In addition to the recreational activities provided at Sharps Creek Recreation Site, there are several interesting attractions nearby. The Bohemia Mining District and covered bridges offer a glimpse into the area's past. Dorena Lake provides opportunities for fishing, wildlife viewing, boating, swimming, and windsurfing. Hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians can enjoy the area's remarkable scenery while traveling the 16-mile Row River Trail. The Row River rail is an old abandoned railway that has been developed into a paved recreational trail extending from downtown Cottage Grove along the shores of Dorena Lake to the small

Know Before You Go

The Sharps Creek Recreation Site is open each year from approximately May 15 through September 30. There are no fees for day use, but visitors should call ahead for campground rates.

The site contains 11 campsites (25-foot limit for recreational vehicles) with picnic tables and fire rings, and one universal accessible campsite. There are three accessible portable toilets and potable water available by way of a hand pump. The campsites do not have electricity, dump stations, or shelters.

Recreational Mining

Looking to strike it rich? Visitors can enjoy recreational gold panning, sluicing, and suction dredging in Sharps Creek. The richest gold find in the Cascade Mountains was found in Sharps Creek in 1858. Recreational gold panning is allowed June 1 through September 15. Sluicing and suction dredging with hoses with a diameter of 4 inches or less is allowed July 1 through September 1 provided that the mining activity does not interfere with other recreational activities. Suction dredging requires a permit from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality located in Salem, Oregon. Please do not operate mining equipment immediately upstream when people are using the popular swimming area. Stay within the boundaries of the recreation site to avoid trespassing on adjacent private lands.

Campground Rules

- Camping is limited to 14 days.
- Pets must be leashed and under the control at all times.
- Maximum three vehicles per campsite.
- Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Confine open fire to designated grills or fire rings only. Never leave fire unattended.
- Discharge of firearms, firecrackers, or other fireworks is prohibited.
- Amplified sound such as radios, televisions, musical instruments and other audio devices shall be operated in a manner that does not disturb other campers
- Children should use swimming area only with adults in attendance. **All swimmers should use caution.** Currents can be very strong and wood debris and boulders can be hidden beneath the surface of the water. There are no lifeguards and swimming is at your own risk.
- Do not disturb plants or wildlife.
- Thoroughly clean camp unit before departure.

Directions to the Site

From Interstate I-5 ***(northbound and southbound)***, take Cottage Grove exit 174. Turn left from exit ramp and follow the signs to Dorena Lake. Follow Row River Road for approximately 4 miles. Continue straight on Shoreview Drive for 6.6 miles until it rejoins Row River Road. Merge right onto Row River Road and travel for 4.2 miles to Sharps Creek Road. Turn right onto Sharps Creek Road and continue for 3.1 miles. The campground is located on the right side of the road; the day-use area overlooking Sharps Creek is on the left.

