good views of the flowage and some bank fishing. Located in Adams County in the Town of Strong's Prairie, this area stretches north of Chicago Drive and east of 21st Avenue.

Parking for the east dike is available at the north end of 21st Avenue. Absolutely no vehicular traffic is permitted on the dike system. Campfires and overnight camping are also prohibited.

Persons who have special interests in visiting closed portions of the dike system and related wildlife areas should contact WRPCo. for more information.

Wildlife Protection

The power company has cooperated with the Wisconsin DNR in establishing a trout fishery in portions of the Petenwell ditch system and in erection of osprey nesting platforms and wood duck nests. The backwaters and sloughs immediately below Petenwell Dam, a favorite winter refuge for bald eagles, have been designated as a wildlife refuge by the power company. In cooperation with the DNR, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and UW-SP, WRPCo. has completed a management plan for this area. A walking trail through portions of the area is open to the public from May 1 to October 1.

Forest Management

Professional foresters manage forest land surrounding the Petenwell Flowage for sustained timber production. More than 2,000 acres of marginal farmland have been forested, and over two million pine trees have been planted.

Good Fishing Opportunities

The flowage offers some of the Wisconsin River's best fishing. Locally known fishing "hot spots" include Devil's Elbow, the mouth of Fourteen Mile Creek, Barnum Bay, and Strong's Prairie. These areas provide abundant underwater structure and harbor good concentrations of fish.

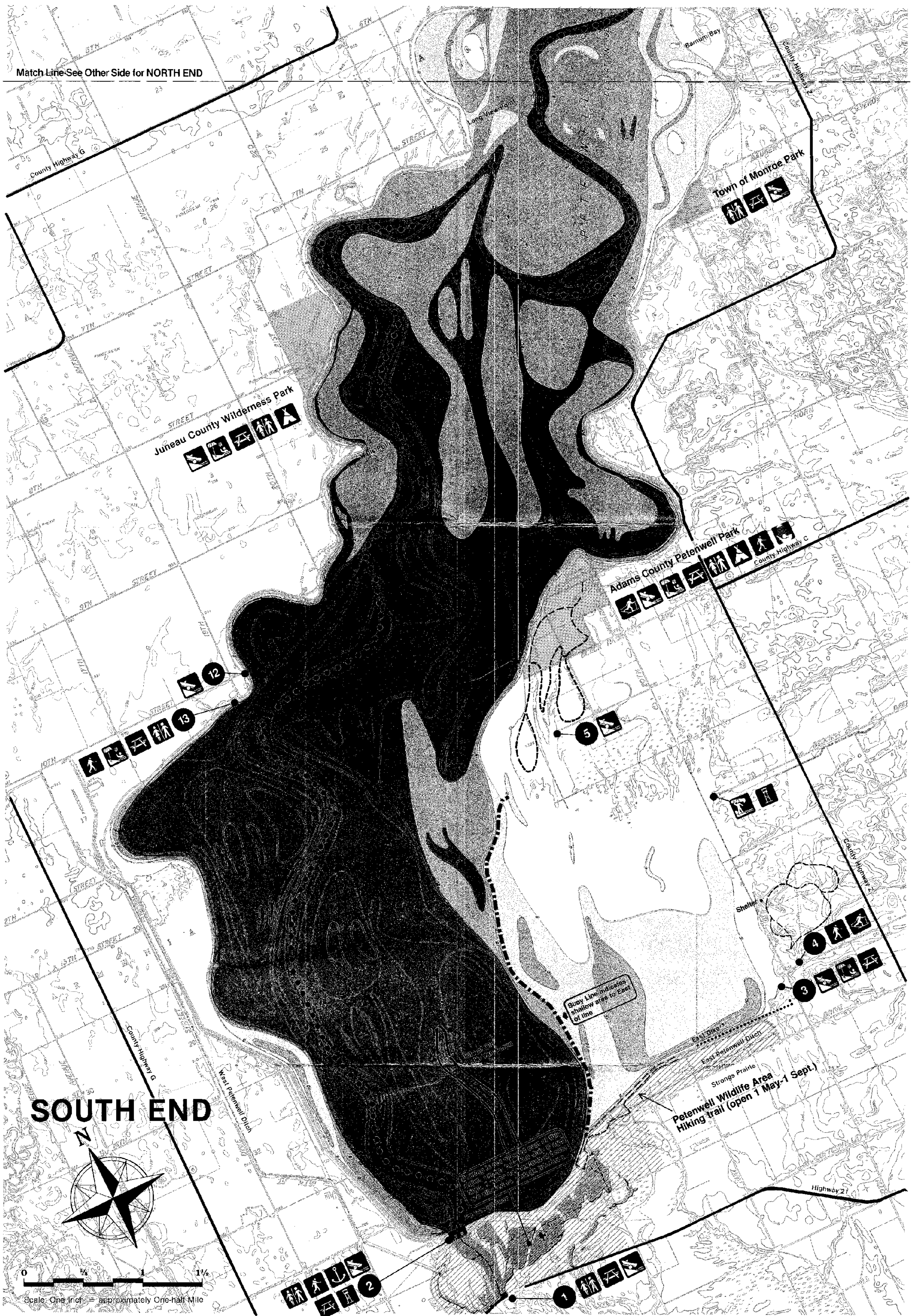
Water Levels Fluctuate

The primary purpose of the Petenwell Flowage is to store water that creates a water head (height) to produce electricity as it passes (drops) through the hydroturbines at the dam.

Flood control is another purpose. Flood control is accomplished by an annual drawdown that begins in February. The drawdown can be as much as five feet but is governed by the amount of water in the snow-cover in the state's northern section. The flowage is refilled as the snow melts, normally beginning in late March. By May 1, the flowage must be full and at normal summer levels. Between June 15 and winter freeze, the headwater elevation fluctuation is limited to a maximum of one foot.

