



Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association VOL XXXIV No. 1 January 2011

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JANUARY MEETING THIS IS CANOEING Part 1

By Justine Curgenven The best compilation of canoe films of all time. This really <u>is</u> canoeing! 7 pm Monday, January 17, 2011 Jewish Community Center 401 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence

This is Canoeing is a celebration of canoeing, showcasing top single-blade paddlers in their pursuit of remote wilderness journeys or challenging white water. Multi-award winning film maker, **Justine Curgenven** captures the essence of canoeing in 12 short films. From open canoe slalom races to 1,000 mile birchbark expeditions, Justine provides insights into the diversity of the sport and the influential people who tell its story. Immerse yourself in this globe-trotting 3 hours of adventure to world class canoeing destinations in Canada, the United States, Scotland & Wales.

"This is Canoeing is everything that I love about paddling open canoes, it's the beauty of the outdoors, the thrill of the adventure, the joy of gliding gracefully along on the water and the fun of doing all of those things in the company of good friends. As soon as I'd finished watching it I wanted to load up my canoe, grab my paddle and head out to the nearest water. Everyone who paddles, owns or has even thought about getting in a canoe should watch it" Jason Smith - Editor Canoe & Kayak UK Magazine

Due to time limitations, we will show Part 1 at the January meeting; the DVD is in the RICKA library and available for members to borrow.

Directions to the Jewish Community Center:

From Rt. 95 South: take Exit 24 & turn left onto Branch Avenue. (From Rt. 95N Northbound take Exit 24 & turn right onto Branch Ave.) Cross North Main Street at the lights and continue up the hill (past Kentucky Fried Chicken). Cross Hope St. and continue one block to the end at Morris Ave. Go left, then immediately right onto Sessions St., then down the hill to Elmgrove Ave. The JCC will be across the street. Please use the back entrance. Staff will buzz the door open. From there, take the elevator up to the second floor.

2011 Rolling Clinics

RICKA's annual rolling clinics & pool practice sessions are open to current RICKA members and will be held in February & March at Cumberland High School, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, RI.

Tentative Dates (subject to school confirmation): <u>Session I</u>: February 20 & 27, 9-11 am Session II: March 20 & 27, 9-11 am

Clinics consist of two 2-hour sessions held a week apart. Boats, paddles & helmets are available for clinics, but students should supply their own PFDs/apparel. Practice participants should plan on using their own boats & gear. **Costs:**

Clinic: \$55 per 2-week session.

<u>Practice</u> (no instruction): \$20 per 2-week session . <u>Insurance</u>: No event fee for current ACA members. Non-ACA members may choose a \$5 event fee per 2-week session, or join the American Canoe Association at discounted annual rates of \$30 individual, \$40 family (regularly \$40 and \$60).

Registration form is on Page 2. Registration is on a first -come, first-serve basis based upon postmark date. The pool is twice the width of last year's, so there should be plenty of room, but we reserve the right to limit enrollment if necessary.

Information, instructions & waiver forms will be emailed to you upon registration.

For further information contact Cat Radcliffe at catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net or 508-369-3028.

Instructors wanted!

"To learn, study; to understand, practice; to master, teach."





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CLUBEVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Sea Kayaking

www.rickaseakayaking.org

-Sea kayak trips will now be posted on the Show & Go Message Board, http://rickaseakayaking.org/forums/index.php?board=2.0 Changes & cancellations due to weather or other conditions will be posted on the Changes & Cancellations Message Board by 8 am the day of the trip: http://rickaseakayaking.org/forums/ index.php?board=3.0 Kayaking on the ocean is an inherently risky endeavor. Before choosing to participate in a group trip, consider the Trip Level(s): http://rickaseakayaking.org/levels.htm. Check the marine forecast; adverse weather/sea conditions can increase the difficulty by one Trip Level or more: http:// www.weather.gov/om/marine/zone/east/boxmz.htm Check the RICKA Sea Kayaking Paddling Basics, for more information about group trips and boat/gear requirements: http:// rickaseakayaking.org/basics.htm.

