

# PRIEST HOLE RECREATION AREA

*The Bureau of Land Management*  
Prineville District



## WELCOME TO PRIEST HOLE RECREATION AREA!

Priest Hole contains 14 drive-in campsites, a walk-in dispersed camping area, boat ramp, and day use areas. Camping is currently free. An online permit from Recreation.gov is required to boat the John Day River. Except only a paper permit (found onsite at kiosks) is required to float the one mile within Priest Hole. Please help take care of this beautiful resource by using the bathroom facilities, by packing out all garbage (including food waste like fruit peels and nutshells), and by only driving along open roads and camping in designated campsites. When campfires are allowed they must be contained in the metal fire rings at campsites or within a raised fire pan if within the dispersed walk-in area.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- ✓ **OPEN YEAR ROUND** via semi-primitive roads, trailers over 25' not advised.
- ✓ **FIRE RESTRICTIONS** apply June 1 – October 15 (liquid gas or propane stoves only). Cutting vegetation, including standing dead vegetation is not allowed.
- ✓ **AMMENITIES** include fire rings, picnic tables, two toilets, and a primitive boat ramp. There is NO potable water, garbage service or cell connectivity.
- ✓ **ACCESSIBILITY** Ground surface is non-compacted gravel with minimal grade.
- ✓ **PETS ARE ALLOWED** on leash or under physical control. Pack out waste. **HUNTING/FISHING LICENSES** are required. Firearm discharge is prohibited in all developed recreation sites including Priest Hole.

## DIRECTIONS

Priest Hole is located on the John Day River about 12 miles from Mitchell, Oregon. From Prineville, head east on Highway 26 and turn north on Burnt Ranch Road toward the John Day Fossil Beds, Painted Hills Unit. Pass the Painted Hills and follow the gravel road for 3 miles. Take a right (uphill) at the junction of Priest Hole or Burnt Ranch Rec Sites. From there, take a left downhill, following the sign to Priest Hole.

## CONTACT INFO



3050 N.E. 3rd St.  
Prineville, OR 97754  
541-416-6700  
BLM\_OR\_PR\_Mail@blm.gov

## POINT OF INTEREST

Priest Hole is a local favorite for fishing and swimming. Stopping here is a natural part of a visit to the Painted Hills, Sutton Mountain Back Country Byway and eastern Oregon!



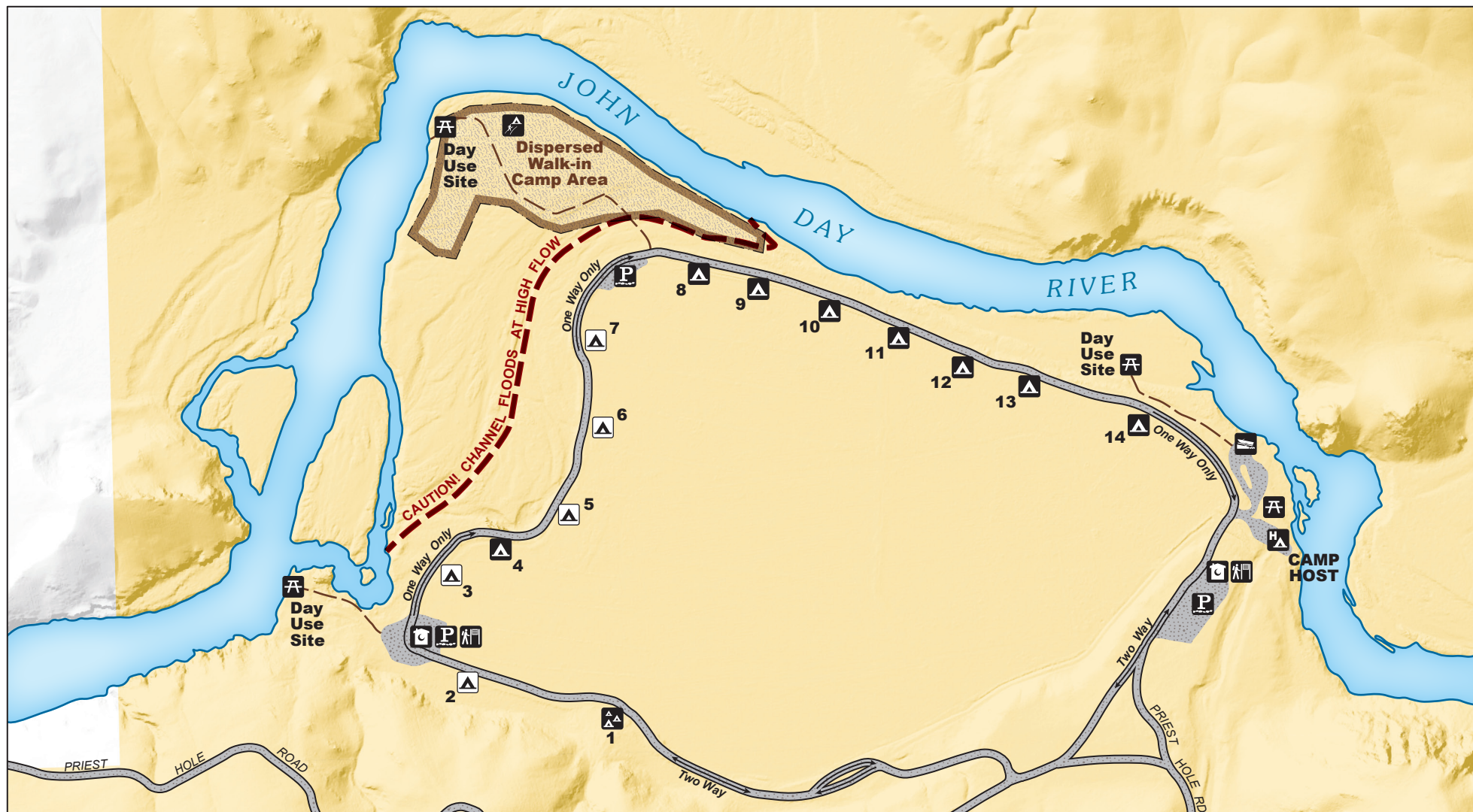




# Priest Hole Recreation Site

## John Day Wild and Scenic River

Bureau of Land Management  
Prineville District  
3050 NE 3rd Street  
Prineville, OR, 97754  
541-416-6700

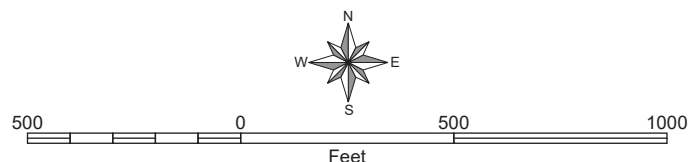


- Informational Kiosk
- Back-in Site
- Pull-through Site
- Group Use Site
- Walk-in Sites
- Camp Host

- Day Use Site
- Primitive Boat Ramp
- Vault Toilet
- Parking Area

- Trail
- Flood Prone Area

- Dispersed Walk-in Camp Area Prone to Flooding
- Gravel Road
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private or Other



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