Federal License

The Petenwell Dam is operated by the WRPCo. under licenses from the FERC and the DNR. The federal license provides control over flowage operations and requires that the company outline an overall land use and recreation plan that provides for full public utilization of the waters and land. Such a plan was submitted to the FERC in August 1977 and was approved April 30, 1981.

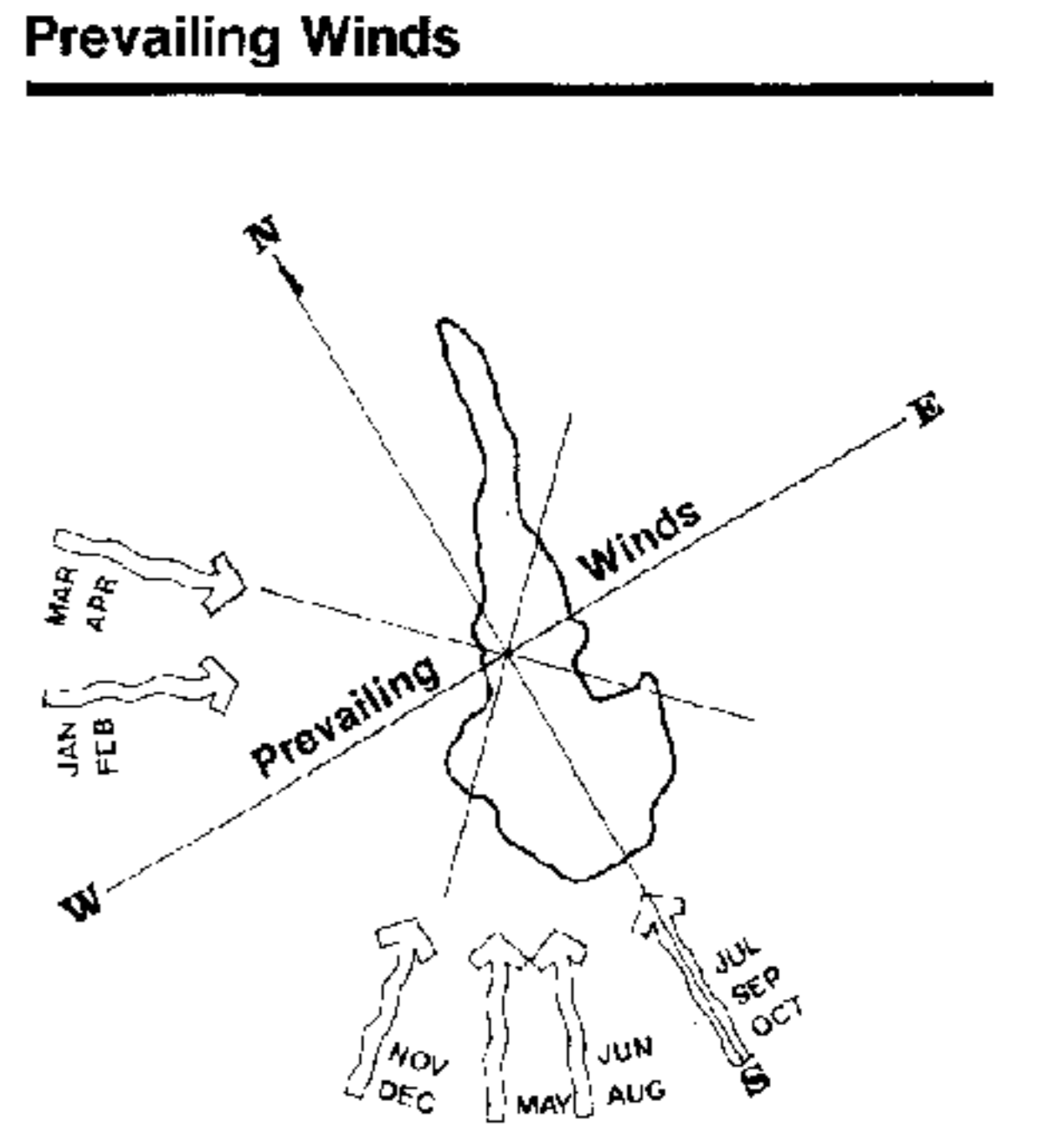


SOUTH END



Legend		Index		Prevailing Winds	
	Recommended Access Route		Wayside Park		Plank Hill Ramp
	Wisconsin River Channel		Petenwell Powerhouse and Landing		3rd Street Ramp
	Dam		Van Kuren Landing - Beware of Shallow Water		Armenia Landing
	Water Depth: 0'-5'		Van Kuren Trail		Petenwell Veterans Park
	Water Depth: 5'-10'		Bighorn Access		Denotes Location
	Water Depth: 10'-20'		Barnum Bay		
	Water Depth: > 20'		Twin Lakes		
	Special Recreation Area		Chester Creek		
	Park Sites		Wood County Day Use Area		
	Walking Trail		Improved Access Boat Launch Ramp		
	Ski-Touring Trail		Unimproved Access No Installed Launch Ramp		
			Boater Concessions		
			Beach		
			Restrooms		
			Picnic		
			Camping		
			Sailing Center		
			Observation Tower		
			Showers		

Note: WRPCo. does not allow any off-road vehicles on its lands except on designated access roads.



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 608-266-2621
Petewell Flowage – Adams County, Wisconsin DNR Lake Map
Date – Apr 1981 - Historical Lake Map - Not for Navigation
A Public Document - Please Identify the Source when using it.