



— a risk-reducing measure the two of us always take when canoeing in one boat on a remote river — but there are no really dangerous or unexpected surprises. Just a tremendous ride down a fast, diverse river. The water level on our trip was rather low which accounts for the lack of problems, but earlier in the season with higher water the situation demands more caution.

This river/lake paddling ends at Rainbow Falls, the second of the Steel River falls, which has a total drop of about 20 m. It is a very scenic spot with a nice campsite providing ample space for several tents. Definitely a good place to spend a day of rest.



A few kilometres downstream from Rainbow Falls the river takes on a completely different look. It leaves most of the Shield rocks behind and starts to meander lazily back and forth through a long plain filled with sand and rock flour, extremely fine grounded-down rock that clings to everything it touches, continuing all the way to the northern end of Santoy where it empties into the lake. In many places the banks of the river consist of “beaches” of sand and rock flour, ideal highways for moose. We indeed saw a number of moose here, but there must have been many more because numerous tracks were visible in the sand.



The meandering part of the river has no rapids but is obstructed in several places by huge log jams, each consisting of thousands upon thousands of logs carried down over many years during spring high water and pushed together into massive walls that somehow still allow water to seep through. These towering constructions are most impressive, some of them being hundreds of metres long. The bigger ones are stationary, not moving from their established spot