Whitewater

Check the Whitewater Message Board for trips: http://members.boardhost.com/RI_Whitewater

RICKA Flatwater

www.rickaseakayaking.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Next meeting: Wednesday, Feb 2, 2011, 7 pm Call or email Mark Roberts (see masthead) for location.

2011 ROLLING CLINIC REGISTRATION FORM (please submit one form per person)	
Name	Phone
Address	
Email (required)	
<u>Class, Session 1</u> : Februar	ry 20 & 27 \$55 <u>Class, Session 2</u> : March 20 & 27 \$55
Practice, Session 1: Febr	uary 20 & 27 \$20 <u>Practice, Session 2</u> : March 20 & 27 \$20
Note: Dates are ten	tative as of 1/3/11. Total Enclosed: \$
Mail regist	ration form with check payable to RICKA to:
Catherine Rado	liffe, 573 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford MA 02740
Registratio	on Deadlines: February: 2/1/11 March: 3/1/11
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The PADDLER is published monthly except December by the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association, Inc. It is not available by	RHODE ISLAND CANOE & KAYAK ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTMark Roberts401-533-1883hrmmark@gmail.com VICE PRESIDENTAndrew (AJ) Barbato401-568-3960android2@earthlink.net SECRETARYBarbara August401-735-3344b.august@cox.net
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A Little Slice of the Sea by Jeffrey Lee





Photo: Layne Kennedy http://www.laynekennedy.com

A Little Slice of the Sea The Oceanic Nature of the Great Lakes By Jeffrey Lee

Deep in the heart of North America, surrounded by forest and field, there is an ocean.

A vast inland sea containing nearly a quarter of the world's fresh water—enough to flood the lower 48 states to a depth of almost ten feet—the Great Lakes contain upwards of 35,000 islands, and their 10,000 miles of shore rival that of the US ocean coastlines.

Those who may be tempted to dismiss them as 'mere lakes' mild tempered, serene, and unruffled Golden Ponds—surely have not yet enjoyed the sublime pleasures and occasional terror of venturing out on the Great Lakes in their kayak or canoe.

Consider this sometimes perplexing and always intriguing marine environment ...

Similarities: Freshwater Seas

As on the world's seas, large weather systems can sweep in to whip the water to a violent fury, especially on the western Great Lakes of Superior and Michigan. Like tropical storms and hurricanes, which derive their power from the moist sea

air, storms originating on the hot, dry northern plains can rush out over the lakes and unwary paddlers, increasing their ferocity with every mile. Due to their sheer size, the Great Lakes become far more agitated and wild than smaller, nearby inland lakes. Aside from the oceans proper, the Great Lakes have more extended miles of open water then any lake, reservoir, and many ocean bays. When I visited the Battle Island light, the northernmost Great Lakes lighthouse, in Rossport, Ontario, the keeper there recounted how a 1977 winter storm sent three-story waves rolling past the tower, while spray and chunks of ice broke the glass out. "There's two hundred and fifty miles of fetch between here and Duluth," he said. "So when the waves got here ... well, they were pretty big ..."

Like much of the west coast, known for its mild climate conducive to growing everything from fruits and vegetables to hops for beermaking, much of the shore regions surrounding the Great Lakes are renowned, too, for their productive orchards, vineyards, and other crops which benefit from the longer growing season of a maritime climate. But the Great Lakes reserve their greatest climatic influence on surrounding lands for winter, with record lake-effect snowfalls. When cold winter winds sweep across the northern Great Plains and out over the warmer water of the Great Lakes, they are able to carry away vast amounts of water vapor, which later freezes and falls as heavy snow on the area. Houghton, MI,

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on the Keweenaw Peninsula, often is buried under 200-300" of Lake Superior snow each winter.

