

= M @-@ 77 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 77 is a state trunkline highway in the Upper Peninsula (UP) of the US state of Michigan . It starts in US 2 near Blaney Park north of Lake Michigan . The highway borders the eastern edge of the Seney National Wildlife Refuge and passes through the community of Germfask . At Seney , it overlaps M @-@ 28 to cross the Fox River before returning northward . The northern half has been designated as a Scenic Spur of the Lake Superior Circle Tour . M @-@ 77 runs along the eastern end of the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and terminates in Grand Marais north of H @-@ 58 near Lake Superior . Originally designated by 1919 , the highway has not been changed much in its history . By the late 1950s , the highway was paved , completing the modern M @-@ 77 highway .

= = Route description = =

From US 2 near Blaney Park going north , M @-@ 77 runs past the former Blaney Park Resort and out of town by a small private airport next to Lake Ann Louise . The highway continues through rural woodlands past Chip Lake . The road crosses the Manistique River as it runs through Germfask . From just south of Germfask to just south of Seney , the road forms the eastern boundary of the Seney National Wildlife Refuge .

The refuge is a managed wetland in Schoolcraft County in Michigan . Established in 1935 , it has an area of 95 @,@ 212 acres (38 @,@ 531 ha) bordered by M @-@ 28 and M @-@ 77 that is the remains of the Great Manistique Swamp , a perched sand wetland located in the central UP . The refuge contains the Strangmoor Bog National Natural Landmark within its boundaries . During the 1930s , work crews employed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) rebuilt , restored , and expanded the wetland drains , this time for active wetlands management purposes . These CCC ponds and drains are still used by the wetlands managers that staff the current National Wildlife Refuge .

At Seney , M @-@ 77 crosses a line of the Canadian National Railway and turns east along M @-@ 28 . Both run concurrently for less than half a mile (0 @.@ 8 km) over a crossing of the Fox River before M @-@ 77 turns back northward . About 11 miles (18 km) north of Seney , the road turns sharply to the west , near Snyder Lake . The trunkline continues along several other lakes before turning northeasterly and then northward . The road marks the easternmost extent of the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore around 2 @.@ 5 miles (4 @.@ 0 km) south of Grand Marais . Within Grand Marais , the highway follows Lake Avenue through downtown . M @-@ 77 intersects H @-@ 58 in town and the two designations run concurrently for two blocks . The trunkline continues one block farther north and ends at an intersection with Braziel Street by the Grand Marais harbor ; the roadway continues northward as Lake Avenue at that point .

Grand Marais is situated on the shores of Lake Superior some 25 miles (40 km) north of the mainline of the Lake Superior Circle Tour . Since the Tour runs only along state trunklines in Michigan , a Scenic Spur of the tour was created to route traffic north from Seney to Grand Marais . The scenic spur also terminates in Grand Marais with M @-@ 77 north of the junction with H @-@ 58 .

M @-@ 77 is maintained by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) like other state highways in Michigan . As a part of these maintenance responsibilities , the department tracks the volume of traffic that uses the roadways under its jurisdiction . These volumes are expressed using a metric called annual average daily traffic , which is a statistical calculation of the average daily number of vehicles on a segment of roadway . MDOT 's surveys in 2009 showed that the highest traffic levels along M @-@ 77 were the 1 @,@ 924 vehicles daily between Floodwood and Ten Curves roads in Schoolcraft county ; the lowest counts were the 799 vehicles per day north of M @-@ 28 in Seney . No section of M @-@ 77 has been listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

The route was first designated by July 1 , 1919 , with a route very close to its present course . A pair of sharp turns were straightened 11 miles (18 km) north of Seney at Lavender Corner around 1950 . The last segments of gravel road were paved in 1958 ? 59 .

= = Major intersections = =