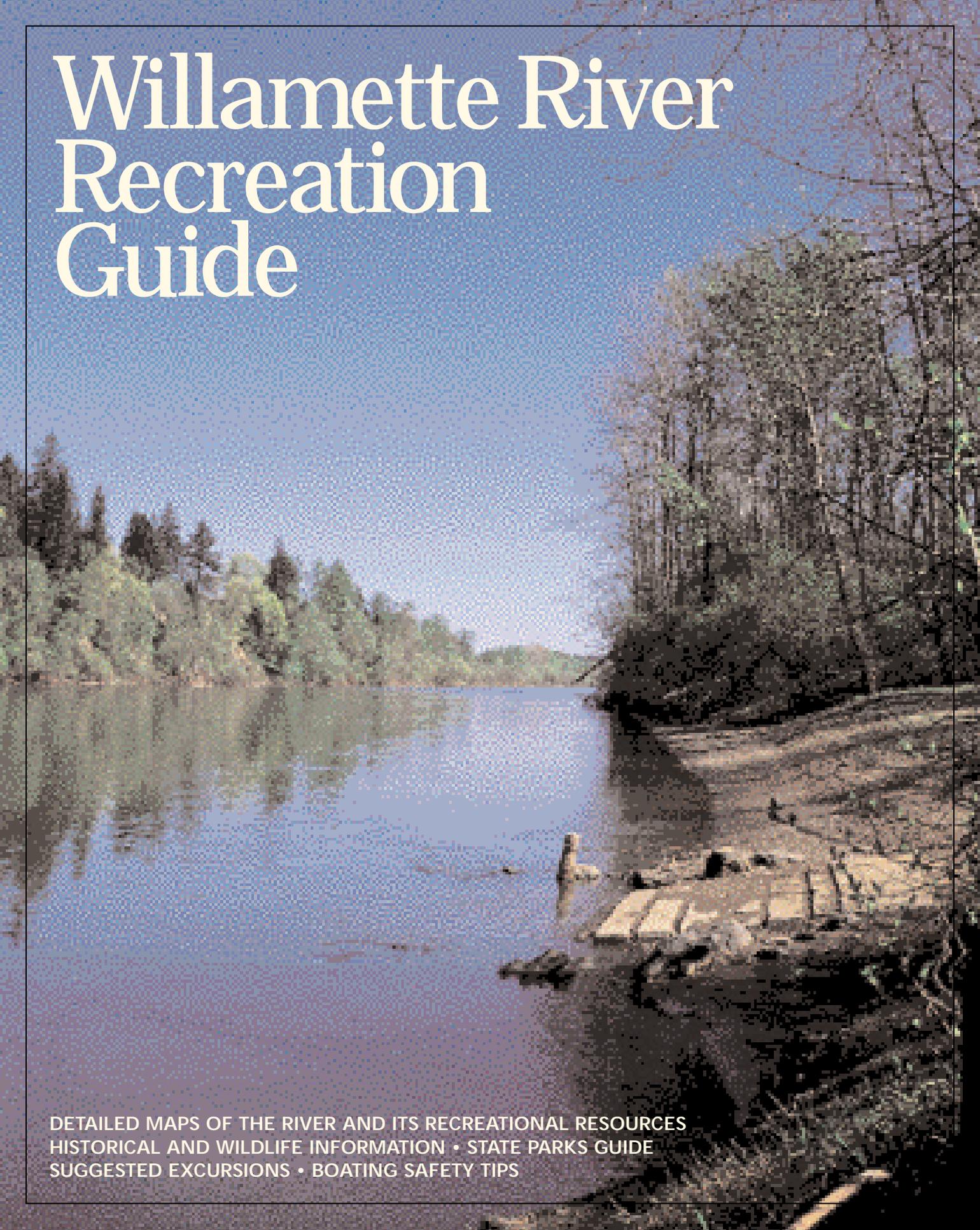


Willamette River Recreation Guide



DETAILED MAPS OF THE RIVER AND ITS RECREATIONAL RESOURCES
HISTORICAL AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION • STATE PARKS GUIDE
SUGGESTED EXCURSIONS • BOATING SAFETY TIPS