Like the world's oceans, the Great Lakes offer a water highway for vessels ranging in size from sea kayaks to thousandfoot-long bulk freighters. Hundreds of millions of net tons of cargo are moved on the Lakes each year, primarily grain and stone, as well as iron ore and coal used in the steel industry. These "Lakers" are capable of carrying the equivalent of 3,000 tractor-trailers, yet often must navigate through narrow and confined channels and locks, sometimes with only a few feet to spare on each side. There is something a bit incongruous about glancing up from your foredeck to see a cargo ship from Sweden sidle up to a dock in Milwaukee to unload wind turbine parts deep in the American heartland, nearly 2,000 miles from the nearest ocean, then take on a load of grain bound for Jordan or coal for South Korea. Combat ships built in Marinette, WI, make their first open-water cruises on Lake Michigan for acceptance trials before delivery to the US Navy. Great Lakes paddlers venturing onto open waters or making crossings to offshore islands are wise to keep an alert eye and ear open for these majestic freighters and other ships.



Photo: Duluth Seaway Port Authority

Of course, the same storms that threaten kayakers can plague even these large vessels, and the Great Lakes account for nearly a quarter of all US shipwrecks. The first ship to sail the Great Lakes, La Salle's Le Griffon, was almost inevitably the first to sink, presumed lost in a Lake Michigan storm while on her maiden voyage in 1679. But even as recently as 1975, modern ships like the famed SS Edmund Fitzgerald have been overwhelmed by conditions too great even for them, and nearly 8,000 ships have sunk and now sleep on the cold bottom of the Great Lakes. To aid in navigating these often treacherous waters, the first inland lighthouse was built on Lake Erie in 1818, in Buffalo, NY, and was eventually followed by over 200 others throughout the Great Lakes.

The doubtful may not consider the Great Lakes to be 'real' oceans or seas, but don't tell that to the US Coast Guard, who, since the 1700's, has been responsible for safety and security on the 6,700 miles of America's "third coast" bordering the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence Seaway. Based in Cleveland, OH, and maintaining sector stations throughout the region, the Ninth Coast Guard District operates vessels ranging from 45-foot patrol boats to 400-foot cutters and helicopters, performing everything from search-and-rescue operations to annual ice-breaking duties. Whether paddling your own kayak or piloting a thousand-foot Laker, when your day turns ugly on the Great Lakes, the US Coast Guard answers your call.

Differences: Oceanic Lakes

While the Great Lakes certainly share many traits with the world's saltwater seas, they are also quite different from them.



Photo: Department of Geography, Michigan State University

Only Lake Superior, the largest, boasts any sort of measurable lunar tide (less than two inches), but all the Great Lakes can experience seiches, a storm-surge-like oscillation of water caused by wind or atmospheric pressure variations. Most seiches are nearly imperceptible, but some can be quite large and sudden. In 1929, a seiche with 20foot waves came ashore near Grand Haven, MI and swept ten beachgoers from the pier there. Eight fishermen were swept to their deaths in 1954 when a ten-foot surge came over the Chicago breakwater, and a 1995 seiche on Lake *(Continued on page 5)*







(Continued from page 4)

Superior raised and then lowered the water by over three feet, leaving small boats in Duluth's harbor dangling from their mooring lines.

Though I've personally never witnessed such a seiche, I have seen storm-driven water levels rise by a couple of feet, threatening to snatch our kayaks from the beach. A ranger in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore related how three kayakcampers were stranded on Outer Island when a mysterious rise in water levels claimed their unsecured boats one night, and savvy Great Lakes paddlers pull their kayaks far above the typical high-water mark and tie them to trees at night.

The very composition of freshwater lends it some distinctly different behaviors from seawater. Evaporate a cubic foot of seawater (about 64 pounds) and you'll be left with 2.2 pounds of salt, while fresh water yields none. Great Lakes water is simply less dense: ocean freighters actually sink about six inches upon entering the fresh water of the St. Lawrence Seaway. For paddlers, this lighter density creates slightly steeper, sharper waves more easily whipped up by the wind. Rather than the gently rolling swells typical on the ocean, Great Lakes waves tend to stack up into taller, short-period waves



with steeper vertical faces and breaking crests.

Also of interest to kayak-campers is the fact that, unlike the ocean, the fresh water of the Great Lakes requires only a simple backpacking purifier in order to be consumed. So, paddlers are able to collect drinking and cooking water along their routes, rather than packing fresh water.

