

# PRIEST HOLE RECREATION AREA

The Bureau of Land Management  
Prineville District



## WELCOME TO PRIEST HOLE RECREATION AREA!

Primitive camping opportunities exist within the Priest Hole area along the John Day Wild and Scenic River. Please help take care of this beautiful resource by using the bathroom facilities, by packing out garbage (including food waste like fruit peels and nutshells), and by only driving and camping along open roads. A fire pan is required if having a campfire when fires are allowed in order keep the area pristine and attractive to others.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- ✓ **OPEN YEAR ROUND** but the rough road can make access difficult in winter.
- ✓ **ACCESSIBILITY** is primitive and not easily accessible for people with disabilities.
- ✓ **NO FEES** for camping. A free paper permit found at kiosks is required to float the one mile section of river around Priest Hole. There is one toilet; NO potable water, trash cans or campsite amenities.
- ✓ **PETS ARE ALLOWED** under owner control. Watch for rattlesnakes.
- ✓ **HUNTING/FISHING LICENSES ARE REQUIRED.** Fire restrictions run June 1 – October 15 (liquid gas or propane only).

## 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  
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## POINT OF INTEREST

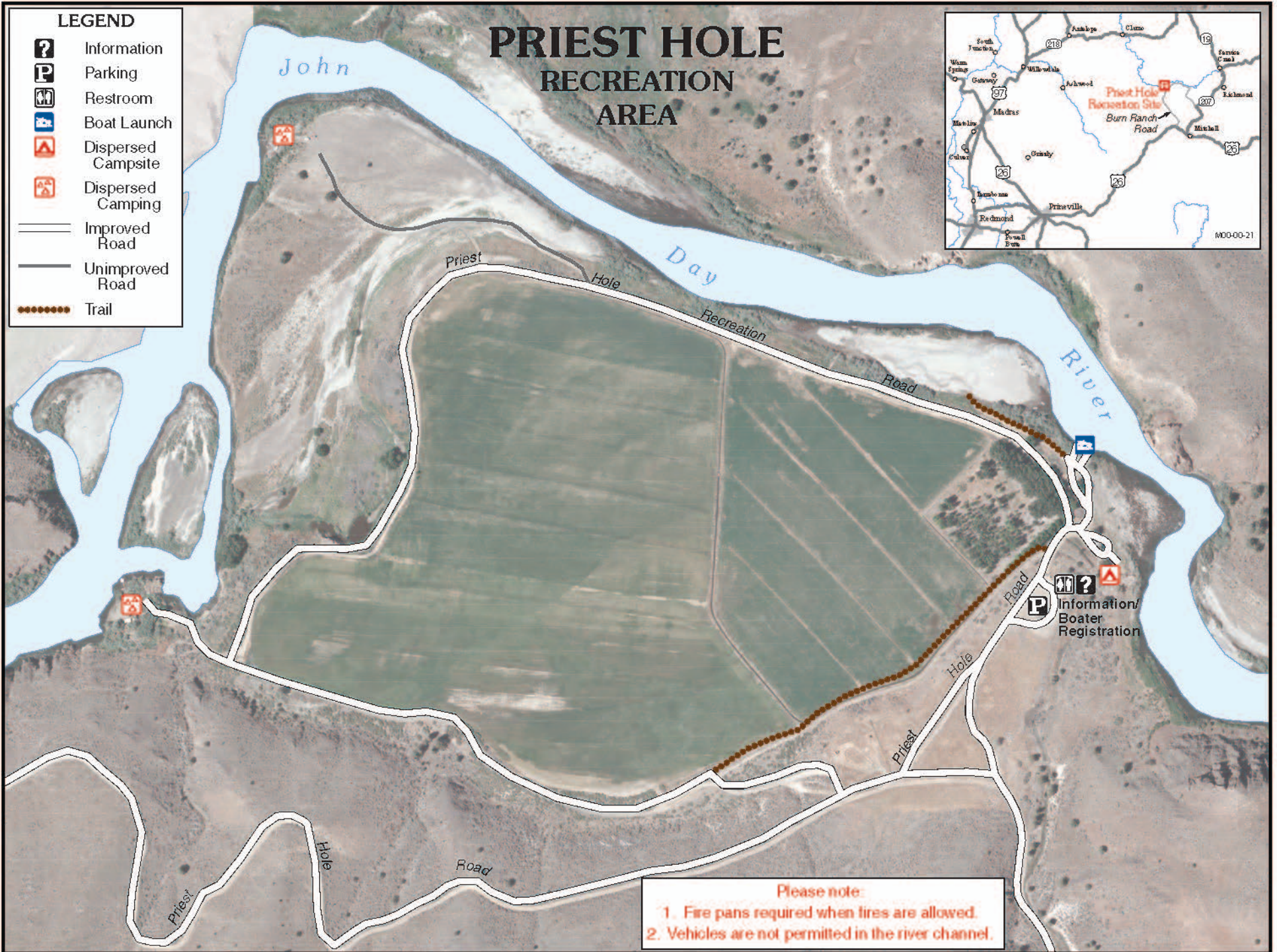
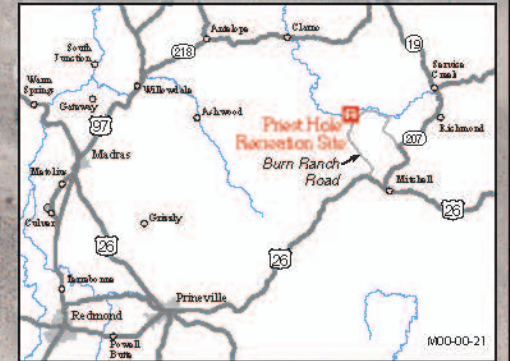
Priest Hole is a local favorite for fishing and swimming. Stopping here is a natural part of a visit to the Painted Hills, Sutton Mountain Back Country Byway and eastern Oregon!



**LEGEND**

-  Information
-  Parking
-  Restroom
-  Boat Launch
-  Dispersed Campsite
-  Dispersed Camping
-  Improved Road
-  Unimproved Road
-  Trail

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**Please note:**  
1. Fire pans required when fires are allowed.  
2. Vehicles are not permitted in the river channel.