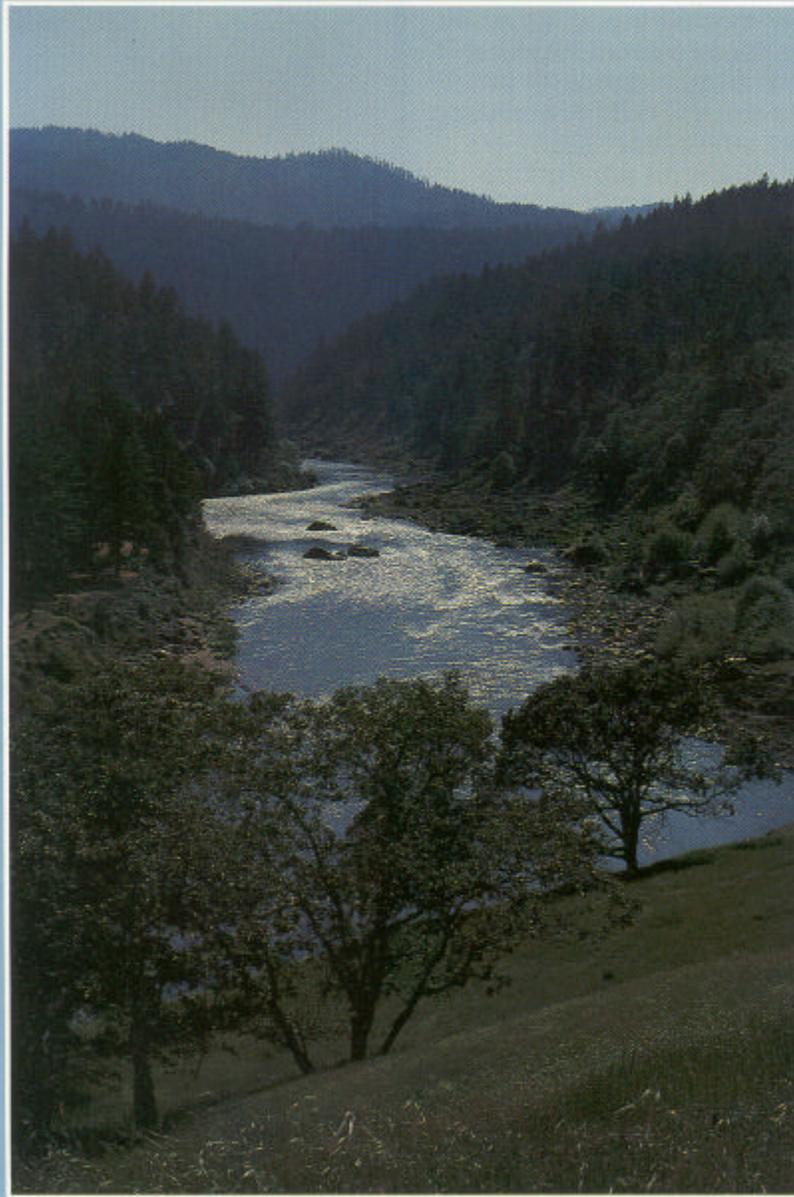


# *Rogue River Float Guide*



America's Great Outdoors



Bureau of  
Land Management

Department of the Interior



United States  
Forest Service

Department of Agriculture

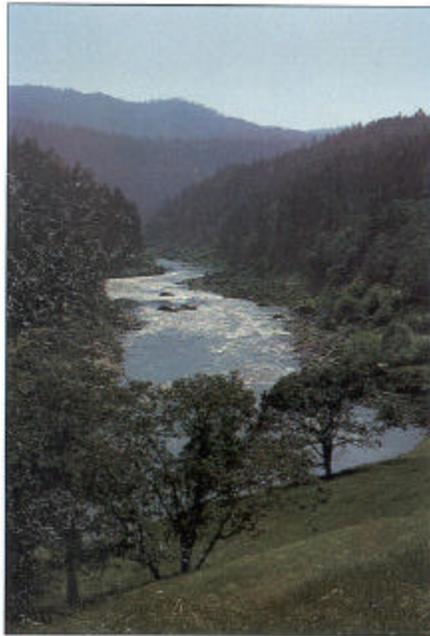


Photo by Tom Dew

Cover photo: View downriver from the high meadows near Ditch Creek.

## THE ROGUE RIVER

Rogue River history is colorful and varied, like the corridor the river has carved into this southwest Oregon landscape. From its narrow headwaters near Crater Lake to its wide mouth at Gold Beach on the Pacific Ocean, the Rogue cascades and meanders through past, present, and future.

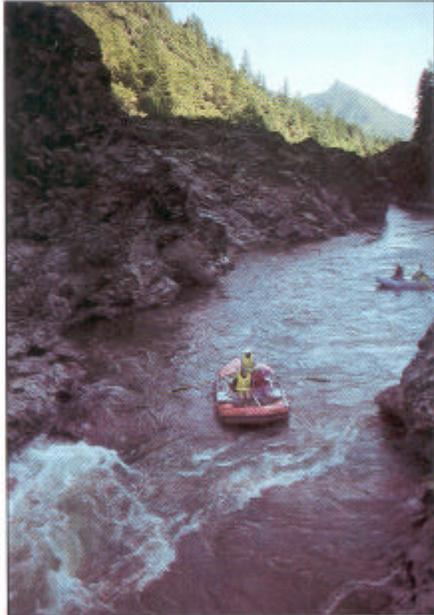


Photo by Tom Dew

In Mule Creek Canyon, the river narrows significantly, intensifying the hydraulics in this confined area.

The cultural fabric of the Rogue River area is as colorful as the multi-hued quilts of westward-bound immigrants. This vibrant mosaic began with Native American hunters and gatherers of 10,000 years ago. In the 1800's, sodbusters and miners from the Americas, Europe, and Asia entered the weave, followed by fishing guides and whitewater pioneers of the 1900's. Today's river recreationists add their design to the Rogue's legacy of historic richness.

The Rogue River was one of the original eight rivers included in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968. With its famous steelhead and salmon fishery, challenging white water, and extraordinary

wildlife-viewing opportunities, the Rogue continues to be one of the world's most popular recreation destinations. The 33-mile "Wild" section features predominantly Class III (or less) rapids, and includes thundering Rainie Falls (Class V) and breathtaking rapids at Mule Creek Canyon and Blossom Bar.

The Wild and Scenic sections of the Rogue River are jointly managed by the USDA Forest Service, Siskiyou National Forest (Gold Beach Ranger District), and the USDI Bureau of Land Management, Medford District (Grants Pass Resource Area). The BLM administers the river corridor from the Applegate River, where designation as Wild and Scenic River begins, downstream to Mule Creek. The USDA Forest Service administers from Mule Creek downstream to Lobster Creek, where Wild and Scenic designation ends. These two Federal agencies, in partnership with state and county agencies, manage the river for protection of the outstanding resources and for the enjoyment of river recreationists.



Kayaks on the Rogue search endlessly for the perfect surf wave or "ender" hole.

## FIVE SECTIONS OF THE ROGUE RIVER

The stretch of river shown on this map is divided into five sections within the Wild and Scenic River designations of Recreation, Scenic, and Wild. Relative to the levels of development, each segment will be managed under the conditions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Rogue River Management Plan. These designations do not refer to the size of the whitewater.

**Wild River** is defined as "free of impoundments and generally accessible only by trail" representing "vestiges of primitive America." **Scenic River** is defined as "free of impoundments, with shorelines and watersheds still largely primitive, and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads." **Recreational River** is defined as "readily accessible by road...that may have some development along the shoreline, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past."

On this map, the various designations of river segments in the order of occurrence are as follows:

- Recreational** - Applegate River to Grave Creek
- Wild** - Grave Creek to Watson Creek
- Recreational** - Watson Creek to Blue Jay Creek
- Scenic** - Blue Jay Creek to Slide Creek
- Recreational** - Slide Creek to Lobster Creek

## PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Use of the Wild section of the Rogue River is regulated each year during the period of heaviest use to protect the river corridor from overuse and to provide a wild river experience. During this time, approximately 120 commercial and noncommercial users are issued special use permits to enter the Wild section each day. If you plan to boat on the Wild Rogue, you should check with the Rand Visitor Center for dates of the annual regulated period.

Permits for the regulated period are originally allocated through a computer selection process, or "lottery." The yearly regulated period dates are published in the winter edition of the USDA Forest Service lottery information letter. The application period for permit drawing is the first 6 weeks of each calendar year. During the regulated period, canceled permits are redistributed based on a first-come/first-served telephone process. Complete details on regulated use periods and the permit process are available from the Rand Visitor Center:

**River Information**  
**14335 Galice Road**  
**Merlin, OR 97532**  
**503/479-3735**

# ACCESS MAP



**LEGEND**

- Wild Section
- Scenic Section
- Recreation Section

0 5 10 15 MILES

0 5 10 15 20 KILOMETERS

## RIVER ETIQUETTE

A river trip is not a solo event; your actions directly and immediately affect the experiences of other users, whether individuals or groups. You are responsible for your actions. You must conduct your trip to nurture the "community" concept, the idea that all users of river resources are part of a community that actively and sincerely cares about the river corridor and each other. Following are tips to help users be more caring and responsible members of the river community:

**BOAT RAMPS:** Your trip begins here, before you actually get on the water, and your experience here can set the tone for your whole trip. First, wait patiently for your turn. Use the ramp only for loading and unloading, and put your gear and boats together off the ramp. Allow others to go before you if all they want to do is put a loaded boat into the water and take off. Be friendly, be helpful, be considerate, be patient.

**ENCOUNTERS ON THE WATER:** It's safer and more enjoyable if you don't bunch up with another group on the river, especially in rapids. If you find yourself traveling too closely to someone else, slow down, perhaps stop for a break, or simply tell the other party that you seem to be traveling faster and that you'd prefer to pass them. When you do come into contact with another river party, be friendly, exchange greetings, give and receive information or assistance.



Year-round mandatory firepan use keeps Rogue River beaches clean for each nights' campers.

An encounter between floating and fishing groups can cause some particular problems; be sensitive to others' needs. Fishing parties should not block the river with their boats and fishing lines, and floating parties should not float through and over anglers' lines. If your group is fishing with your boats spread across the river, move over to let a floating group pass. If

you're floating and approach a fishing party, hold back until the anglers continue downstream or until they wave you through their group.

Communication and common sense are the keys to successful interaction. The Rogue is a multiple-use river, and one of those uses is power-boating.

