

Canol Road



Dragon Lake

3 Dragon Lake

This is one of the best spots along the road to catch jackfish, trout and grayling. There is an unmaintained campsite.

2 Ross River

You can paddle the upper Ross River by arranging a fly-in trip from Sheldon Lake to the Itsi Lakes. Ross River is a Class II/III river.



Ross River cable ferry



Looking south to Ross River



Ross River suspension bridge

1 Ross River Suspension Bridge – km 225.5

The community of Ross River offers a variety of services. The Ross Lowlands have a high concentration of wildlife and sandhill cranes migrate through every year. The Ross River Suspension Bridge held the Canol Pipeline out of the Pelly River waters. This footbridge now offers a place to stand and fish or a way to explore the Old Ross River townsite on the north side of the river. The car ferry runs from May to October during the day.



Bird's eye view of the Macmillan River

8 Mount Sheldon

The Kaska name for Mt. Sheldon is *Tekedeni'a*, meaning "standing alone".

7 Sheldon Lake – km 343.1

Sheldon Lake was named after Charles Sheldon, a big game hunter and naturalist who travelled the area in the early 1900s. In 1943, there was a trading post and a sawmill, for facilities maintenance, at the lake. This is a good place to camp.

6 Field Lake and Lewis Lake

These lakes were named for Poole Field and Clement Lewis who operated a small trading post at Ross River in the early 1900s. Sheldon, Field and Lewis lakes are excellent spots to fish for jackfish.

5 Riddell Creek – km 354.1

Robert Riddell trapped in this area about 1898. Ten years later he guided Joseph Keele, of the Geological Survey of Canada, as he mapped the headwaters of the Pelly, Ross and Gravel rivers.

4 Twin Creeks Grader Station – km 344.3

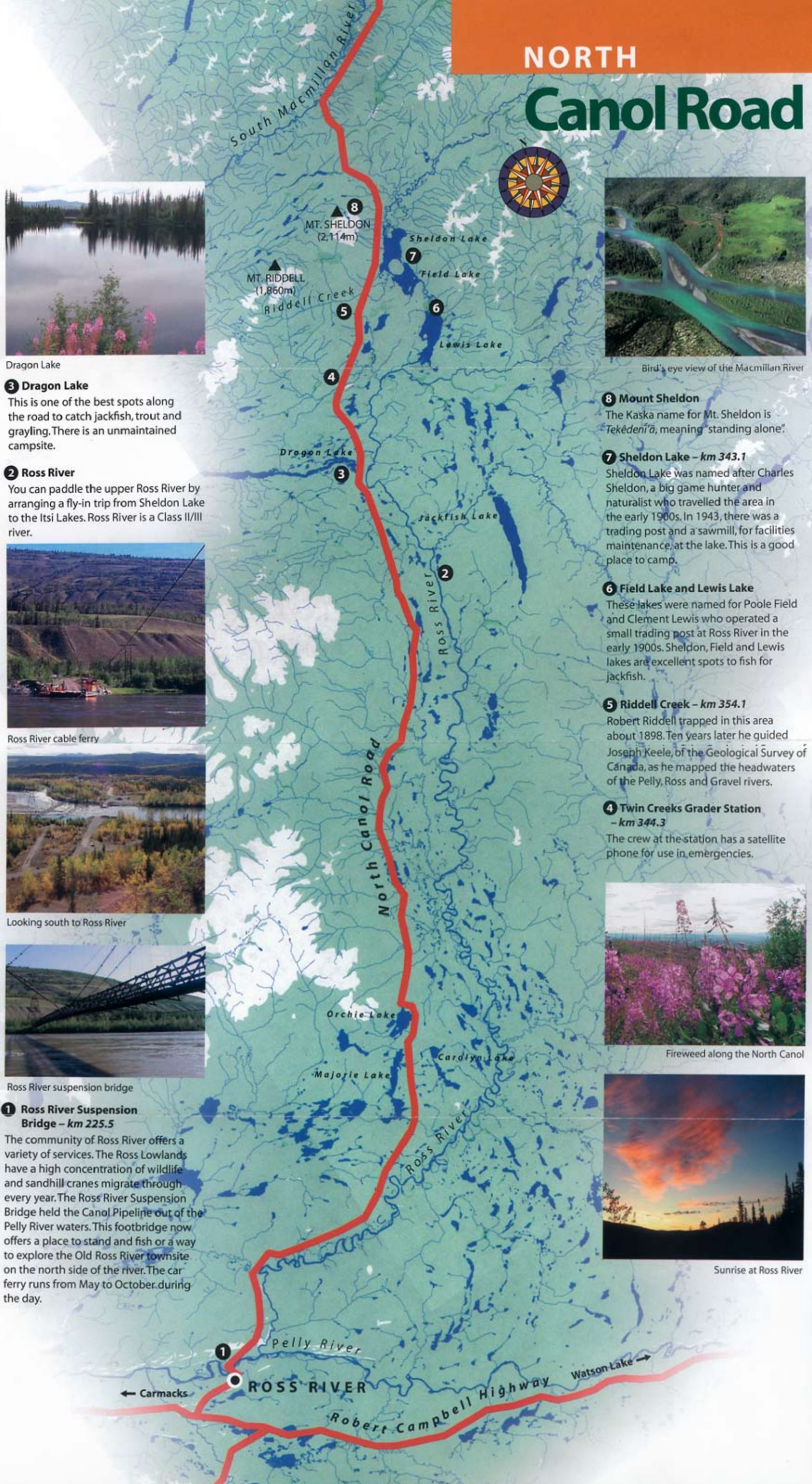
The crew at the station has a satellite phone for use in emergencies.