District Contact Information

Eugene District Office

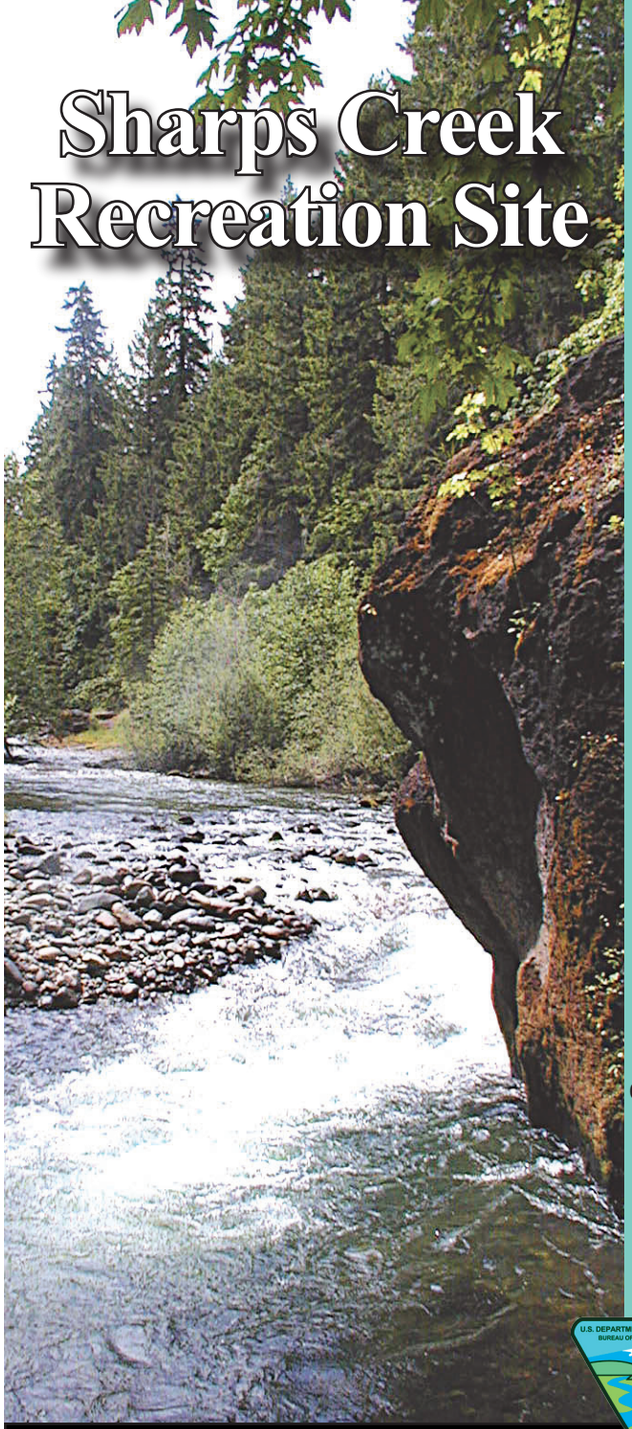
Bureau of Land Management
2890 Chad Drive
P.O. Box 10226
Eugene, OR 97440