River traffic rules dictate that downstream drift traffic has the right-of-way over motorized traffic in stream channel meetings. In meetings between motorized and nonmotorized boats, it is imperative that all parties communicate clearly to avoid conflict and hazards. A jet boat under power in the middle of a rapid can't simply stop. It is also imperative that neither group inflicts themselves upon the other through water fighting, making heavy waves or wakes, or antisocial, confrontational behavior. There's enough river to accommodate all forms of recreation.

## WILDLIFE

The Rogue River is a spectacular wildlife viewing area. Opportunities abound to see bald eagles and ospreys, great blue herons, and a variety of ducks. You may see the graceful flight of a belted kingfisher and the comic posturing of the American dipper. In the water, look for salmon and steelhead, and the surprising leap of a sturgeon. Watch for playful river otters and mink. You may spot a rough-skinned newt, with a brilliant orange belly and poisonous to any prey. On shore you may be visited by ground squirrels, raccoons, deer, and bears.

It is best to view animals from a safe distance. There are several reasons you should not feed animals that visit your camp. If you feed them, you do not allow them to learn to fend for themselves. Wild animals do not thrive on the same foods humans consume. Feeding wild animals also leads them to pester, and possibly harm people.

### BEARS

The Rogue has a large population of the American black bear (*Ursus americanus*) ranging from dark black to brown, cinnamon, and blond. These bears are interesting and beautiful to view from a distance, but unpredictable and dangerous up close. On the Wild Rogue, most frequently in the lower third of the canyon, bears may be a part of your camp experience. Drawn to easily obtained food, "camp bears" repeatedly visit campsites looking for handouts. It is becoming common for bears to steal food tied in trees, raid coolers, board rafts in search of food or garbage, and be persistent pests who refuse to run away. They are not always frightened when campers shine lights, make noise, and throw rocks. Here are some hints in co-existing with the bears:



Best viewed from a distance, bears in the river canyon can be unpredictable nuisances around camps.

Keep your camp as clean as possible. Pick up your food scraps. Hang your garbage at least 12 feet off the ground between two trees. Remove food smells from tables, utensils, and coolers with alcohol or ammonia.

Arrange coolers and dry boxes in a central location away from the sleeping area of the camp. Booby-trap them with empty pans or cans that will awaken you if a bear tries to raid your boxes.  
**DO NOT TAKE FOOD INTO YOUR TENT OR SLEEPING BAG!**

Leave a light on. A lantern burning all night, coupled with small bowls of ammonia placed on coolers and dry boxes, is reported by boaters to be a successful treatment. Another idea is to lash all coolers and food boxes together to form an immovable object.

Remember, when you go on a Rogue River trip, you are going to the bear's home. You are the guest, and it is your responsibility to deal with the bear situation in a prudent, safe, and legal manner.

**Discharging firearms and fireworks is illegal on the Wild Rogue during the regulated period, and bears are protected under law within the boundaries of the Wild and Scenic River year-round.**

## MINIMUM IMPACT RIVER CAMPING

You affect this river canyon when you pass through it. River users come to the Rogue for many reasons, but none of them come expecting to find hacked vegetation, beaches scarred with fire rings or fouled with human waste and scattered litter. This river corridor cannot survive you if you don't work hard to protect it. Here's how you can care for the river:

### Fire Pans

Fire rings are not allowed under any circumstances. Fire pan use for all open fires within 400 feet of the river's edge is mandatory on the Wild Rogue year-round. You are expected to meet the intent of the fire pan regulation, which is to keep the beaches clean and to carry out all your ashes and unburned fire residue. How you do that is left to you. The Rogue has no minimum specifications for fire pans; you may use the equipment and methods which work best for you. When using your fire pan, elevate it on rocks to keep from scorching the sand and to provide for complete cooling. If scavenging for fuel, use only wood that is both **DEAD and DOWN**. Burn only pieces of wood that fit your pan and that will completely incinerate. In extreme drought or wildfire conditions, special fire restrictions may be in effect. Check with the Rand Visitor Center for current fire restrictions before beginning your trip.

### Human Waste

Toilets are available at many campsites. If you camp where there is no toilet, you **must** dispose of waste in the following manner:

**Above** the high-water mark, dig a shallow hole 6-8 inches deep to use as your depository; when you've finished, fill in the hole. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BURN YOUR TOILET PAPER.**

Oregon state law prohibits the dumping of human waste into landfills, so the most common methods of carrying out each group's waste (rocket box or pickle pail wilderness toilets) will not work here. There is no doubt that the necessary technology for solving this problem will be developed soon; at that time the Rogue will institute a mandatory human waste carry-out policy for those who camp where there are no toilets. Until then, you must take the necessary steps for proper human waste disposal.

### Gray Water

Used water containing soaps and other pollutants must not be allowed to enter the side streams or the river. Bath and dishwashing water should be poured into a sump hole which you should make for that purpose above the high-water mark. Straining dishwater before you dump it will help keep unwanted animals away from camp. Despite claims about your "biodegradable" soap, **do not bathe in the creeks or river.**

### Litter

Take out all trash and litter you find, whether or not it's yours. Help keep Rogue River beaches free of cigarette butts, twist ties, small pieces of plastic and foil, and all trash.



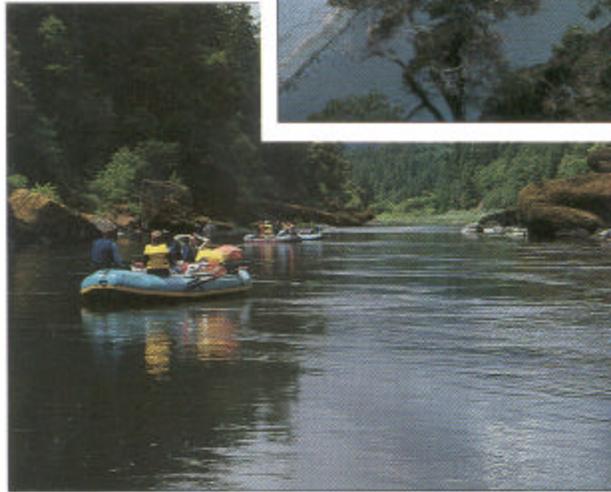
Photo by Tom Dew

The waves at Devils Stairs provide a wet, fun ride.

Commercial powerboats provide access to the Wild Rogue for more than 50,000 visitors each year.



Photo by Tom Dew



The Rogue offers many peaceful stretches of water which are perfect for drifting and swimming (in your life jacket!).



Photo by Tom Dew

A boatman "digs in" at Blossom Bar.

## CULTURAL RESOURCES

Indian artifacts and evidence of pioneer settlers and miners are part of Rogue River history and culture. View and enjoy these sites, and help preserve them. Removing artifacts is illegal and prevents others from discovering historical "footprints." River users who follow will appreciate and value your protective ethic.

These ethics are vital in maintaining the Rogue as a special place. Please be a committed and conscientious member of the river community.



Photo by Tom Dew

The BLM's Rogue River Ranch at Mule Creek, open daily from mid-May through mid-October, displays the Rogue River's past through a museum and historical buildings.

## RIVER SAFETY

Floating the Rogue is thrilling, enjoyable, and generally safe. However, river-running and camping have inherent risks. Think before you act, use your common sense, and respect the strengths and hazards of the river. Remember these safety hints:

**WHEN IN DOUBT, SCOUT.** If you're not sure about a rapid, pull over to the shore and walk ahead to look the situation over. Don't invite a blind encounter with the unknown.

**WHEN IN TROUBLE, ALWAYS BE ACTIVE.** When you find yourself in a nasty situation or if your craft is out of control, always keep trying to help yourself. Boaters who stay active in times of trouble are usually able to extricate themselves, while boaters who become inactive with fear or indecision succeed only by chance.

**DRESS FOR SUCCESS.** **Wear your life jacket**, and make sure that it is a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type III or Type V model, best for whitewater boating. Plan for all kinds of weather by packing an accessible day-bag with clothing to keep you comfortable and safe from hypothermia.

**WATCH YOUR STEP.** Most river accidents happen on shore, not in the water, and usually from slips, trips, and falls. River sandals offer the best traction on wet rocks. Wearing a life jacket on land can be great protection if you fall.

**MOST ACCIDENTS HAPPEN IN THE HOME.** On a river trip, your camp is your home. This is where you'll handle sharp knives, hot stoves, toe-stubber rocks, bees, rattlesnakes, and poison oak. Pay attention to where you put your hands and feet.

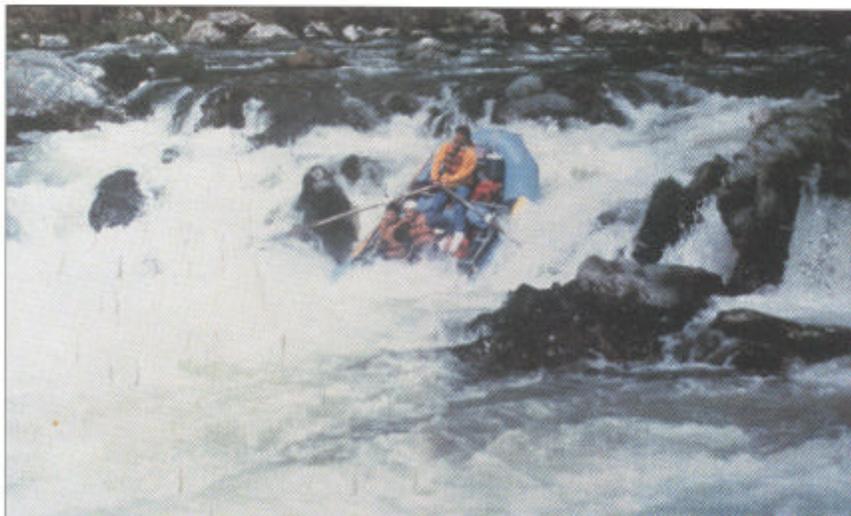
**THINK BEFORE YOU DRINK.** Neither the river nor any side streams are tested or treated, and they may or may not meet safe drinking water standards. Boil, filter, or chemically treat all drinking, cooking, and dishwashing water.

## EUROPEAN RAPID RATING SYSTEM

Whitewater rapids are rated on a scale of one through six, indicating the difficulty of each rapid at medium water level.