Fireweed along the North Canol

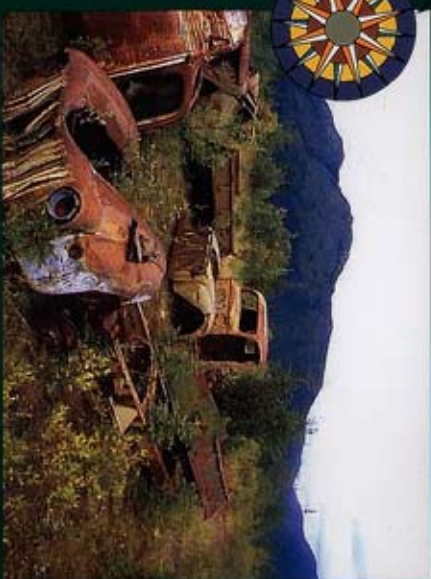


Sunrise at Ross River



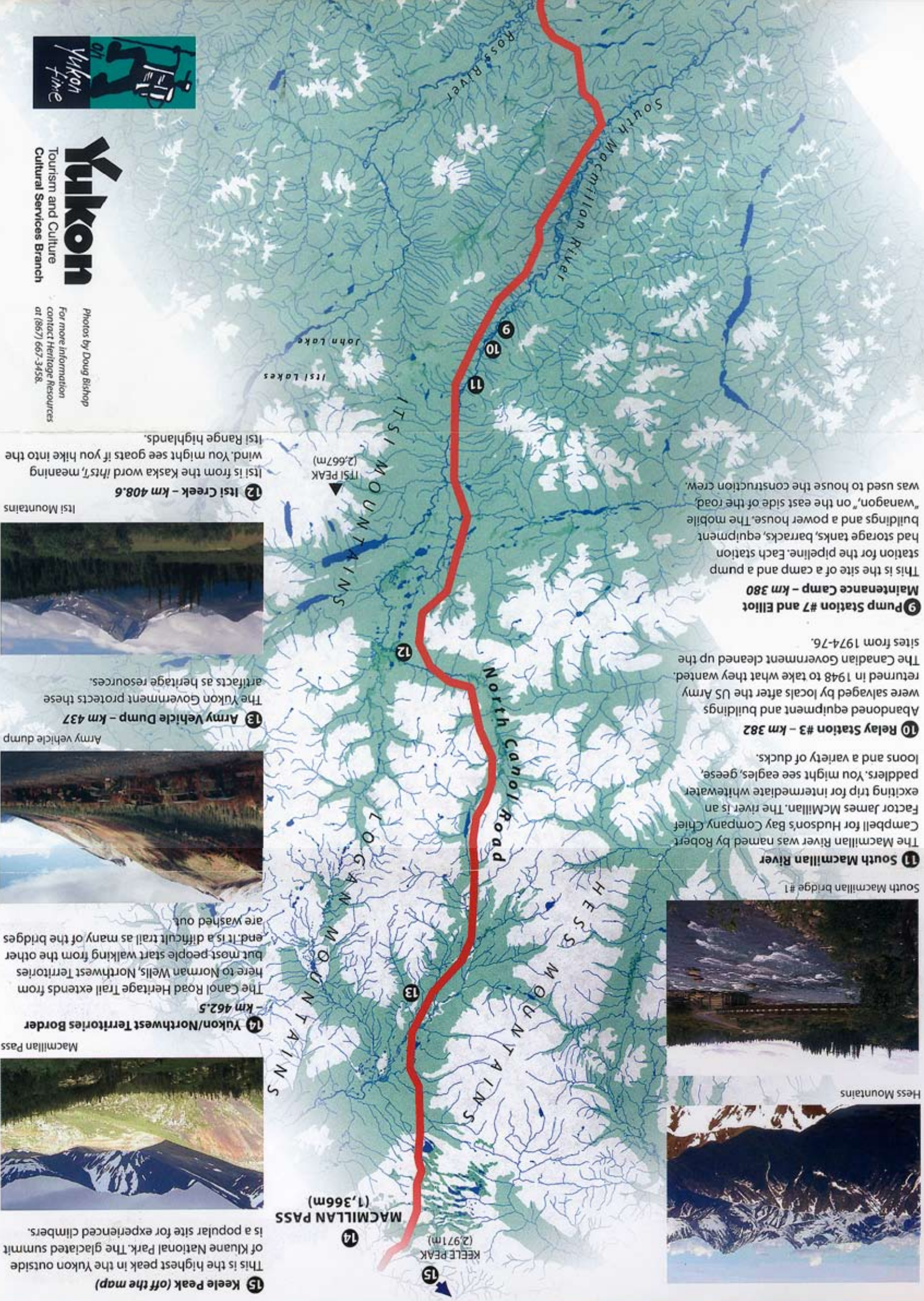
NORTH

Canol Road



In 1943, the American army and their contractors built the Canol Road as a "tote" or supply road. It parallels the route of a short-lived oil pipeline from Camp Canol, near the oil wells at Norman Wells, Northwest Territories, to Johnsons Crossing. The North Canol is a seasonal road that provides access to the wilderness of the eastern central Yukon. The road passes by several big lakes and the spectacular Itsi Range of mountains. You will be travelling through the traditional territory of the Kaska First Nation.

The North Canol stretches 232 km from Ross River to Macmillan Pass, at the Northwest Territories border, and can be very steep and narrow. The road can be slippery when it rains and you are advised to pull over until the surface dries. There are **no services** along the North Canol.



Hess Mountains



11 South Macmillan River

The Macmillan River was named by Robert Campbell for Hudson's Bay Company Chief Factor James McMillan. The river is an exciting trip for intermediate whitewater paddlers. You might see eagles, geese, loons and a variety of ducks.

10 Relay Station #3 - km 382