While the world's oceans see a wide range of surface water temperatures, mainly because they span from the polar regions to the middle latitudes, the variation within any given place is actually quite narrow. In the Atlantic, for example, the area of maximum temperature variation is in the equatorial region, where temperatures vary by as little as 12-15°F. Lake Superior, by contrast, varies by at least twice that amount throughout the year, from frozen solid ice to about 55°F, although I have personally swum in 70°F bathwater when August winds push warm surface water into confined, shallow bays. Beachgoers and paddlers enjoy the white-sugar sand beaches and Bahama-blue waters of Lake Michigan while, just a few hours away, kayak-campers share their northern Lake Superior island campsites with delicate alpine and arctic plants and wild caribou, normally found only in tundra regions.

Due to their freshwater nature, the Great Lakes offer a unique marine environment. The Lakes are not inhabited by the extremely diverse variety of fish, marine mammals, crustaceans, and other life typically found in and around the sea. But in addition to the native lake trout, herring, whitefish, muskellunge, pike, bass, walleye, and perch, several species of Pacific, Atlantic, and Arctic coast salmon and trout have been introduced for sport fishing. Feathered residents include the bald eagle, Canada goose, loons, various ducks, mergansers, cormorants, pelicans, trumpeter swans, the ubiquitous seagull, and many others. If the Great Lakes are home to any sea monsters, it surely must be the ancient lake sturgeon. A veritable living fossil, little changed in 200 million years, this prehistoric creature can live to be a century old, and grow to over ten feet and 200 pounds.

Lake or Ocean?

Ultimately, the question is perhaps irrelevant. For all their similarities and differences from oceans and inland lakes, some characteristics of the Great Lakes simply defy such classification.

In the end, a kayaker or other visitor may be wise to instead humbly accept the Great Lakes on their own terms: a singularly beautiful and utterly unique place we like to call the "Fresh Coast".

Bring your paddle.

9. <u>Lee</u>

Jeffrey Lee paddles and writes in the Upper Great Lakes region. For additional kayaking articles, trip reports and photos, please visit <u>www.AquaDynology.com</u>





MARKETPLACE



RICKA CLASSIFIEDS

Kokatat Expedition Drysuit Bought new in 2008. Mango, Men's large-very good shape. Has goretex hood & socks, relief zipper, 3 pockets, cordura reinforced seat & knees, overskirt tokeep water from entering top of skirt. Check out more details at http://www.kokatat.com/product_detail.asp?code=exp Asking \$650. Sells new for \$1,085.

<u>2 P&H Orca 15 kavaks</u>, PRICE REDUCED \$625/each or \$1,200 for both. One blue one yellow. These are a large person's, hard chined, 3 layer, poly touring kayak perfect for anything from day trip river exploration to open water, multi day expedition use. <u>Includes Werner Skagit 220cm paddle</u> with each boat in very good shape. \$130 new. Popular as club boats in the UK. Also available: <u>Seals Coastal Tour Skirt 2.2</u> (fits the Orcas) in numsed shape. \$85 new. Asking \$60. http:// www.sealsskirts.com/prod_tr_coastallour.html Gerry P. 860-235-0430 gerry@SeaSherpaKayak.com (11/27)

Valley Nordkapp Jubilee sea kayak, 17'10"x21" cockpit 29.5 x 15.5 retractable skeg, 56 lbs., color is white on white, vg cond. 4-5 years of age, saw little action, always garaged. \$1800 - lovely boat for the right size person. Ralph 401-954-3203 or rwernett@aol.com (11/19)

 Tahe Reval Sea kayak.
 2008 fibreglass European sea kayak made in Estonia (not the racers made in Sweden under the same name). For a medium to large, strong intermediate to expert paddler.
 L=18'2" W=21 .25". Cockpit 28" x 16". Kajaksport hatches, day hatch, rudder, recessed fittings. Brand new condition. Beautiful gel - eye candy. Orange deck/white hull. Generous rocker allows a sharp lean turn. Pics and specs: http://www.tahemarine.com/?module=Product&id=21 Original price \$3,000. Buy it for \$1,275 firm. Trial paddle available. See it in North Providence, RI.