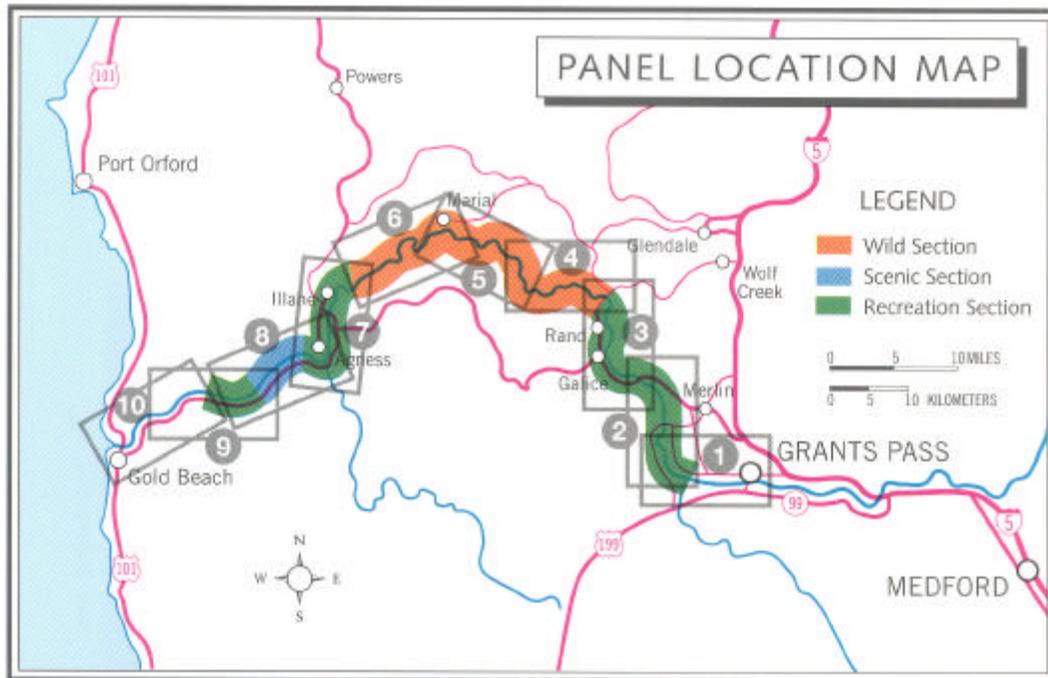
- CLASS I **Very Easy** - small, regular waves and riffles; few or no obstacles; little maneuvering required.
- CLASS II **Easy** - small waves with some eddies, low ledges, and slow rock gardens; some maneuvering required.
- CLASS III **Medium** - numerous waves that are high and irregular; strong eddies; narrow, but clear passages that require expertise in maneuvering; scouting from the shore necessary.
- CLASS IV **Difficult** - long rapids with powerful, irregular waves, dangerous rocks, and boiling eddies; precise maneuvering and scouting from the shore imperative; take all possible safety precautions.
- CLASS V **Very Difficult** - long rapids with wild turbulence and extremely congested routes that require complex maneuvering; a danger to your life and boat and near the limits of navigation.
- CLASS VI **The Limits Of Navigation** - rarely run; a definite hazard to your life.

These definitions are constant and unchanging; however, personal interpretation can vary. The same rapid may be rated a Class III by one person and a Class IV by someone else. You must determine for yourself the degree of difficulty of any particular rapid. Remember that fluctuating water levels can change the difficulty ratings for rapids. Usually higher flows make rapids more difficult, but this is not always the case.



A raft buries its bow in the hydraulics and boils of the main channel at Rainie Falls.

## HOW TO USE THIS MAP



Map panels 1 through 7 have corresponding narrative map log pages; panels 8 through 10 do not have narrative map logs. The maps read from the bottom **up** each page, as if one were in a boat facing downriver. Correspondingly, the map logs **read up** each page to more closely match the adjacent map feature to which it refers.

Each map log page is flanked by two sets of river mileages. To the left of the narrative is the column labeled "River Miles"; this mileage meter begins at 0.0 where the Applegate River joins the Rogue and **counts up** as one travels downriver. To the right of the narrative is the column labeled "Miles from Grave Creek"; the mileage meter begins at 27.0 where the Applegate River joins the Rogue and **counts down** to Grave Creek where it is reset to 0.0 and begins to **count up** as one begins the Wild Rogue trip.

Using Grave Creek as a pivot point for both single-day use (beginning upriver and ending at Grave Creek) and multi-day use (beginning at Grave Creek and ending downriver) allows for easier calculation of the distance traveled and the distance remaining to travel. Map Panels 8 through 10 are on consecutive pages with no narration; however, river mileages are printed on each panel as the river flows to the ocean.

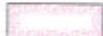
The steep rock walls and quiet waters in the lower part of Mule Creek Canyon provide a dramatic afternoon setting that is in high contrast with the rambunctiousness of Blosson Bar around the next bend.

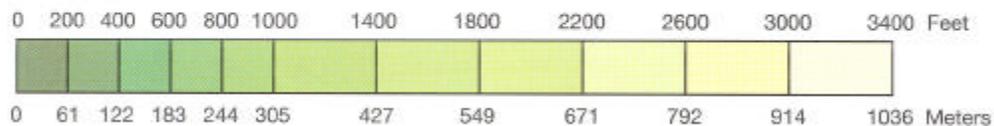
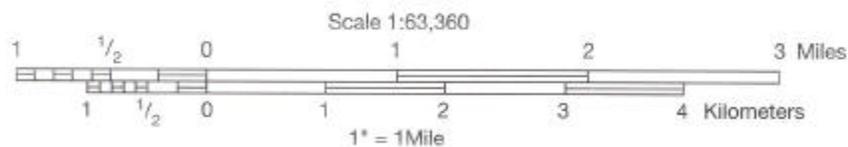


Photo by Tom Dew

# ROGUE RIVER FLOAT GUIDE 1993

## MAP LEGEND

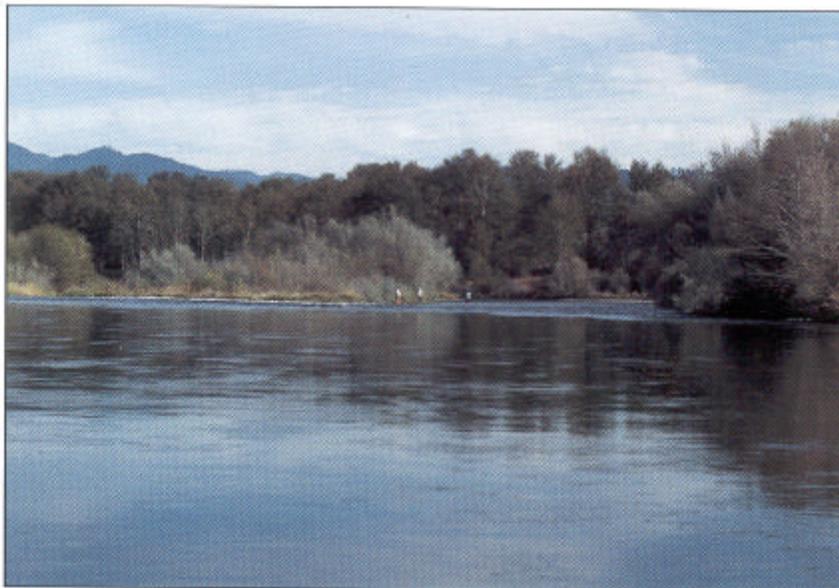
-  Wild and Scenic River Boundary
-  Wilderness Boundary
-  National Forest/BLM, Medford District Boundary
-  Private Land Along Wild & Scenic River Corridor
-  Siskiyou National Forest Headquarters
-  District Ranger Station
-  Other Forest Service Facility
-  Recreation Sites
-  Campgrounds
-  Mileage from Applegate River
-  Buildings
-  Mine
-  Quarry
-  Landing Strip
-  Rapids or Falls
-  Paved Road
-  Unpaved Road
-  Trail



## EXPLANATION OF TEXT SYMBOLS

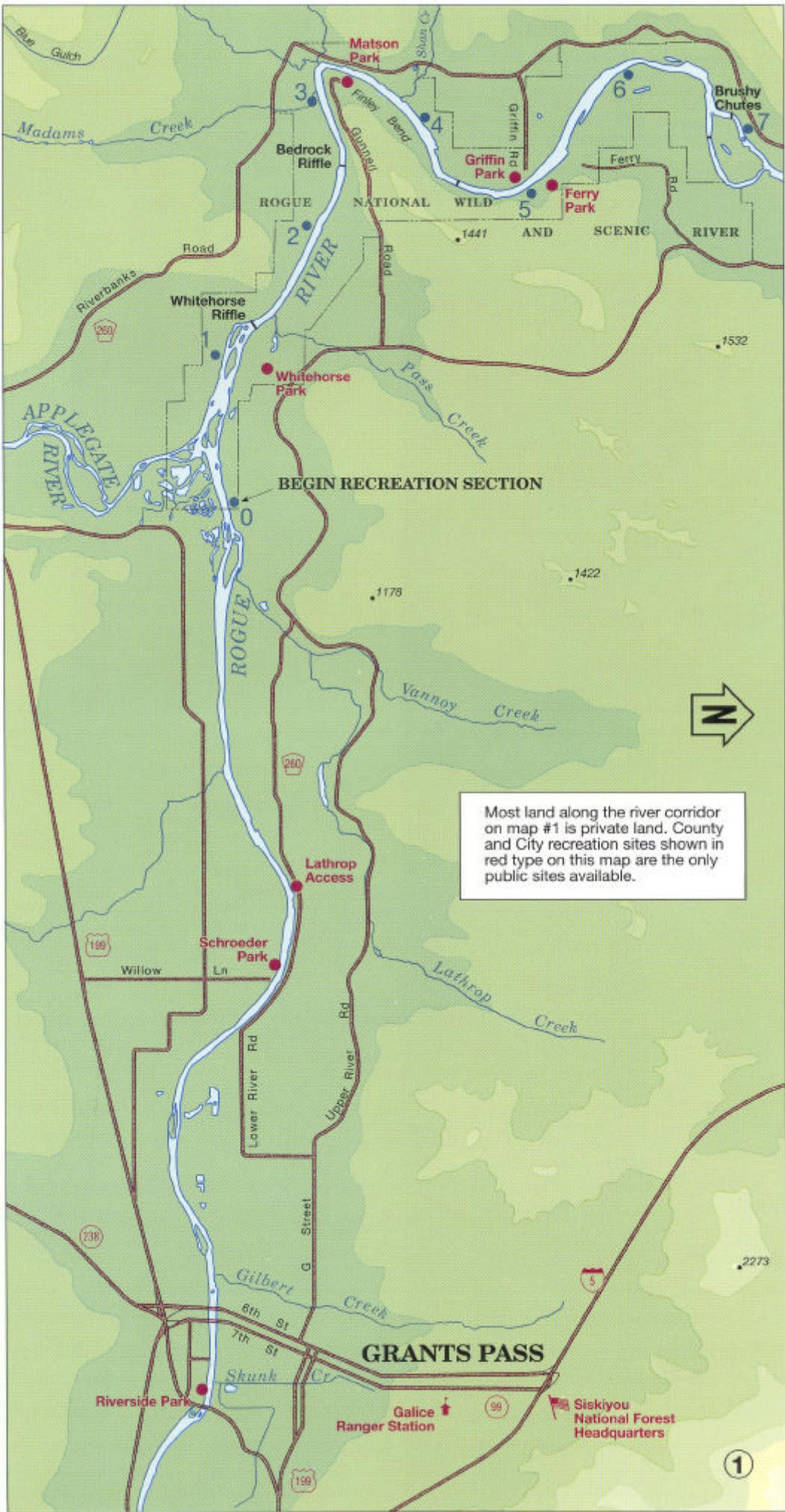
- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  Boat Ramp      |  Toilet     |
|  Drinking Water |  Campground |
|  Telephone      |  |

RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #1	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
6.8	<b>Brushy Chutes</b> —The island in the river creates many channels and small riffles (Class I) in this area. The main channel is on the left side of the island.	20.2
5.2	<b>Ferry Park</b> (right bank)—Toilets and a boat ramp are available at this day-use Josephine County Park.  	21.8
5.0	<b>Griffin Park</b> (left bank)—Trailer and tent sites, as well as a picnic shelter, play area and a boat ramp, are available at this Josephine County Park.   	22.0
3.4	<b>Matson Park</b> (right bank)—This Josephine County Park at Finley Bend is a day-use only site with a picnic area and toilet. 	23.7
2.5	<b>Bedrock Riffle</b> (Class I)	24.5



Anglers fish the riffle above Whitehorse Park.