Abandoned equipment and buildings were salvaged by locals after the US Army returned in 1948 to take what they wanted. The Canadian Government cleaned up the sites from 1974-76.

9 Pump Station #7 and Elliot Maintenance Camp - km 380

This is the site of a camp and a pump station for the pipeline. Each station had storage tanks, barracks, equipment buildings and a power house. The mobile "wagon," on the east side of the road, was used to house the construction crew.

12 Itsi Creek - km 408.6

Itsi is from the Kaska word *itsi't*, meaning wind. You might see goats if you hike into the Itsi Range highlands.



Itsi Mountains

13 Army Vehicle Dump - km 437

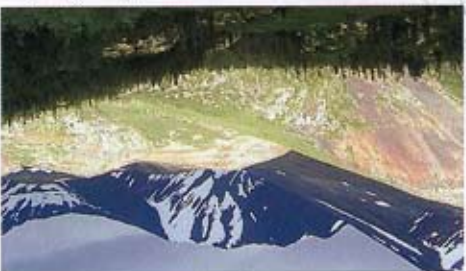
The Yukon Government protects these artifacts as heritage resources.



Army vehicle dump

14 Yukon/Northwest Territories Border

The Canol Road Heritage Trail extends from here to Norman Wells, Northwest Territories but most people start walking from the other end. It is a difficult trail as many of the bridges are washed out.



Macmillan Pass

15 Keele Peak (off the map)

This is the highest peak in the Yukon outside of Kluane National Park. The glaciated summit is a popular site for experienced climbers.

Yukon

Tourism and Culture
Cultural Services Branch

Photos by Doug Bishop
For more information
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