

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION  
WATERFALLS OF MICHIGAN

1956

The accompanying list of "Michigan Waterfalls" has been compiled from several sources: 1) Topographic sheets of the U.S. Geological Survey; 2) publications and files of the Geological Survey, Parks and Recreation, the Fish Division, and county maps of the Department of Conservation.

The list is not complete and is intended as a provisional work copy. It is not intended for release and general distribution. Additional work should include comparing and cross-checking of other sources, i.e. Land Economic Survey maps, unpublished geological theses, latest U.S.G.S. Topographic and geologic quadrangle maps, U.S. Forest Service Timber Survey maps, outcrop lists and others. Some falls are unnamed, many proper names are in doubt. Some exact locations are undetermined and some physical descriptions are missing. Doubtless some rapid water should be designated as rapids rather than waterfall and some rapids may be falls. Although this is a "waterfalls" list, some of the more prominent rapids are included. Others may be added later, but perhaps only the "weir" type of rapids (described below) should be listed and some of the rapids listed deleted. All "white" water cannot be listed. It is hoped that persons holding a copy will communicate additions and corrections to the Geological Survey Division. With your cooperation, an accurate list can be made available to the public.

Since questions regarding definitions will surely arise, it may prove helpful here to consider some generally accepted ideas.

**WATERFALLS:** a perpendicular, sudden or very steep descent of water over a rock ledge. In falls like the Tahquamenon, a sill is formed by a layer or layers (strata) of resistant rock overlying an easily eroded layer. The layers are horizontal or slope gently upstream. Thus erosion, undercutting, and falling of the resistant rock causes the waterfall to slowly recede upstream. Waterfalls of this type are in Alger County where the Ordovician dolomite rock layers form a cap on Cambrian sandstones. The falls of the western part of the Northern Peninsula are steep descents of streams over the upturned or eroded edges of the iron and copper rock formations. A cataract is a great fall of water over a precipice. A cascade is one of a series of low falls.

**RAPIDS** result wherever the velocity of a stream has been increased abnormally by a steepening of gradient, a narrowing of the channel, or by the presence in the bed of obstructing rock which forms a natural weir, but without an actual fall or cascade of water. The weir commonly consists of a transverse rib of resistant rock outcropping in the bed and dipping steeply downstream. Innumerable rapids are in the western part of the Northern Peninsula where the rivers course over the hard and jumbled rocks of Precambrian age.