Governor's Message



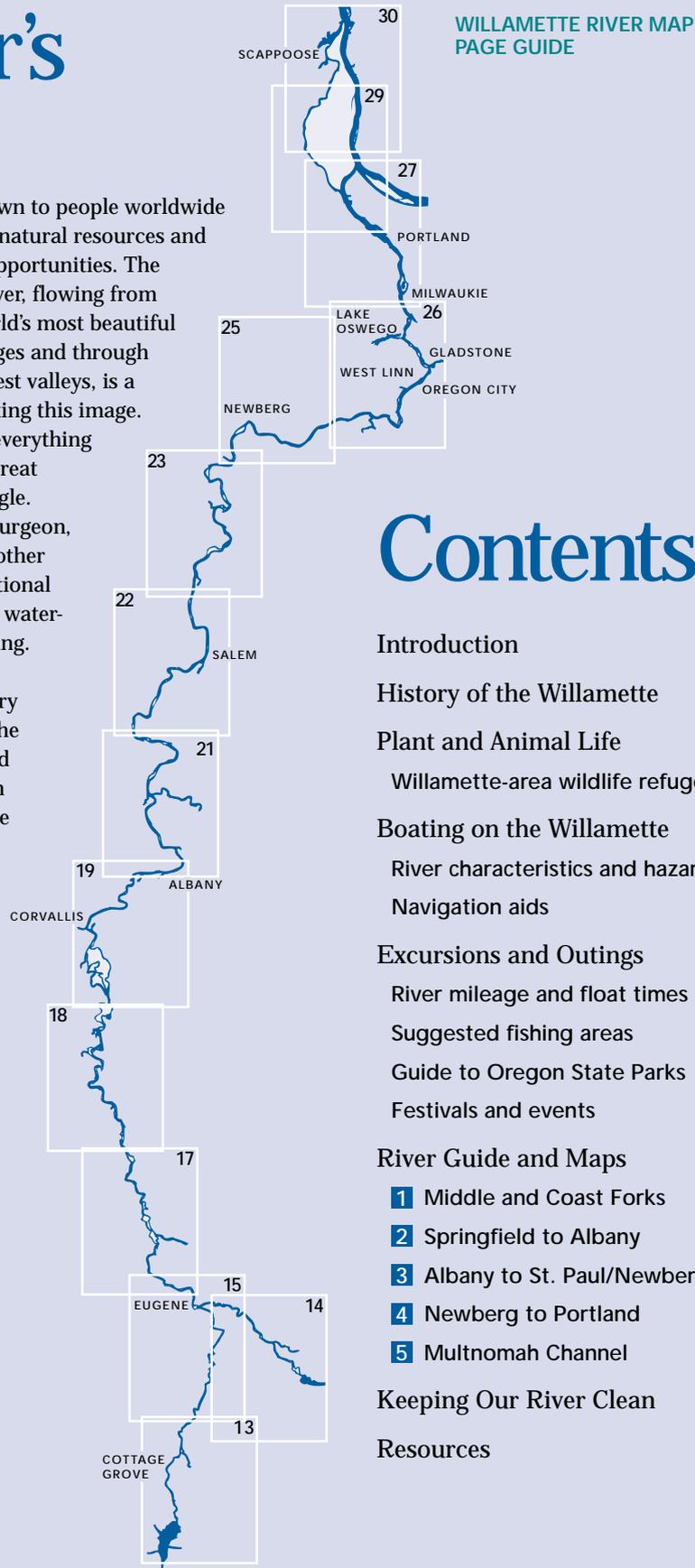
Oregon is known to people worldwide for its beauty, natural resources and recreational opportunities. The Willamette River, flowing from one of the world's most beautiful mountain ranges and through one of its richest valleys, is a resource befitting this image. One can find everything

along its shores from a graceful great blue heron to a swooping bald eagle. Its waters are home to salmon, sturgeon, native cutthroat trout and many other species. It supports varied recreational opportunities—from boating and water-skiing to fishing and nature viewing.

