



Little Manistee

Manistee Ranger Station
412 Red Apple Road
Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 723-2211 Voice
(231) 723-0124 TTY



The Little Manistee River, with beautiful scenery along its course, offers many opportunities for steelhead and other types of fishing and for viewing many varieties of wildlife. The river banks are covered with lowland brush, swamp conifers, white pine and variety of oak. Canoeists are advised that the river has many dangerous bends and large logs. Water levels can become fairly shallow during dry summer months.

LOCATION

The Little Manistee River is located in the southern portion of Manistee County and the northern portions of Lake and Mason Counties. The river empties into Manistee Lake, about 2 miles southeast of the city of Manistee.

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS

Between Manistee Lake and M-37, there are 10 bridge access sites where it is possible to launch a canoe. M-37 is the upper limit for canoeing. The seven major access sites are listed below:

Driftwood Valley Campground: Adjacent to the camping area.

Eighteen Mile Bridge: Six miles west of the town of Irons on 10 1/2 Mile Road. Access is on the south side of the bridge.

Bear Track Campground: Adjacent to the Group Campground.

Nine Mile Bridge: Six miles south of M-55 just off of Udell Hills Road.

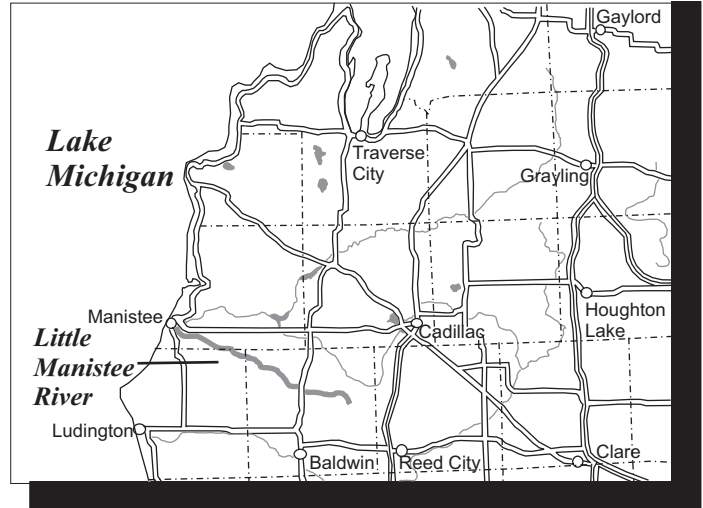
Six Mile Bridge: From Old Stronach Bridge follow Old Stronach Road south and east to Six Mile Bridge Road. Turn north and go 1 mile to the bridge. Parking is limited to parking areas only.

Old Stronach Bridge: Adjacent to Old Stronach Bridge, located 2 miles east of Stronach on Old Stronach Road.

Stronach Township Park: On the southeast corner of Manistee lake. During the fall salmon run, there is a small fee to use the launch.

FACILITIES AVAILABLE

The only facilities available are at the Driftwood Valley and Bear Track campgrounds.



FEES

There are no fees required for the use of the Little Manistee River.

CONSIDERATIONS

Length of the river: 85 canoeable miles

Approximate Float Times (in hours):

Driftwood Valley to Bear Track	2.0
Bear Track to Nine Mile Bridge	3.0
Nine Mile Bridge to Six Mile Bridge	2.5
Six Mile Bridge to Old Stronach Bridge	3.5
Old Stronach Bridge to Stronach Park	1.0

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