NAME OF FALLS OR RAPIDS (* Indicates probable State or Federal ownership)	TOWNSHIP	SECTION	RIVER OR STREAM	DEEP	WIDTH	ROCK FORMATION (PC is Precambrian)	REMARKS
<b>ALCON COUNTY</b>							
Whitfish Falls	468-25W	SW 10	West Branch Whitefish River	6-7'		Black River	About 300 yds. of rapids below falls. Upper sign on north side of road. Follow footpath about 1/2 mile SW.
Taney Falls	468-19W	SE NW 1	Taney Creek			Lake Superior ss ?	
Alger Falls	468-19W	11	Iron River			Lake Superior ss ?	
Wagner Falls	468-19W	NE NE 14	Wagner Creek			Huronville, St. Croix ss	
La Traine Falls	468-25W	NE SE 31	La Traine River	100+'		Huronville	About 100' from crest upper falls to base lower falls.
Rock River Falls	468-21W	SW NW 17	Silver Creek? (South Branch Rock River?)			Huronville near contact?	
Laughing Whitefish Falls	468-25W	NE NW 16	Laughing Whitefish River	30+'		Huronville	State Park site. 100' of cascades?
Bridal Veil (Spray) Falls	474-15W 468-17W					Lake Superior ss ?	Drops over Pictured Rocks.
Homer's Falls	473-18W	SE NE 15	Homer's River			Huronville, Lake Superior ss	
Whodding Falls	474-16W	SE SW 26				Huronville, Lake Superior ss	Can walk behind falls.
Scott (?) Falls	474-16W						
Silver (Silver Veil) Falls	474-21W	SE SE 39	Wilson Creek			Lake Superior ss	
Chapel Falls	488-17W	28	Chapel Creek			Lake Superior ss	Series of cascades. South side of Chapel Lake.
Chiswick Falls	498-17W	NW SW 5	Chiswick Creek			Lake Superior ss ?	Thin ribbon of water.
Sible Falls	498-14W	SE 2	Sible Creek	75'		Lake Superior ss	Series of cascades.
<b>BARAGA COUNTY</b>							
Frederick Falls	484-35W		Sturgeon River			PC	S. of L'Anse.
7 Tige Falls	484-35W	5	Tige River			PC	
Tige George Falls	484-35W	6	Tige River			PC	
(Browned?) Falls	484-35W	C NW 8	Tige River	Few Ft.		PC, slate	U.S.S.D. Roadside Park
Tickets Falls	484-34W		Sturgeon River			PC	
Upper Falls	498-33W SW cor.	39	Bono Creek			PC	
Phubago Falls	498-34W	13	Phubago Creek			PC	
Silver Falls	504-30W	7	Silver River			PC	Two falls.
Fall River (Falls River) (Slate) (Lower Dam?) Falls	504-33W (SW NW NW 18?)	9	Fall River (Falls River?)			PC	
Big Falls	514-30W	SE 2	East Branch Huron River			PC	
West Branch Falls	514-30W	SE 3	West Branch Huron River			PC	
Leatherly (Leatherly?) Falls	514-30W	SE 27	West Branch Huron River			PC	
(Browned?) Falls	514-30W	SE 33	West Branch Huron River			PC	
Slate (Slate River) Falls	514-31W	SE 9	Slate River			PC	
Kiron Falls	514-31W	22				PC	
Silver (Silver River) Falls	514-30W	NE NE 26	Silver River			PC	
Lower Huron (?) Falls	524-30W	NE 35	Huron River			PC	
<b>CHENONGUS COUNTY</b>							
(Browned?) Falls	398-34 (in private estate 234?)		Hill Creek	1+'			
<b>CHIPPENAW COUNTY</b>							
St. Marys Falls (Soo Rapids)	474-1E	S, E	St. Marys River	10+ rapids		Lake Superior ss	
Lower Tahquamenon Falls (East and West sections)	498-2W	NE SE 32	Tahquamenon River	17' falls; 45' rapids		Lake Superior ss	Tahquamenon Falls State Park.
<b>CLINT COUNTY</b>							
Chandler Falls	408-23W	R. & line	(unnamed?) Stream			Trenton	
Van Mile Rapids (Falls?)	414-10W	C E 17	Sturgeon River			Hill Hill ?	
Hunters Brook Falls	414-23W	SE line	mouth of Hunters Brook	24'		Black River ?	
Boy (Strong?) Falls Dam (Honey Falls?)	414-26W	C E 2	Esanaba River			Black River	
Haystack Falls	427-10W	NE 19	Haystack Creek			Black Rubicon, Bill's Creek	
Rapid River Falls	428-21W	SE 19	Rapid River			Trenton	Rapid River Falls County Park.