 401-451-1369 or PBeaul@cox.net
 (11/16)

Garmin eTrex H GPS Yellow, new \$99.95, \$40 obo. Waterproof Ewa-Marine D-A Marine case for digital photo camera good down to 110ft. New \$264, \$80 obo. - Glass, PVC, like new www.ewa-marine.com/index.php?id=103&L=0 Perfect for superzoom digital cameras. Jimcole@hotmail.com (10/28)

<u>Necky Elaho HV</u>- \$1,500. purchased new this summer, list is \$2,900. yellow over white 17' & 22 1/2 " w/rudder, picture on Craigslist RI Pat 401-480-3508 (9/30)

Arctic Hawk '01 (Wilderness Systems) fiberglass; red deck, black seam. white hull. 18' x 22" Original owner, Kayaksport seat, new deck lines. Always stored in a garage. Greenland style, very light (47 lbs) and fast. Good primary and excellent secondary stability. \$1,300. Jon ojphoto1@cox.net (9/27)

Compass Cayak Streamer 10.5', 18 lbs. Kevlar . Built by (late) Joel Flather as a modified Rushton hybrid canoe/kayak. Looks like a small canoe but paddled like a kayak. Two for sale: one fully open deck, one partial deck. Both have green hulls, foot pegs, removable seats and two-piece wood paddles. Always stored inside, normal hull scratches. Asking \$450 each. Photos or demo on request. Jim 401-624-6031 or jim.spears@cox.net (9/13)

Dagger Crossfire (poly) - 2 float bags inc- color, white, cranberry and green- Price \$350. Westport, MA carleenmco@charter.net (9/4)

<u>Old Town H2 YO</u> - \$399 Carrying handles * Rear-deck storage equipment Length: 11'2" Width: 29.5" Depth: 17.5" Approx. Weight: 42 lbs. Approx. Capacity: 250 lbs. This kayak is green/yellow, has seen limited use and is garaged & well cared for. <u>Werner 'Sprite' Kid's Fiberglass Kayak Paddle</u> - \$59 The Sprite is a touring paddle for kids. Featuring proportionally smaller, fiberglass reinforced nylon blades on a smaller diameter fiberglass shaft. Smaller blades and shaft are a good fit for small hands. Great for family paddling! The smiley face sticker on the blade face lets you know if you are holding the paddle correctly. Excellent condition, well cared for. 850g (30oz) at 200 cm

Youth PFDs from MTI Adventurewear- \$39 Youth life vests perfect for young paddlers. http://www.mtiadventurewear.com Colors: blue, yellow, violet. Well cared for, good condition, lots of life left in them. Peter 508-878-8382 or pabergh@gmail.com (7/20)

Teter 506-676-6562 or publish@gmail.com (1/20)

One Ocean "Cirrus" kit built kayak, 22"X17.5', 40" cockpit, for large person (I'm 6'4", 235). Two tone deck, 2 hatches, lines, carry handles. Natural finish, spray cover. Very fast. 1 year old, some bottom scratches from normal use. View "Cirrus" @ oneoceankayaks.com. Located Narragansett. Can deliver. \$950 OBO. 401-792-2291 tnprins@yahoo.com (6/20)

Dive fins (new). Blue + black Mares Challenge Size 7.5-8. \$10. <u>NRS Kayak Air Bags</u> from Northwest River Supply. Fits 9.5 foot Perception or similar recreational kayak. *Call 401.941.8061 and leave a message and phone number*. (5/18)

Brand new Swift Bering Sea kayak, kevlar, skeg, red over white. 40 lbs, 15'10" long, 23.5" wide. Fast, stable, forgiving kayak. See details at http://www.swiftcanoe.com/kayak/touring/BeringSeaSport.htm. Retails for \$3,200, asking \$2,300. Cat 508-369-3028 or catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net (4/25)

Yakima Kayak J Rack, includes installation tool, instructions and straps, great condition, like new, purchased August 2008. \$125.00. 508-713-5697 (4/15)

Orion kayak, designed by Hans Friedel and hand-built by seller. Length 17' 9", width 20' 3/4", weight 49 lbs. Fibreglass w/ beautiful red/white cedar deck and green hull. Hard-chined Greenland style. A great and eye-catching play boat that tracks well & will be fun to paddle by all skill levels. \$1,500. peterlc@msn.com for further details, photos, test paddle info. (4/6)