Beyond its natural beauty, the Willamette is steeped in the history of Oregon territory. Pioneers by the thousands in the mid-1800s ended their long journeys on the Oregon Trail at Oregon City. For them, the Willamette meant new hope and opportunity.

Today, this living museum of our natural and cultural history is a year-round recreational resource for all Oregonians as well as for our visitors. This Willamette River Recreation Guide is your passport to use and enjoy this great river. We hope you accept the invitation.

John A. Kitzhaber
September 1, 1998



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Introduction

The Willamette River begins its nearly 300-mile journey in the high Cascades southeast of Eugene. Winding through forest, farmland and city, it travels northward the length of the Willamette Valley before joining the Columbia River at Portland. Along the way, it changes from a rushing mountain stream into a substantial river more than a quarter-mile across.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide is an invitation for people to return to the river—to use it and enjoy it. Hiking along its banks or cruising its waters allows one an opportunity to step back into Oregon's history to witness the natural beauty and bountiful environment that was—and is—Oregon.

counties and 19 cities, miles of its channels, sloughs and backwaters cannot be seen from roads or towns. Many communities, no longer economically dependent on it, have turned their backs on the river. The Willamette is often overlooked—so familiar a part of our landscape that it sometimes fades into the background.

HOW TO USE THE GUIDE

This guide is designed to make it easy to visit and experience the river whether by boat, bicycle, motor vehicle or on foot. The guide divides the river into five sections, beginning on page 12. For each section, important features are described and mapped. These include state and local parks, state greenway and Division of State Lands parcels, boat ramps, marinas, wildlife areas and other points of interest. The maps show public roads that lead to greenway parcels, parks or other public access points. Each section also highlights possible outings.

Maps in this guide show major features, channels, sloughs, islands

The Willamette is a vital, multi-purpose waterway that touches the lives of millions of people. It provides ports for commercial barges and oceangoing ships, irrigation for crops sold worldwide, an abundant fishery, and recreational opportunities.

Nearly 70 percent of Oregonians live within 20 miles of the Willamette River. As important as it is to us, the Willamette is relatively unknown to many of those who live near it. Although the river passes through nine

and navigational hazards. Although considerably tamed from the way explorers found it 200 years ago, the Willamette changes with each season and, in the lower sections, with the daily tides. Never disregard its power or dismiss its hazards. In some areas, large commercial barges and oceangoing vessels present a hazard; in others, the sheer number and variety of activities engaged in by boaters and other river users is a danger.



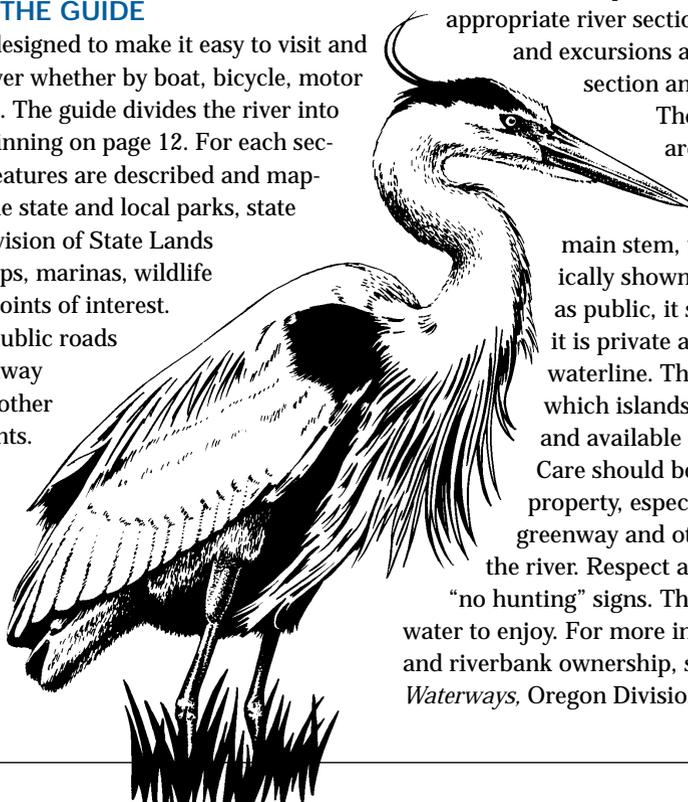
The guide also contains information about river history, plants, fish and wild-

life, environmental issues, boating safety, recreational activities and what to do in emergencies. The list of resources on page 32 provides more information. When planning an outing, check the appropriate river section in the guide. Outings and excursions are suggested in each section and on pages 8-11.