NAME OF FALLS OR RAPIDS (* Indicates probable State or Federal ownership)	TOWNSHIP	SECTION	RIVER OR STREAM	DEEP	WIDTH	ROCK FORMATION (PC is Precambrian)	REMARKS
<b>DIKINSON COUNTY</b>							
Power Dam (Plant?) Falls	398-28W	8	Sturgeon River			PC	
Piers George (used Portage?)	398-29W	19	Menominee River			PC	
Sturgeon Falls Dam	398-29W	27	Menominee River			PC	
Purse Falls	398-30W	NE SW 2	Purse Creek	30-40' in several steps		PC, Kona dolomite	U.S.S.D. Roadside Park.
Horawence (Horse Race?) Rapids	398-30W	SW 7	Menominee River			PC, Hesa schist	
Big Quinnessee Falls	398-30W	SE NW 8	Menominee River			PC	
Huronville Falls Dam	398-30W	8	Menominee River			PC	
Kimbrey Clark Dam (Magora Dam, Little Quinnessee Falls?)	398-30W	C E 15	Menominee River			PC	
Ford Dam (Falls?)	398-31W	3	Menominee River			PC	
Upper Twin Falls	408-31W	C N 12	Menominee River			PC	
Twin Falls Dam (Lower Twin Falls?)	408-31W	NE SE 12	Menominee River			PC	
<b>OTONAGO COUNTY</b>							
Scottsboro Falls						PC	Off US-45 near Parkland (Ontonagon County?)
Headstone Falls	438-30W	9	Tussock River			PC	
Esabelle (Esabelle?) (Thyers?) Falls	464-41W	C SE 32	Class Branch Ontonagon River			PC	
Julson Falls	464-42W	NE 16	Slate River			PC	
Little Giant Falls	464-43W	9	Little Giant Creek			PC	
Honey Poty (Falls?)	464-47W	36	Sisena Creek			PC	
Trout (Marenson) Falls	474-43W	NE 33	Presque Isle River			PC	
Rooston (Black River?) Falls	474-46W	SE 1	Black River			PC	
Gabbro Falls	474-46W	NE 1	Black River			PC	
Granite Rapids (Falls?)	474-46W	SE 36	Black River			PC	
3 Section 8 Falls	474-47W	8	Montreal River			PC	
Inter-state (Interstate?) Falls	474-47W	NE 17	Montreal River	30'		PC	
The Narrows (Falls?)	484-46W	17	Black River			PC	
Superior Falls	484-46W	15	Montreal River	35'		PC	
Sawm Falls	484-49W	24	Montreal River			PC	
(Browned?) Falls	494-49W	NE NW 2	Big Presque Isle River			PC	
Abnott's (Abnott?) Falls	494-49W	SE NW 15	Copper Creek			PC	
Edmore Falls	494-49W	SE NE 15	Presque Isle (Big Presque Isle?) River			PC	
Opina Falls	494-49W	SW SW 21	Copper Creek			PC	
Rainbow Falls	494-46W	SE NW 10	Black River			PC	
Danstone Falls	494-46W	SE SW 15	Black River			PC	
1 Independence Falls	494-46W	SE cor.	Black River			PC	
Great (Independence?) Falls	494-46W	NE NE 21	Black River	25'		PC	
Algonquin Falls	494-46W	NE NE 29	Black River			PC	
Chippewa Falls	494-46W	SW SE 28	Black River			PC	
Gary Falls	504-49W	NE NW 1	Gary River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Shining Cloud Falls	504-49W	NE SE 1	Gary River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Traders Falls	504-49W	S-line	Little Gary River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Trappers Falls	504-49W	S 1/4 NW 13	Little Gary River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Scyler's Falls	504-49W	C NE NW 24	Little Gary River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Swadlow (Swadlow?) (Swadlow?) Falls	504-49W	C E 29	Presque Isle River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Swadlow (Swadlow?) (Presque Isle?) Falls	504-49W	NE NE 29	Presque Isle River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Trudis Falls	504-49W	C SE 20	Presque Isle River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.
Togo Rapids (Falls?)	504-49W	NE 31	Presque Isle River			PC	Porcupine Mountains State Park.