1.0	<b>Whitehorse Riffle</b> (Class I)	26.0
1.0	<b>Whitehorse Park</b> (right bank)—This is a Josephine County Park with a campground (trailer and tent sites), picnic area and boat ramp.   	26.0
0.0	<b>Applegate River</b> (left bank)—Designation of the Lower Rogue as a National Wild and Scenic River begins here. The stretch of river downstream to Grave Creek is designated as Recreational River.	27.0
	<b>Lathrop Access</b> (right bank)—Josephine County boat ramp. 	30.0
	<b>Schroeder Park</b> (left bank)—This is a Josephine County Park with a boat ramp, beach and picnic area, campground and sports area.   	31.5
	<b>Riverside Park</b> (left bank)—A Grants Pass City Park with a boat ramp, picnic area, sports and play areas, and art museum.  	34.5



Most land along the river corridor on map #1 is private land. County and City recreation sites shown in red type on this map are the only public sites available.



- 14.9 **Indian Mary Park** (left bank)—The “smallest Indian Reservation ever created,” this campground operated by Josephine County was originally a federal land grant to Mary, the daughter of Umpqua Joe who once warned against an imminent Indian attack. Indian Mary succeeded Umpqua Joe in operating a ferry across the river from the park. 12.1
- 







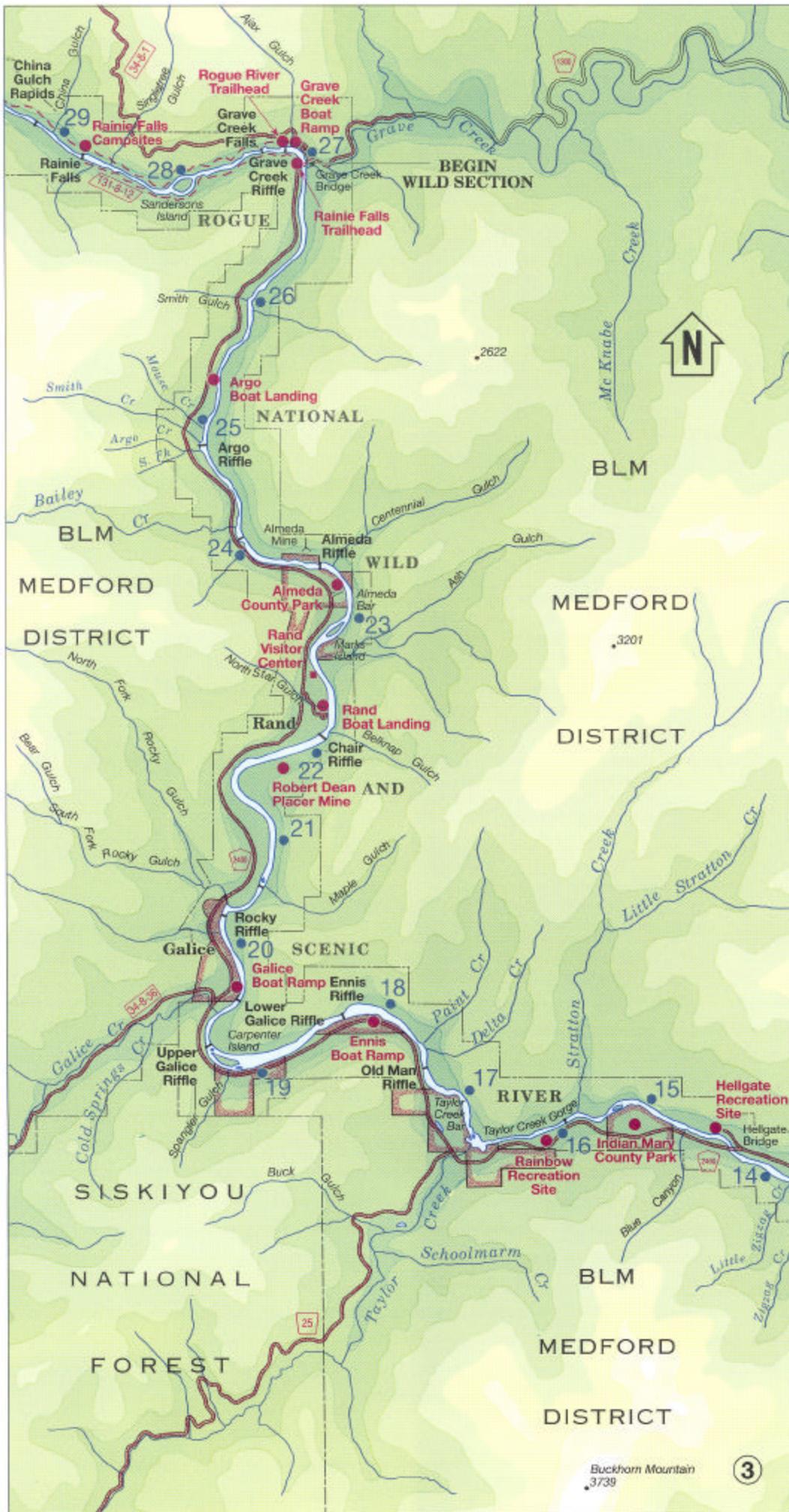
*The Hellgate Recreation Site is a popular spot for sunning.*

- 14.5 **Hellgate Recreation Site** (right bank)—This is a BLM day-use only area with a popular swimming and sunning beach. A toilet is available. 12.5
- 
- 14.2 **Hellgate Bridge**—This bridge was built after the 1964 flood and stands 70 feet above normal summer flow. 12.8
- 13.8 **Dunn Riffle** (Class II) 13.2
- 13.4 **Hellgate Canyon Viewpoint** 13.6
- 13.0 **Hellgate Canyon**—Named by the early river runners because the canyon looked like the gates of hell during floods. The canyon is 700 yards long, and the water depth has been measured at 104 feet in some spots. 14.0
- 12.6 **Hog Creek Boat Ramp** (right bank)—This BLM-Josephine County day-use site is a popular launch spot for floating the Recreation Section of the river. There is a toilet, boat ramp, and a large parking lot. 14.4
- 

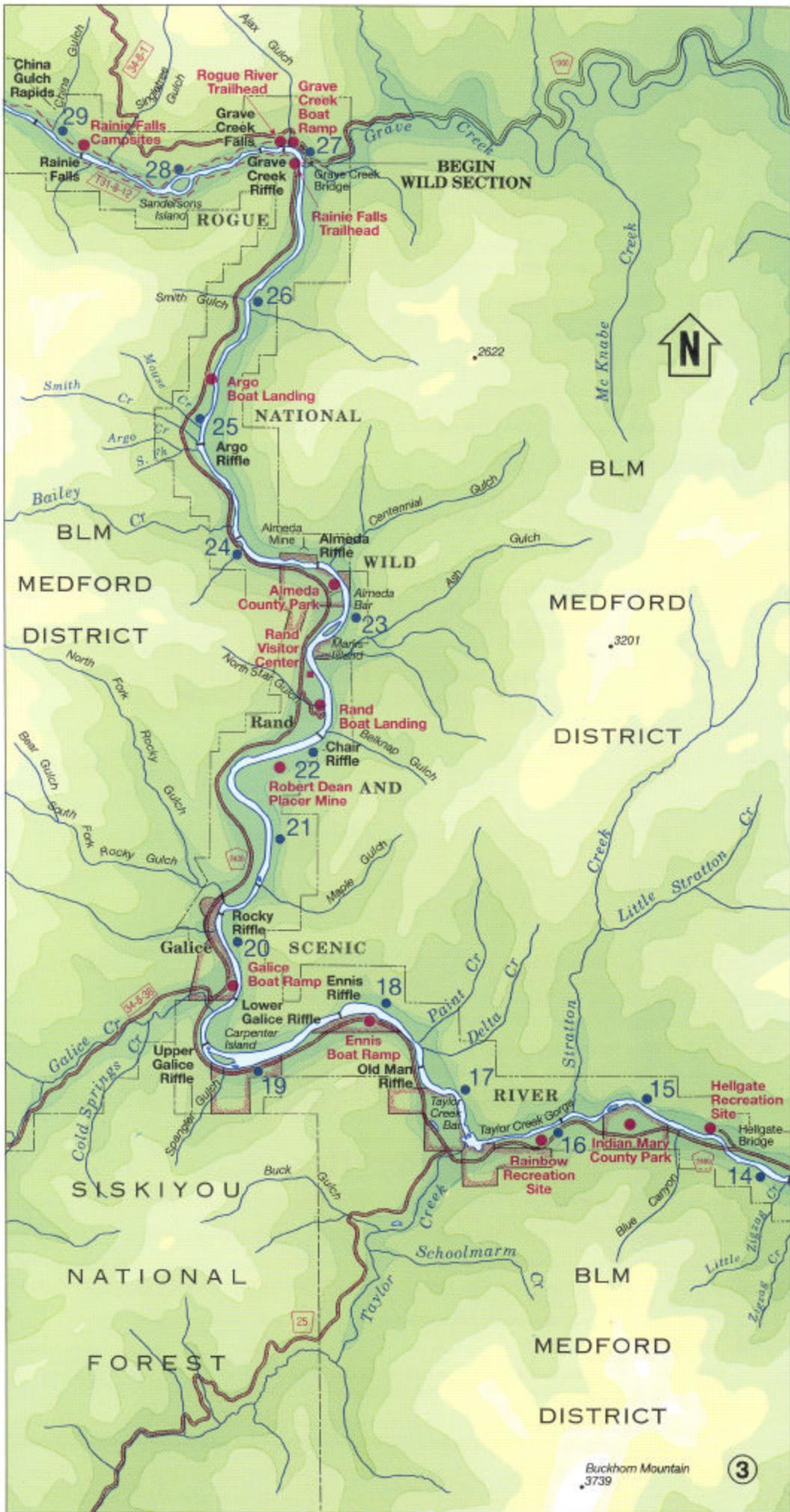
- 11.8 **Jumpoff Joe Creek** (right bank) 15.2
- 8.0 **Robertson Bridge/boat ramp** (right bank)—This is a day-use area with a boat ramp and toilets. 19.0
- 




RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #3	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
26.5	<b>Riffle (Class II)</b>	0.5
24.9	<b>Argo Boat Landing</b> (left bank)—This is a BLM site with a toilet, gravel boat ramp, and several undeveloped campsites.  	2.1
24.8	<b>Argo Riffle (Class II)</b>	2.2
23.7	<b>Almeda Mine</b> (right bank)—The mine opening and tailings are visible from the river below the riffle.	3.3
23.5	<b>Almeda Riffle (Class II)</b> —Also referred to as Mine Riffle and The Mine Hole, this fun rapid which culminates in a ledge drop offers excellent kayaking practice at lower flows.	3.5
23.2	<b>Almeda Park</b> (left bank)—A Josephine County fee camping site. The park offers a beautiful stand of trees for camping, water, toilets, air for rafts, and a paved boat ramp. Many Wild Section boaters who camp in the area the night before their launch stay here, ¼-mile downriver from the Rand Visitor Center.    	3.8
23.0	<b>Marks Island (Class II)</b>	4.0
22.5	<b>Rand Visitor Center/Beach</b> (left bank)—This is a long, very narrow beach in quiet water downriver and around the corner from the Rand Boat Landing and has stairs leading up to the Visitor Center Office, a BLM-USFS facility. Boaters who have launched upstream may stop here to check in and obtain their permits. 	4.5
22.3	<b>Rand Boat Landing</b> (left bank)—This BLM gravel boat ramp located in the eddy below Chair Riffle is large and generally uncongested and very convenient to the Rand Visitor Center.  	4.7
22.0	<b>Chair Riffle (Class II)</b> —Zane Grey fished here from a rock on the left bank which is shaped like a chair.	5.0
21.8	<b>Robert Dean Placer Mine</b> (right bank)—This a BLM river campsite with a toilet, several campsites and old mining trails.  	5.2
20.1	<b>Rocky Riffle (Class II)</b>	6.9
19.7	<b>Galice Boat Ramp</b> (left bank)—A Josephine County facility named for the historic Galice Creek and townsite located just downstream of Galice Creek and Galice Riffle. There is a store, restaurant, parking lot and toilet here.  	7.3
19.5	<b>Galice Creek</b> (left bank)—This historic gold-producing creek is still showing “color” today. The road up the creek shows ample evidence of huge mining activity, and piles and piles of mine tailings stacked by Chinese workers line the creek. This paved road links Galice with Agness and Gold Beach and serves as the river shuttle route to Foster Bar.	7.5
19.2	<b>Upper Galice Riffle (Class II)</b>	7.8
19.1	<b>Carpenters Island</b> —Shallow water and ledges dominate this calm stretch of water. Most water flows right of the island.	7.9
18.1	<b>Ennis Riffle (Class I)</b>	8.9
18.1	<b>Ennis Boat Ramp and Campsite</b> (left bank)—A Josephine County boat ramp and sandy, riverside campsite with a toilet; stay limit here is two days.  	8.9
16.1	<b>Taylor Creek Gorge</b> —Mostly slow water flows through a scenic mini-canyon.	10.9
16.0	<b>Rainbow Recreation Site</b> (left bank)—This BLM day-use area features picnic tables, a small beach, and a toilet. 	11.0



RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #3	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
29.2	<b>China Gulch Rapids (Class II)</b> —China Gulch, named after Chinese miners from the 1800's, enters the river from the right.	2.2
28.8	<b>Rainie Falls (Class V)</b> —Named after "Old Man Rainie," who made a living gaffing salmon and had a cabin below the falls. The Main Falls has a vertical drop of approximately 12 feet with massive turbulence at the bottom. This is a serious drop, so scout the main run carefully. There are two alternatives to running the Main Falls, the Middle Chute and the Fish Ladder. The Middle Chute is aptly named. Located in the middle of the river, this natural opening in the rocks offers a fast, bouncy ride with some maneuvering at the top to enter the chute. Scout this run from the left bank near the Main Falls. Another alternative here is floating the Fish Ladder, a man-made channel along the right bank. In very low water, the Fish Ladder cannot be floated, and craft must be lined down the channel with ropes, a task which can be hazardous because of slips, trips, and falls.	1.8
28.7	<b>Rainie Falls Campsites</b> (right and left banks)—The campsite on the right bank is above the fish ladder and just below the trail, and is suitable for hikers. Left bank camping is less defined, with sand areas by the water above the main falls; both sides have toilets.  	1.7
28.0	<b>Sandersons Island</b> —Just above the island on the right bank, the foundation from the Sandersons' cabin, built in 1940, is still visible. The riffle (Class II) passes to the left of the island. Just below the island, concrete piers are the only visible remnant of the mule and foot bridge that crossed the river here until it was destroyed by the flood of 1927.	1.0
27.3	<b>Grave Creek Falls (Class III)</b> —A 3- to 5-foot vertical drop over a ledge lies approximately 200 feet downriver of Grave Creek Rapid. The left half of the river is free of rocks.	0.3
27.2	<b>Grave Creek Riffle (Class III)</b> —Beginning 200 feet below the boat ramp, the main channel flows to the left of an island toward the left bank of the river. A mid-channel, partially submerged boulder lurks at the bottom.	0.2
27.1	<b>Grave Creek Boat Ramp</b> (right bank)—The main put-in point for the Wild Rogue, this small ramp facility can get very congested. Common courtesy and patience demonstrated here will guarantee an enjoyable beginning to your river trip. The Trailhead to the Rogue River Trail is located at the downriver end of the boat ramp parking lot. The 40-mile trail extends to Foster Bar and is open to human foot traffic; dogs are allowed, but packstock, motorbikes, and trailbikes are not allowed.  	0.1
27.0	<b>Rainie Falls Trail</b> (left bank)—The trailhead is at the bridge for this 4-mile roundtrip hike to the falls.	0.0
27.0	<b>Grave Creek Bridge</b>	0.0
27.0	<b>Grave Creek</b> (right bank)—The beginning of the 33-mile Wild Section of the Rogue. This creek is named after Martha Leland Crowley, the daughter of a pioneer couple who was buried under an oak tree near the creek in 1846.	0.0



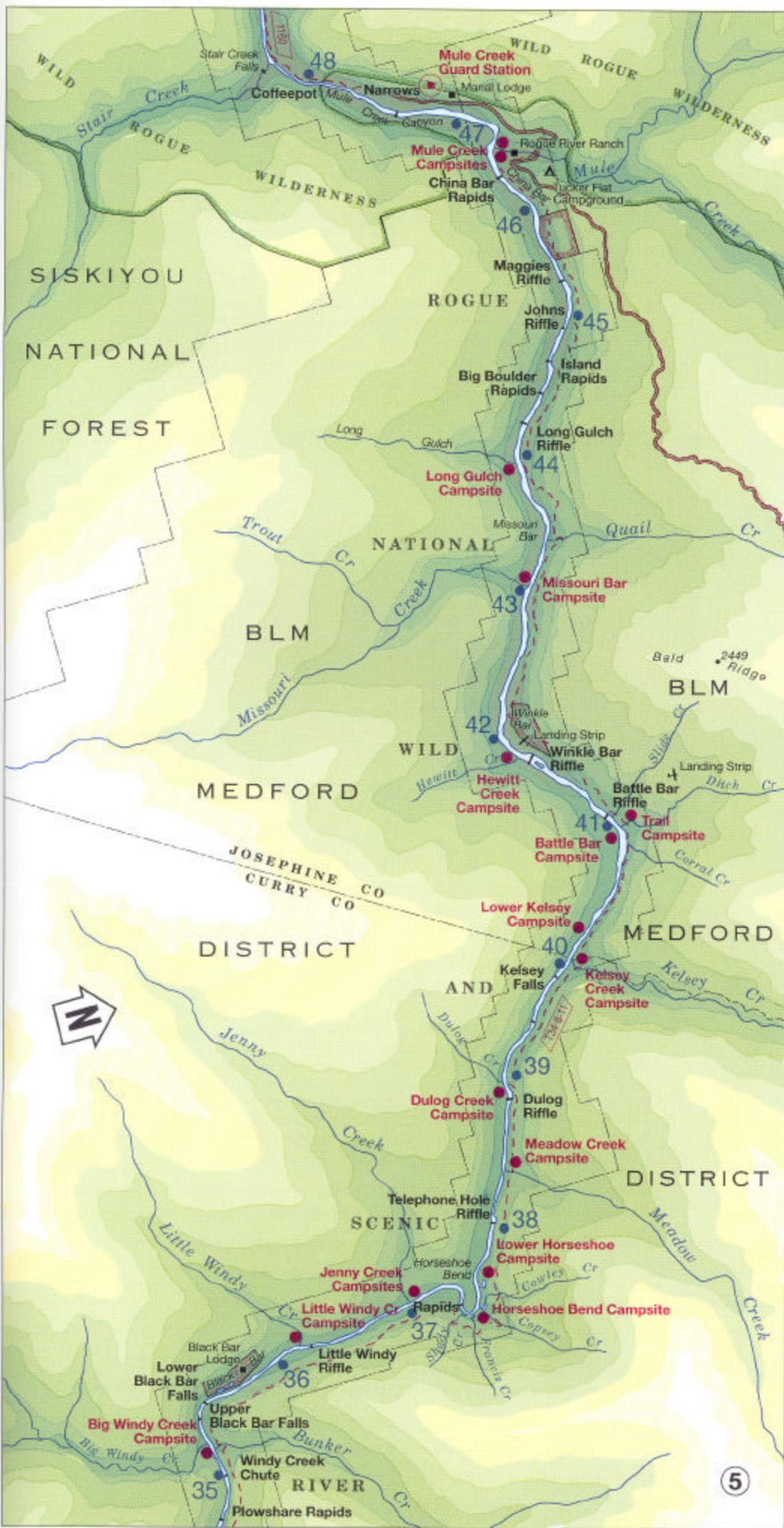
RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #4	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
33.9	<b>Slim Pickins Rapid (Class III)</b> —Named for its narrow chutes, this rapid was blasted to provide easier passage. This rapid is easily identified by a derelict dredge which has guarded the left bank since being washed downriver in 1955.	6.9
33.2	<b>Howard Creek</b> (left bank)—A spectacular swimming pool sits just above the mouth of the creek.	6.2
33.1	<b>Howard Creek Chute (Class II)</b> —This rapid is actually a series of three ledge-drops which have chute-like characteristics.	6.1
32.5	<b>Montgomery Creek</b> (left bank)—Depression-era gold mining was extensive here, with reports of more than 25 buildings located in this stretch of river. The 1955 flood destroyed the buildings.	5.5
32.5	<b>Montgomery Rapids (Class II)</b> —Set closely together, these two rapids are the results of a ledge across the river and submerged boulders just below.	5.5
32.2	<b>Russian Rapids (Class II)</b>	5.2
32.1	<b>Wildcat Campsite</b> (left bank)—This camp can accommodate two large parties. The toilet is located at the downstream end of the river bar. 	5.1
31.8	<b>Wildcat Rapids (Class III)</b> —An island splits the river here, with the main channel going right; a straight line of standing waves leads into shallow ledges as the river turns sharply right at the bottom of the rapid.	4.8
31.6	<b>Tyee Campsite</b> (right bank)—This large site is located in the eddy below Tyee Rapid. The toilet is located mid-bar in an oak grove up one level. 	4.6
31.4	<b>Tyee Rapids (Class IV—SCOUT!)</b> —A long stretch of shallow ledges lead into this rapid. Water races to the right bank as the river turns slightly left between the right bank and a large midstream boulder.	4.4
31.3	<b>Tyee Bar</b> (left bank)—A Chinook Indian word meaning "Chief." The river bar here was the site of tremendous mining activity. Estimates say that more than 300 Chinese workers took more than \$5 million in gold dust from here. In the 1880's a store and boat crossing were in operation.	4.3
30.6	<b>Doe Creek Campsite</b> (left bank)—This large, low, sand beach has a toilet up the hill at the upriver end of the bar. Doe Creek is located at the downriver end of the campsite. 	3.6
30.4	<b>Big Slide Riffle (Class I)</b> —In the late 1800's, a huge landslide occurred here, blocking the entire river and backing it up as far as Hellgate Canyon. There is a large hiker's campsite with a toilet up on the right bank. 	3.4
30.1	<b>Whiskey Creek Cabin</b> (right bank)—At the back of the campsite, cross the trail bridge and turn right for 1/8-mile to a cabin built by a placer miner about 1880. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the cabin offers a glimpse into the pioneer history of the Rogue River Canyon.	3.1
30.1	<b>Whisky Creek/Campsite</b> (right bank)—Whisky Creek enters the river here. There are two campsites, one on each side of the creek, which are suitable for large parties. The toilet is on the east side of the creek, near the trail. 	3.1
30.1	<b>Rum Creek</b> (left bank)—The creeks in this area were named by the early prospectors who were more interested in alcohol than water.	3.1



RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #4	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
38.5	<b>Meadow Creek</b> (right bank)—Large hiker's campsite with toilet.  	11.5
38.1	<b>Telephone Hole Riffle (Class II)</b> —Also known as "Mary's Hole," "Dugan's Hole," and "Surprise," this riffle was named for a U.S. Forest Service telephone line which crossed the river here.	11.1
37.7	<b>Lower Horseshoe Campsite</b> (right bank)—This site will accommodate a large group. The toilet is at the downriver end of the bar.  	10.7
37.5	<b>Horseshoe Bend Campsite</b> (right bank)—One of the largest and most picturesque of Rogue campsites, Horseshoe Bend offers a panorama of the long, severe curve of the river. The toilet is on the top level, with the Rogue River Trail access path nearby.  	10.5
37.4	<b>Horseshoe Bend (Class III)</b> —The harder rock across the river has forced the river to carve its channel into the adjacent softer rock, creating the tight horseshoe-shaped curve. The rapid is in three segments, the last requiring the most maneuvering.	10.4
37.1	<b>Jenny Creek Campsite</b> (left bank)—There are camping sites here both above and below the creek. The toilet is at the treeline, 200 feet below the creek. This is the site of a battle between more than 400 Army regulars and volunteers and an undetermined number of Rogue Indians; after trading fire for six hours, everyone packed up and went home, leaving the military force with one dead and four wounded in this futile battle.  	10.1
36.3	<b>Little Windy Riffle (Class II)</b>	9.3
36.3	<b>Little Windy Creek/Campsite</b> (left bank)—The campsite has sleeping areas above the beach, and the toilet is located before the creek, slightly downriver.  	9.3
35.8	<b>Black Bar Lodge</b> (left bank)	8.8
35.6	<b>Lower Black Bar Falls (Class III)</b> —A rapid with large standing waves approximately 100 yards downriver from Upper Black Bar Falls. Free of rocks, the rapid has become popular as a "swimming rapid" to practice being in swift turbulent water.	8.6
35.5	<b>Upper Black Bar Falls (Class III—SCOUT!)</b> —A river ledge and scattered boulders make this rapid significant. It's an easy scout on the right bank.	8.5
35.2	<b>Big Windy Creek</b> (left bank)—Just above river level you will discover a superb swimming pool that makes this spot one of the river's most attractive lunch stops.	8.2
35.2	<b>Big Windy Creek/Campsite</b> (left bank)—This large site requires some effort for camping, because you must ferry your gear over rocks up to the top level. The toilet is located in a Pacific Madrone grove upriver from Big Windy Creek.  	8.2
35.0	<b>Windy Creek Chute (Class II)</b>	8.0
34.7	<b>Plowshare Rapids (Class II)</b> —The long, horizontal, sharp rocks on river-right prompted this rapid's name.	7.7
34.2	<b>Washboard Rapids (Class II)</b> —The standing waves here which split the river are easily imagined as the ripples in an old-time washboard.	7.2



RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #5	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
44.8	<b>Island Rapids (Class II)</b> —The Quail Creek burn is seen on both sides of the river from this area. Large boulders in the river create the rapids here. The river is split by an island just downriver of the rapids.	17.8
44.6	<b>Big Boulder Rapids (Class II)</b> —Large boulders in the river here are the result of numerous landslides.	17.6
44.3	<b>Long Gulch Riffle (Class II)</b>	17.3
44.0	<b>Long Gulch Campsite</b> (left bank)—This is a very small campsite. The toilet is up a switchback at the downriver end of the cobbled bar. The footings of Glen Wooldridge's cabin are evident on the flat adjacent to the toilet.  	17.0
43.4	<b>Quail Creek</b> (right bank)—Site of a 1970 fire which burned 2700 acres.	16.4
43.0	<b>Missouri Creek/Campsite</b> (left bank)—For many years, Gerald Frye, caretaker to the buildings at Winkle Bar, lived at this site. This large camp has a toilet located on the upper level.  	16.0
42.2	<b>Winkle Bar</b> (right bank)—Western novelist and angler Zane Grey purchased the land for his cabin here from a gold miner in 1926. The land is privately owned, but visitors to the cabin are welcome.	15.2
41.8	<b>Hewitt Creek/Campsite</b> (left bank)—This is a large campsite with a toilet on the hill downriver of the creek.  	14.8
41.6	<b>Winkle Bar Riffle (Class I)</b>	14.6
41.1	<b>Battle Bar Riffle (Class II)</b>	14.1
40.9	<b>Battle Bar Campsite</b> (left bank)—This is a very large campsite with a toilet on top of the bar straight back from the riverside beach landing. In 1856, there was a battle between the U.S. Cavalry and the Indians, hence the name Battle Bar. In 1920, Bob Fox built a cabin here and was later murdered in his cabin by a neighbor. The structure was renovated most recently by BLM in 1991 to continue use by boaters as a rain camp.  	13.9
40.4	<b>Lower Kelsey Campsite</b> (left bank)—A large campsite with a toilet uphill from the beach. There is room here for two separate camps divided by a low hogback ridge.  	13.4
40.0	<b>Kelsey Creek/Campsite</b> (right bank)—The creek hosts two excellent swimming pools. The toilet is up the hill near the trail. The creek was named for Colonel John Kelsey, leader of the Army forces against the Indians at Battle Bar. Kelsey Creek is the dividing line between Josephine and Curry Counties. There is a large hiker's campsite on the upriver side of the creek at the bridge.  	13.0
39.6	<b>Kelsey Falls (Class II)</b> —This is one of the many rapids dynamited by Glen Wooldridge to create a passage. A large boulder splits the river here.	12.6
39.2	<b>Rapid (Class II)</b> —This rapid marks the entrance to Kelsey Canyon, a scenic one-mile cut with low rock walls.	12.2
38.9	<b>Dulog Creek/Campsite</b> (left bank)—This is a large site with a toilet directly uphill from the camp. A ¼-mile hike up the creek will bring you to Dulog Falls.  	11.9
38.8	<b>Dulog Riffle (Class II)</b> —Large boulders split the river at this rapid just above Dulog Creek.	11.8