Fiberglass kayak, 17' X 23", rudder. Never used and in immaculate condition. \$1,900 (New \$2,900+). This is a great kayak for expeditions or day use and is stable and handles rough seas extremely well. For manufacturer's info go to www.borealdesign.com/_en/kayak.php?id=3 aikijerry@optonline.net_(4/2)

NRS Ladies wet suit with relief zipper. Size medium but runs small. Worn once. \$75. 401 374-0924 welcomeplacefarm@yahoo.com (3/20)

Betsie Bay Recluse 19' x 20.5". Fast, fun boat, and a good roller. New hatches, decklines forward of cockpit, gel seat insert, and backband. Sprayskirt included. \$1,500. Wayne wsmith16@charter.net (2/3)

Big Agnes Parkview 3 Tent (includes rainfly & footprint - perfect for the annual RICKA trip to the Adirondacks!) for only \$100. Original cost is tent \$300 and footprint \$30. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specs http://www.rei.com/product/785350. *bfarrell7@hotmail.com* (1/18)

2 Prijon Seavaks (red) http://www.wildnet.com/tour.asp?name=seavak Great boats used very little, both with rudders, sprayskirts some other accessories. \$1000 each.

I also have 2 carbon fiber Bending Branches slice hybrid paddles, 1 normal grip 1 small grip. Rolf@Xmission.com (12/10)

Wanted-Old wooden paddles & kayaks (or pieces thereof) that you'd otherwise throw out. outside@cox.net

Classifieds are free for RICKA members only. E-mail webmaster@ ricka.org, phone 401-725-3344, or Webmaster, Alan August, 70 Scott Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860. YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME IN THE MESSAGE (but not necessarily in the ad) so we can determine that you are a member. If you do not include your name the ad will be ignored. Your ad will be removed after one year unless you request that it be reposted with a lower asking price.





Bring your RICKA membership card and remember to ASK for the discount.

Blackstone Valley Outfitters

10% off retail prices on all kayak accessories, guided trips and instruction. 25 Carrington Street, Lincoln, RI 02865 401-312-0369, <u>www.bvori.com</u>

Claude's Cycles

Snowshoes 10% off. Canoe & power sports accessories 10% off. Wood canoes & fiberglass canoes 8% off. 50cc scooters 3% off. Receive an additional 2% discount on canoes and 50cc scooters when you pay by bank check. Discounts are for card carrying RICKA members and apply to non-sale items.

Foxborough, Ma. (call for directions) 508-543-0490 <u>www.claudescycles.com</u>

CrossFitRhody

Work out as if your life depends on it. 20% discount off any CrossFit membership. http://www.CrossFitRhody.com

Eastern Mountain Sports

Cranston and Middletown locations only; not valid in other locations, online, or on phone orders. Valid on full-price, in-stock merchandise only. 15% off plastic hulls and accessories purchased with a hull; 10% off all other kayak accessories without purchase of a hull. Offer expires 12/31/2010.

Ocean State Adventures (OSA)

10% discount on lessons, tours and rentals. 508-292-5632 <u>www.oceanstateadventures.com</u>

OspreySea Kayak Adventures:

10% off accessories. 489 OldCounty Rd Westport Mass. 02790 (508)636-0300 www.ospreyseakayak.com

Quaker Lane Outfitters :

Canoes & kayaks 10% off. Accessories 20% off. 4019 Quaker Lane (Route 2) North Kingstown. 800-249-5400

The KayakCentre

Glass boats 6% off, normal retail, plastic boats 10% off normal retail; accessories with boat purchase 15% off, 10% off all other items. *Brown and Phillips Streets, Wickford Village* 1-888-SEA-KAYAK <u>www.kayakcentre.com</u>

WaveLength Magazine

<u>http://www.WaveLengthMagazine.com</u> Offers a "Club Sub" introductory subscription to club members for \$5 off the regular price of \$15. Send a \$10 check with your name and mailing address along with a note saying you belong to the RI Canoe & Kayak Association to Wave-Length Magazine, 2735 North Rd., Gabriola, BC, Canada, VOR 1X7.