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<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
1 Onion Falls	484-324	7	Onion Creek			Lake Superior ??	
* Sturgeon Falls	498-354	NW SE 17	Sturgeon River			Lake Superior ss	
* Windotte Falls	524-354	E-Line 10 1/2 E-Line 10 1/2	South Branch Minessy River			PC	
Hungarian Falls	534-334	SE cor. 11	Dover (Hungarian) Creek			Jacobsville	
Red Ridge (Rodrigo) Falls (cont)	534-334	20	Salmon Trout River			PC	
Douglas (Houghton) (Houghton) Falls	564-334	SE SE NE 16	Douglas (?) Creek			Jacobsville	
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
(Unnamed) Falls	514-35	NE 30	Johnson Creek	6' to 8' to several ledges			In quarry abandoned by Inco County Road Commission.
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
Lower Michigan Falls	414-334	NW NE 16	Michigan River			PC	
Brule Island (on Falls?)	414-334	17	Montrose River			PC	
Money Curry (Falls?)	425-214	15	Michigan River			PC	
Peasey Falls Dam (Peasey Falls)	425-214	NW SE 20	Michigan River			PC	
Little Bull Rapids	425-214	20	Michigan River			PC	
Montrose (Horse Hair) Rapids	425-214	SE NE SE 14 C NW NW 30	Paint River			PC	
Upper Michigan Falls (Foyler)	425-214	20	Paint River			PC	
Cliffside (Cliffside) Rapids	425-214	C E-Line SE 7	Michigan River			PC	Runwater has recently eliminated rapids.
Cypress Falls	425-214	20	Paint River	20'		PC	
Chisago Falls	425-214	18	Chisago Creek			PC	Location?
* Hargrove (Hargrove) Falls	444-224	12	Hargrove (?) Creek			PC	
* Henlock Rapids	444-224	SE 11	Henlock River			PC	
* Lower Henlock Rapids	444-224	23	Henlock River			PC	
Chisago Falls	425-214	16	Net River			PC	
Snake Rapids	425-214	29	Net River			PC	
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
* Upper Tabernash Falls	454-24	N. SE NE 11	Tabernash River	40+		Lake Superior ss	
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
Upper Gratiot (?) Falls	474-324	16	Gratiot River			PC	
Lower Gratiot (?) Falls	474-324	19	Gratiot River			PC	
Hungarian Falls	484-324	5	Hungarian Creek			PC	
Lower Montreal (?) Falls	484-324	27	Montreal River			PC	
Upper Montreal (?) Falls	484-324	13 (S11)	Montreal River			PC	
Jacobs (Jacobs Creek) (Sud. Dam Drive) Falls	484-324	14, 16	Jacobs Creek			PC	
1 Copper Falls	484-324	14	Copper River			PC	
Silver Falls	484-324	35 (S11)	Silver River			PC	Cascades
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
Little Hong (Honey?) Rapids	444-224	36	Escanaba River			Ordovician	Is there falls on Hob's Creek?
Second Falls	454-224		East Branch Escanaba River				N. of O'Brien downstream from Decker's Falls?
Switzer (Switzer) Falls	454-224	10	East Branch Escanaba River			Lake Superior ss	
Ellet Falls	454-224	21	Escanaba River			PC	
Cataract Falls	454-224	11	Middle Branch Escanaba River			PC	
1 Cape Creek Falls	454-224	(S11)	Cape Creek			PC	
Choccolay Falls	464-244	7	Big Creek			Lake Superior as ?	
Probling (Prabling) (Silver Leaf) Falls	464-244	NW SE 29	West Branch Choccolay R. (Silver Leaf Creek)			PC, near contact, Lake Superior ss?	
Upper Choccolay (?) Falls (Upper Falls)	464-244	C SE NW 36	East Branch Choccolay River	15'+ drop		Lake Superior ss?	
Jewell Falls	464-244	28	East Branch Escanaba River			Lake Superior ss	
Escanaba (Escanaba River) Falls	464-244	30	Middle Branch Escanaba River			PC	
White City Falls	464-244	SE NW NW 17	Black River			PC	