(888) 442-3062 or (541) 683-6600
TDD (541) 683-6094

www.or.blm.gov/eugene

BLM/OR/WA/GI-05/033+1122.32

Sharps Creek Recreation Site



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Eugene District

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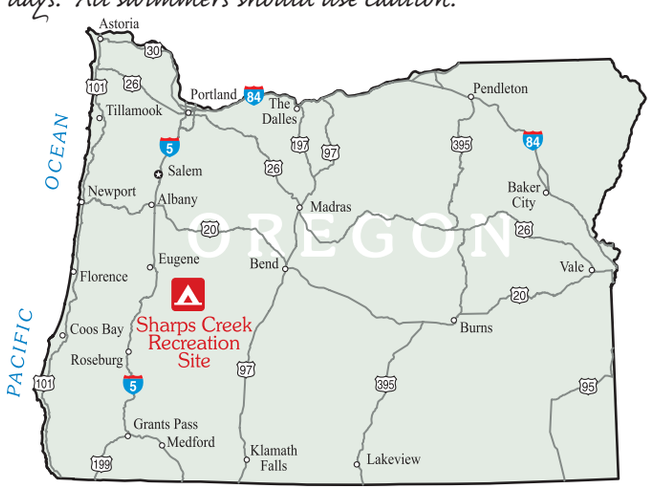
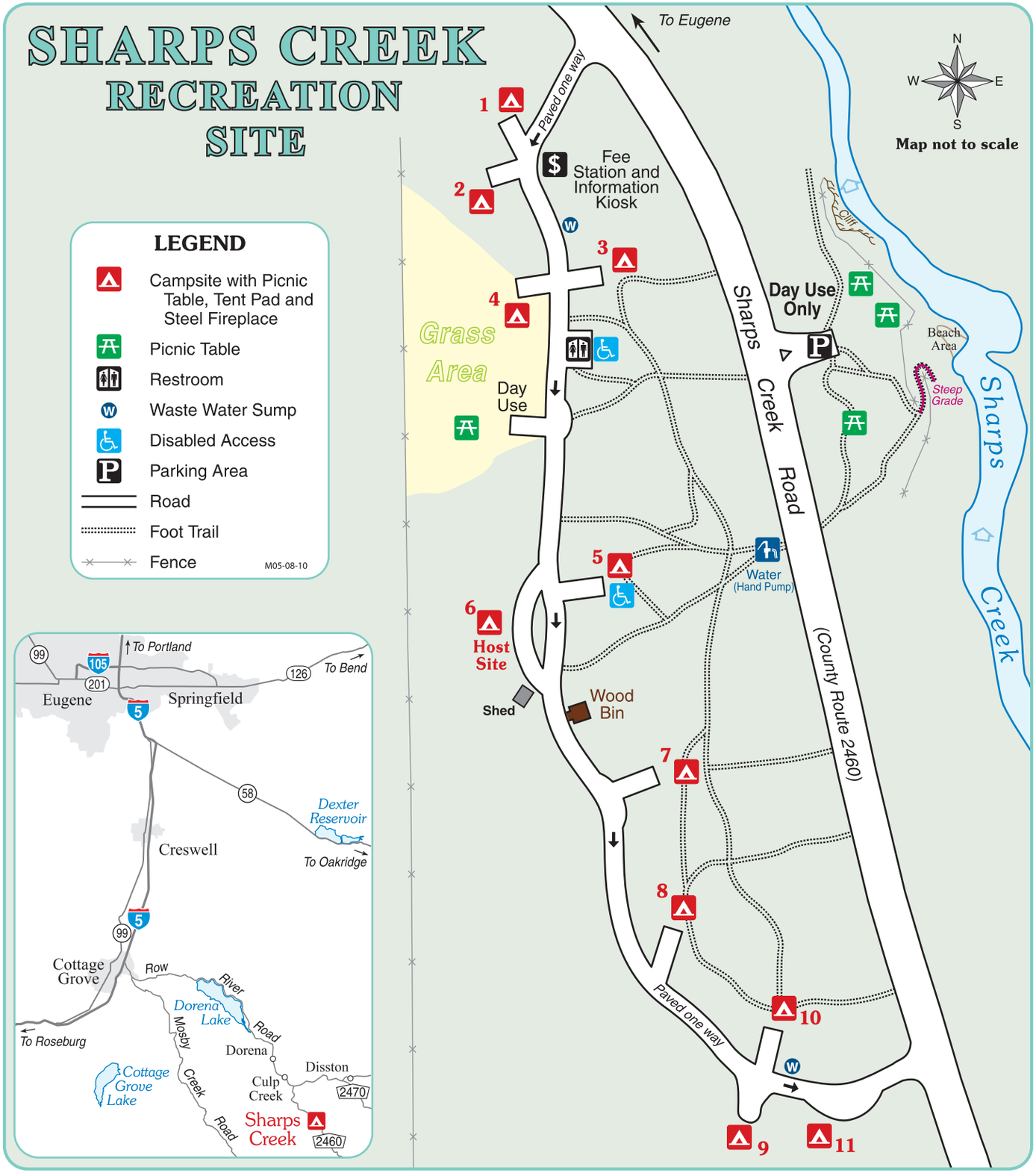
Welcome to Sharps Creek Recreation Site

Sharps Creek Recreation Site is nestled in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, 18 miles southeast of Cottage Grove, Oregon. Located in evergreen forest on the bank of Sharps Creek, the site offers opportunities for hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing, camping, picnicking, swimming, and panning for gold.

Douglas-fir and western redcedar trees tower above the site, providing a canopy of shade for visitors. Growing beneath their branches are other trees and shrubs such as Oregon hazel, bigleaf and vine maples, Indian-plum, common snowberry, Oregon-grape, wild rose, and red huckleberry. This diverse plant life provides habitat for birds, deer, elk, bear, mountain lions, raccoon, and squirrels.

Sharps Creek Recreation Site consists of a small, family campground and a day-use area overlooking Sharps Creek. A swimming hole at the base of the overlook provides a refreshing place to cool down on hot, summer days. All swimmers should use caution.



SHARPS CREEK RECREATION SITE