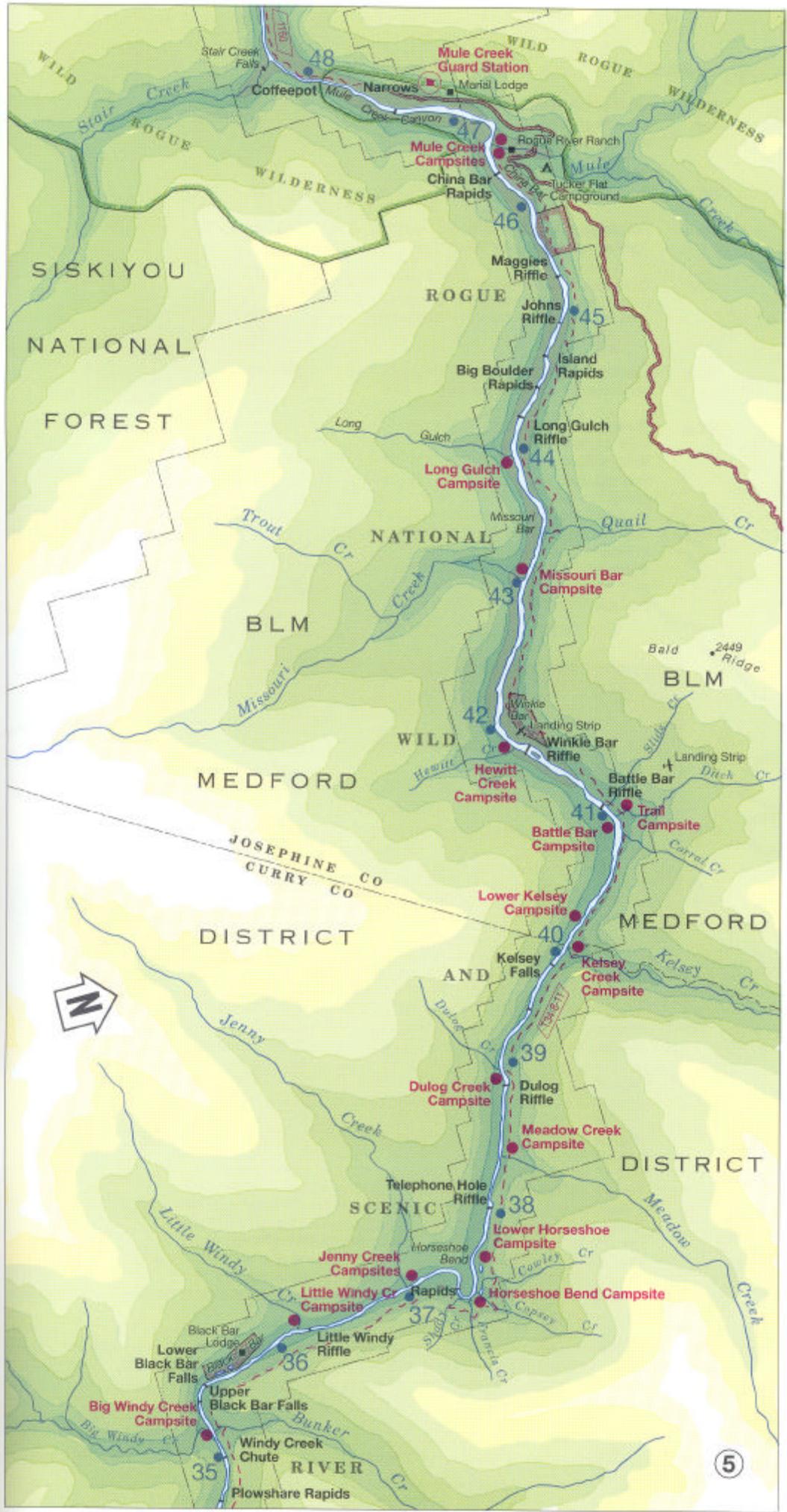
RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #5	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
46.5	<b>Mule Creek</b> (right bank)—In 1852, an Army officer lost his mule (named John) here. Originally called John Mule Creek, it was later shortened to its present name.	19.5
46.5	<b>Mule Creek Campsites</b> (right bank)—There are two large sites here, one on each side of the creek, each with toilets. Follow paths uphill to reach the toilets. These are the last camping sites before Mule Creek Canyon and Blossom Bar Rapids, so be prepared to share your camp if necessary.  	19.5
46.5	<b>Tucker Flat Campground</b> —This BLM campground has toilets and is accessible by vehicle. Located ½-mile from the river, this camp is a favorite of hikers.  	19.5



Photo by Tom Dew

*The Rogue River Ranch at Mule Creek offers camping, swimming, hiking, and history.*

46.5	<b>Rogue River Ranch</b> (right bank)—This area was homesteaded in 1887 by George Billings. The main house, which was built in 1903, served as a trading post, post office, and boarding house for travelers. In 1931 the ranch was sold to the Stanley Andersons and became their vacation home. In 1970 the BLM bought the land as a result of Wild and Scenic Rivers designation and has restored the ranch to look as it did in early days. The ranch is on the National Register of Historic Places. The main house is a museum open daily from May through October.	19.5
46.3	<b>China Bar Rapids (Class II)</b> —A sharp, nasty rock (the "Can Opener") guards the top of the rapid in midstream.	19.3
46.0	<b>China Bar</b> (right bank)—Home to a community of Chinese miners in the early days.	19.0
45.4	<b>Maggies Riffle (Class II)</b> —Glen Wooldridge, an early river runner, named this rapid after Maggie Stoddard caught her first steelhead here.	18.4
45.0	<b>Johns Riffle (Class II)</b> —This rapid is named after Chief John, who led the Rogue tribes during the wars of 1855–56.	18.0



RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #6	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
51.3	<b>Lower Paradise Bar Campsites</b> (right bank)—This very long, gravel/sand bar hosts several camps. The toilet is located at the upriver end of the bar. ▲ 🚻	24.3
50.7	<b>Paradise Lodge</b> (right bank)	23.7
50.4	<b>Paradise Creek</b> (right bank)—A natural stone swimming pool is located on the creek below the trail.	23.4
50.1	<b>Gleason Bar Campsites</b> (left bank)—This large bar has several levels and can host many people. The toilet is at the top, middle of the bar between campsites. ▲ 🚻	23.1
49.9	<b>Devils Stairs (Class III)</b> —Strong current and waves rush from river center to the right wall.	22.9
49.6	<b>Blossom Bar Rapids (Class IV—SCOUT!)</b> —Named after the wild azaleas which adorn this area in springtime, this is the Wild Rogue's most famous and feared rapid. Once a portage, this boulder garden was blasted with dynamite to make a passable route. Although now passable, the route is circuitous and requires much maneuvering to avoid serious wraps, flips, and swims. In very general terms, the keys to success here are (1) starting far left, (2) moving to a center eddy above the dreaded "Picket Fence," (3) edging right around a corner rock and entering the "Poulover," and (4) playing "dodge 'em" through the second half of the rapid.	22.6



Photo by Kim Dew

*Stair Creek offers a quiet, scenic break before Blossom Bar.*

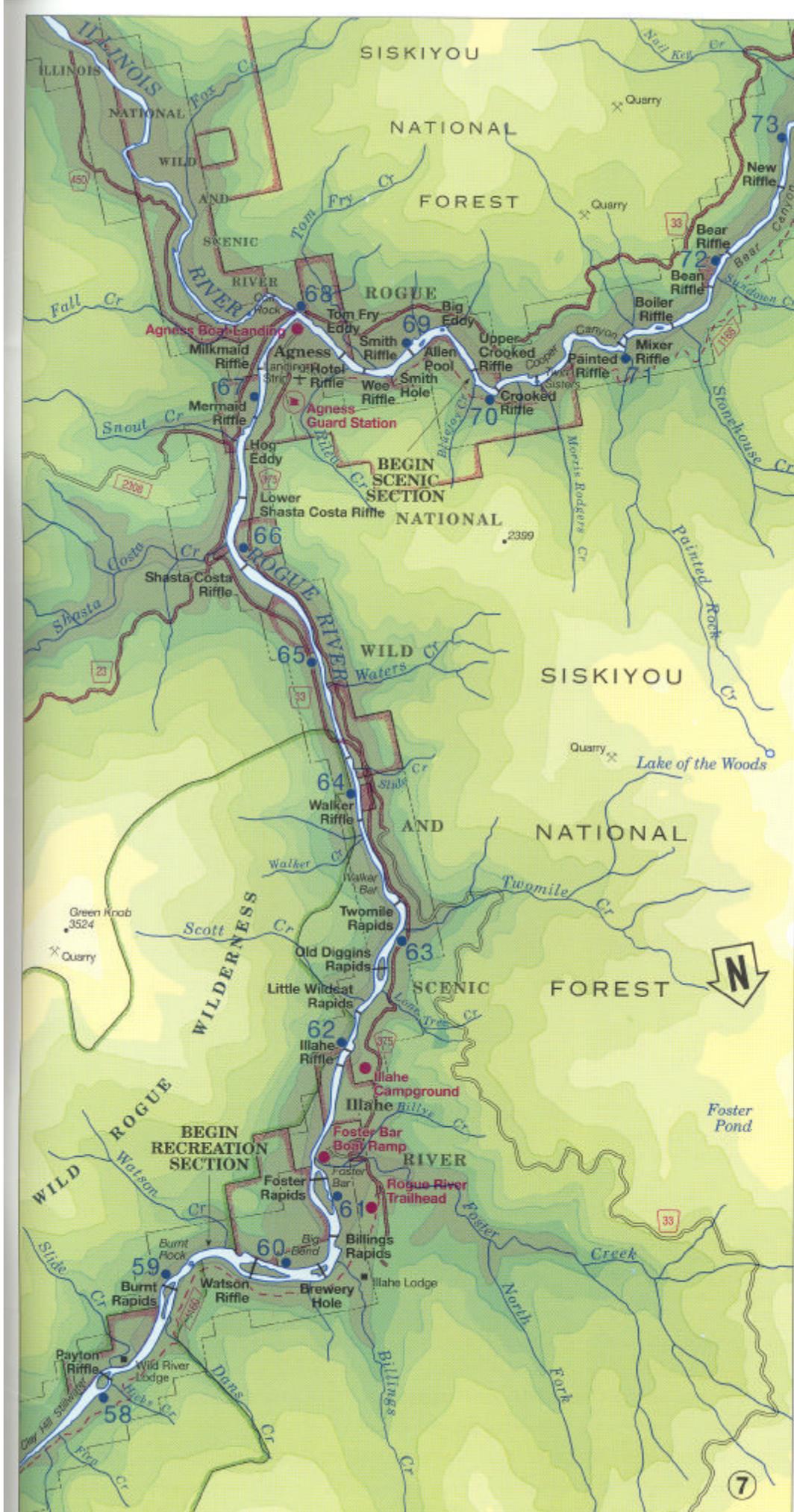
48.3	<b>Stair Creek</b> (left bank)	21.3
46.8	<b>Mule Creek Canyon (Class IV)</b> —At this point, the Rogue narrows dramatically, creating a stretch of river which is both outstandingly scenic and challengingly turbulent. The entrance to the canyon is marked by two large boulders (called the "Horns" or "Jaws") located in the right half of the river which are genuine "wrap-rocks." Beyond these guardian rocks is a series of three, sweeping turns, taking you right, left, and right again past a nasty "eater" hydraulic named "Telfer's Rock" which covers the left half of the river as the canyon constricts again. Some 100 yards downstream, another constriction, quite severe, occurs at the "Narrows" and necessitates some maneuvering. Another 250 yards downstream brings you to the "Coffeepot," named for the effects of deep turbulence surging upward in a confined space as in a percolator. Water here is totally unpredictable, as is the amount of time you may be forced to circulate in this confinement. Upon exiting the "Coffeepot," you will experience water which is very stable until you reach "Blossom Bar."	19.8
46.7	<b>Three unnamed riffles (Class II)</b> —After leaving Mule Creek and the Rogue River Ranch, you will float through three rapids (.8 mile) before you reach the entrance to Mule Creek Canyon.	19.7
46.7	<b>Marial Lodge</b> (right bank)	19.7



RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #6	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
57.5	<b>Flora Dell Creek &amp; Falls</b> (right bank)—Flora Dell Creek hosts two swimming pools, one just above the river and another higher up at the trail bridge; this upper plunge pool with its delicate waterfall is nestled in a fern glen and is perhaps the most scenic of all of the creek swimming pools. A toilet is downstream of the creek on the trail. 	30.5
57.2	<b>Fall Creek Falls</b> (left bank)—A very short hike up Fall Creek exposes a small, beautiful waterfall.	30.2
56.4	<b>Clay Hill Stillwater</b> —Approximately two miles of calm water moves slowly through a dramatic corridor change, marked by scrub oak, brush, and conglomerate rock.	29.4
56.1	<b>Clay Hill Rapids (Class III)</b> —Below the calm water near the lodge, the river turns sharply left over a ledge, forming this rapid. After the short drop, the rapid stretches into a long set of small "rollers," and ends with a midstream boulder as the river turns right.	29.1
55.9	<b>Clay Hill Lodge</b> (right bank)	28.9
55.7	<b>Tacoma Rapids (Class II)</b> —Some maneuvering required.	28.7
55.3	<b>Camp Tacoma</b> (right bank)—The campsite is large with the toilets located upriver, just below the trail.  	28.3
55.2	<b>Tate Creek/Campsites</b> (right bank)—There are two camps near the creek, one above the creek, and one around the corner below. The toilet for both is located on a path up from the trail just downriver from the creek. Tate Creek hosts a natural waterslide into a plunge pool 200 yards up the creekbed. The walk to the pool presents a degree of hazard from slippery rocks and creek debris. The rope climb up over a large rock face and the water slide are also fraught with hazard from falls, scrapes, and an overhang in the middle of the slide. APPROACH THIS ACTIVITY WITH EXTREME CAUTION!!  	28.2
54.1	<b>Solitude Riffle (Class II)</b> —Enjoyable "rollers" extend downstream to "Decision Rock" and a large campsite on the right bank.	27.1
53.8	<b>Tichenor Riffle (Class II)</b> —This stretch of rolling waves marks the beginning of Solitude Bar (right bank) and its several campsite opportunities ending near "Decision Rock" at the bottom of Solitude Riffle. The toilet is located near the lower campsite at the bottom of the bar below the trail.  	26.8
53.3	<b>Brushy Bar Creek/Campsite</b> (right bank)—One level up from the river, this camp beside the creek has toilets located near the trail.	26.3
53.1	<b>Brushy Bar/Campsite</b> (right bank)—This large bar hosts a magnificent stand of trees, evidence of extensive mining, a large, mid-bar river campsite, and a U.S. Forest Service Guard Station. Toilets are located near the trail.  	26.1
53.0	<b>East Creek/cabin</b> (left bank)—Rock steps leading up to fireplace chimney are left to identify the site of a cabin once owned by several WWII generals.	26.0
52.0	<b>Huggins Canyon</b> —A lazy, scenic, mile-long drift, this river section has rock walls decorated with California Fuchsia, and is famous for its sturgeon fishing.	25.0
51.4	<b>Half Moon Riffle/two unnamed riffles (Class II)</b> —A series of three riffles leads you approximately one-half mile into Huggins Canyon.	24.4
51.3	<b>Half Moon Bar Lodge</b> (left bank)	24.3

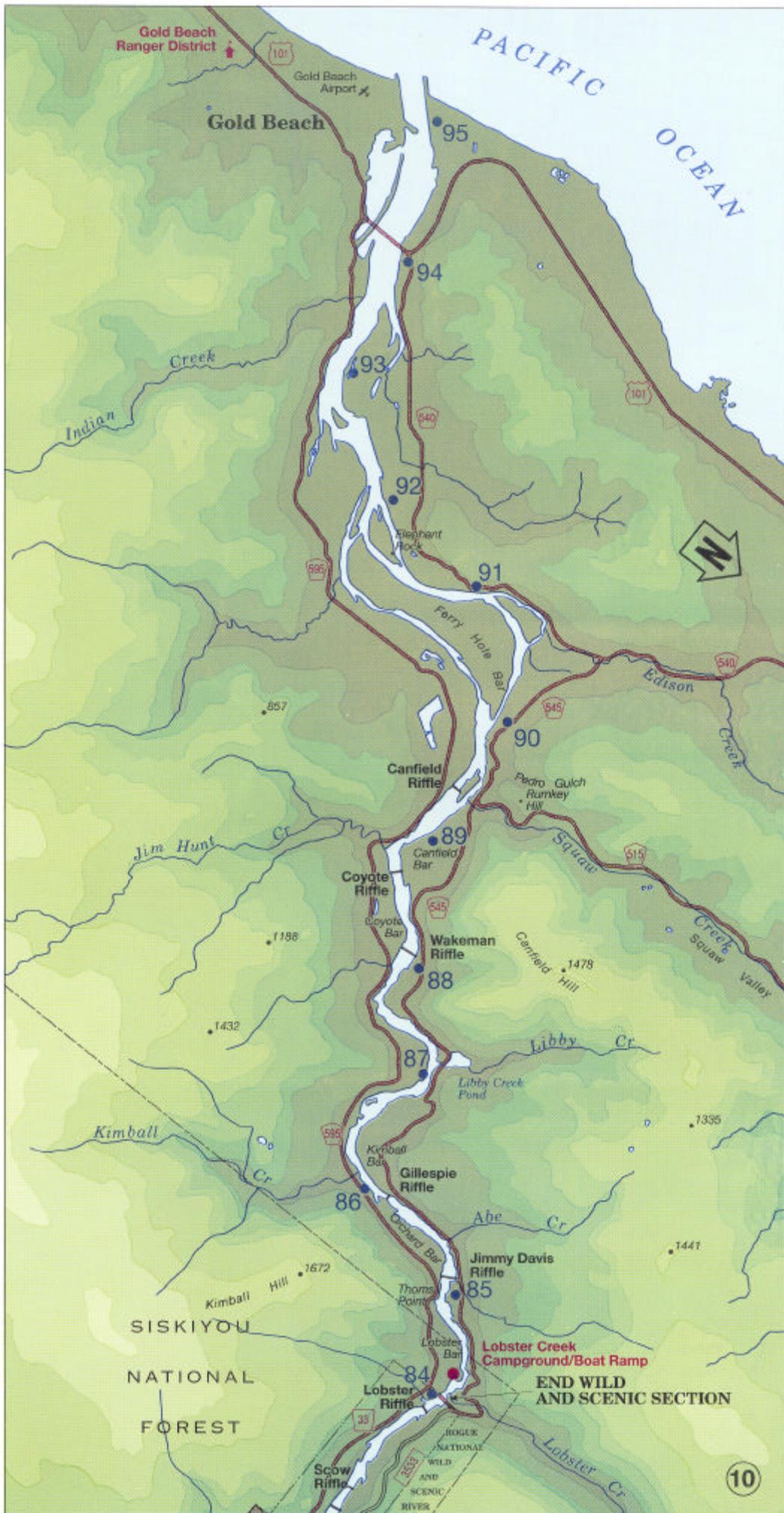


RIVER MILE	MAP PANEL #7	MILES FROM GRAVE CREEK
69.9	<b>Blue Jay Creek</b> (right bank)—Beginning of a 7½-mile stretch of “Scenic” river named Copper Canyon. The Gold Beach/Agness road climbs away and leaves the river for this stretch of slow, winding water with small riffles and excellent camping beaches.	42.9
67.9	<b>Agness Boat Landing</b> (right bank)—A dirt road leads down to a graveled beach. 	40.9
67.9	Confluence of the Illinois River (left bank) and the Rogue.	40.9
62.0	<b>Illahe Riffle (Class II)</b> —Part II.	35.0
61.9	<b>Illahe Campground</b> —U.S. Forest Service campground accessed through the Foster Bar take-out and road. This is not a riverside campsite.   	34.9
61.9	<b>Illahe Riffle (Class II)</b> —Part I. “Illahe” (ill’-a-hee) is a Chinook Indian term meaning “land on earth”; the Indians felt this was their land to fight for and keep.	34.9
61.2	<b>Foster Creek/Foster Bar</b> (right bank)—Boat ramp and take-out point featuring shuttle parking, garbage disposal, toilets, and changing rooms. Trailhead for 40-mile Rogue River Trail ending at Grave Creek.  	34.2
60.7	<b>Billings Creek</b> (right bank)—Named after John Billings, a settler. <b>Illahe Lodge</b> is located on the right bank.	33.7
60.4	<b>Brewery Hole (Class I)</b> —The river is very shallow here, with an island in right midstream. The far right channel is FOR HIGH-SPEED, JETBOAT USE ONLY! The main river channel passes TO THE LEFT of a small boulder located in the center of the river.	33.4
59.7	<b>Big Bend</b> —The river begins a long, slow turn. The Big Bend/Illahe stretch of the river was the site of the last Indian battle of the 1855–56 wars. On May 27, 1856, the Battle of Big Bend spanned 30 hours, and two days later, the Indians, known as the Upper Rogue Band, surrendered. The removal of more than 1,000 Indians to the Siletz Reservation signaled the end of Native American occupation of the Rogue River Canyon.	32.7
59.6	<b>Watson Riffle (Class II)</b>	32.6
59.4	<b>Watson Creek</b> (left bank)—This creek marks the end of the “Wild” section of the Rogue and begins a “Recreational” section downstream to Blue Jay Creek.	32.4
59.2	<b>Watson Creek/pool</b> —The trees on the left bank are frequently used as perches by bald eagles.	32.2
59.0	<b>Burnt Rapids (Class II)</b>	32.0
58.2	<b>Wild River Lodge</b> (left bank)	31.2
58.1	<b>Payton Riffle (Class II)</b>	31.1









*Do you want to know more about the Rogue River?*

**For:** Noncommercial River Permits  
Wild Rogue Information  
Coastal Rogue Information

**Contact:** River Permits/Information  
Rand Visitor Center  
14335 Galice Road  
Merlin, OR 97532  
503/479-3735

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**For:** Commercial River Permits  
Wild Rogue Information  
Middle Rogue Information

**Contact:** BLM – Medford District  
Rogue River Program  
3040 Biddle Road  
Medford, OR 97504  
503/770-2200



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