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<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY (cont)</b>							
Black River Falls	464-244	10	Black River			PC	
1 Trout Creek Falls	464-244	13	Trout (Trout Falls) Creek			PC	
Warner Falls	474-224	31	Warner Creek			PC	
Ely (Ely River) Falls	474-224		Ely Creek			PC	
Horgan Creek Falls	474-224	30	Horgan Creek			PC	
Horgan Creek Falls	474-224	33	Horgan Creek			PC	
Beary (Hainey) Falls	474-224		Beary (Hainey) River			PC	
Carp River	474-224	29	Carp River			PC	
Big Garlic Falls	474-224	5	Garlic River			PC	Two falls?
(Unnamed) Falls	504-224	NW SE 19	(Unnamed) creek off Wilson Creek			Lake Superior as ?	N.E. of M-48 road.
Yellow Dog Falls	504-224	16	Yellow Dog River			PC	
State Falls	504-224	21	Yellow Dog River			PC	
Alder Falls	514-224	SE 27	Alder Creek			Lake Superior as ?	near PC contact?
(Unnamed) Falls	514-224	C NE SW 13	Salmon Trout River			PC	
(Unnamed) Falls	514-224	NE SW SW 14	Salmon Trout River			PC	
(Unnamed) Falls	514-224	NW NW SW 15	Salmon Trout River			PC	
(Unnamed) Falls	514-224	NW SW SE 15	East Branch Salmon Trout River			PC	
(Unnamed) Falls	514-224	SE SE SE 15	Salmon Trout River			PC	
Cliff (Cliff Peshawar) Falls	514-224	10	Cliff (Cliff Peshawar) River			PC	
Mountain Stream Falls	524-224	SW 29	Mountain Stream			PC	
Tree Falls (eastmost)	524-224	C SE SW 29	River Flats	150' drop in a series of several narrow falls		PC	Outlet apparently blasted out years ago for log skidway.
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
(Unnamed) Rapids	324-224	19	Menominee River			Trenton?	
Chappee (Chappee) Rapids (Fillet)	324-224	C SE SW 24	Menominee River			Black River	
Two Islands Rapids	324-224	23	Menominee River			Black River	
Grand Rapids	324-224	5	Menominee River			Black River	
Chalk Hill Rapids	324-224	6	Menominee River			PC	
White Rapids (Dam)	324-224	30	Menominee River			PC	50' head
Fewena Falls	324-224	NW NW 21	Menominee River			PC	
Quiver Falls (Fewena Run Rapids)	324-224	NE 25	Menominee River			PC	Once a very impressive falls.
<b>BOZEMAN COUNTY</b>							
Hidden Falls	N. of Bergland					PC	
Wood Falls	464-244	NW SW 1	Middle Branch Ontonagon River			Lake Superior ss	
Wolverine Falls	464-244	SW SE SE 6	Classo Branch Ontonagon River			PC	
Agate Falls	474-224	C SW 8	Middle Branch Ontonagon River			Lake Superior ss	
Eighteen Mile Rapids	474-224	22	South Branch Ontonagon River			PC	
* Choccolay (?) Falls	474-224	C E-Line NW 11	Haltiwacker River			Lake Superior as	
Three Rapids (Three Rivers)	474-224	24	Middle Branch Ontonagon River			Lake Superior as	
Headstone Rapids	474-224	2	Stranton Creek			PC	
Flamingo Rapids	474-224	20	South Branch Ontonagon River			PC	
Cascade Falls	474-224	SE SW SW 9	Cascade Creek			Massachusetts Precambrian contact?	
Derby Falls	474-224	25	Derby Creek (?)			PC	
Minnow Falls	474-224	31	Presque Isle River			PC	
Madison Falls	474-224	31	Presque Isle River			PC	
Trish Rapids	474-224	7	Ontonagon River			PC	
Victoria Falls Dam (?)	474-224	C 31	West Branch Ontonagon River			Lake Superior as ?	
Grand Rapids	474-224	2	Ontonagon River			PC	
* Little Tree Falls	474-224	24	Anderson Creek			PC	Presumptive Mountain State Park