The Coast and Middle forks are public to the “ordinary high” waterline on the riverbank. On the

main stem, unless property is specifically shown on the maps or signed as public, it should be assumed that it is private above the “ordinary low” waterline. The maps also indicate which islands are in public ownership and available for camping or day use. Care should be taken to respect private property, especially when entering state greenway and other public parcels from

the river. Respect all “no trespassing” and “no hunting” signs. There is plenty of land and water to enjoy. For more information on riverbed and riverbank ownership, see *Who Owns the Waterways*, Oregon Division of State Lands.



Public uses and recreational opportunities

A great many pastimes can be enjoyed on the Willamette. These include boating, camping, picnicking, swimming, hiking, bicycling, wildlife viewing, fishing and hunting. There are ten state parks, three public ferries, and more than 170 Oregon State Willamette River Greenway parcels, city and county parks, boat ramps, and Division of State Lands parcels along the river and its major tributaries. The river provides habitat for hundreds of types of plants, and many species of birds, fish and animals.

A vast river system

The Willamette River drains 12,000 square miles of land at an average rate of flow that would fill 175 buildings the size of Portland's tallest skyscraper every day.

ABOVE: *Canoeing on the McKenzie River, a Willamette tributary*

ABOVE LEFT: *Skiing on the Willamette*

History of the Willamette

Perhaps for as long as 10,000 years, the Willamette River basin has been the wellspring of life for the people who have lived along its shores and ridden its waters. It has been a major source of food, water, transportation and commerce in the bountiful heartland of western Oregon—the Willamette Valley.

Brush burning

A common Native American practice was to burn the Willamette Valley each fall at one of its preserves in the Willamette Valley. This created and maintained the oak and grassland savanna that favored elk and deer as well as camas, tarweed and acorn habitat—important foods for the native population. The cleared land helped in the gathering of seeds, roots and bulbs, as well as creating exposed areas for easier hunting. The brush burning also created major areas of open prairie that attracted Euro-American settlers because the land was already cleared.

Early traders

The first large vessel to enter the Willamette was the “Owyhee,” a Boston trading ship that sailed to within a mile of Willamette Falls in 1829—the same year Hudson’s Bay Company established an outpost at Oregon City.

ABOVE: Modern-day brush burning for biological purposes

BEAUTIFUL WILLAMETTE

From the Cascades’ frozen gorges,
Leaping like a child at play,
Winding, widening through the valley,
Bright Willamette glides away;
Onward ever,
Lovely river,
Softly calling to the sea.
Time, that scars us,
Maims and mars us,
Leaves no track or trench on thee.

—SAMUEL L. SIMPSON, 1868

recreate and relax—to enjoy the many virtues Oregon has to offer.

The Willamette is one of the few major rivers in the U.S. that flows primarily north. So narrow and shallow in places that pioneers felled trees for bridges, it widens to more than 2,000 feet across in Portland. Originally, the river meandered in a wide swath across the valley floor, changing channels frequently to form new islands and oxbows. Today, the Willamette is rather tame by comparison. Wing dams, revetments, dredging and flood control projects have altered the flow patterns to create a simpler, deeper channel.

NATIVE AMERICANS

There is evidence of human presence in the Willamette Valley as long as 10,000 years ago, several thousand years after the close of the Ice Age, when Asiatics from what is now Siberia crossed over an Alaskan land bridge into North America.

Most of the Willamette Valley Native American inhabitants were Kalapuyans—a collection of bands that shared the same dialect. One small band, the Calapooia,

For Oregonians, the “Beautiful Willamette” is more than just a lovely river. It is a key part of our colorful history, a working river of vital economic importance, and a place to fish, boat,

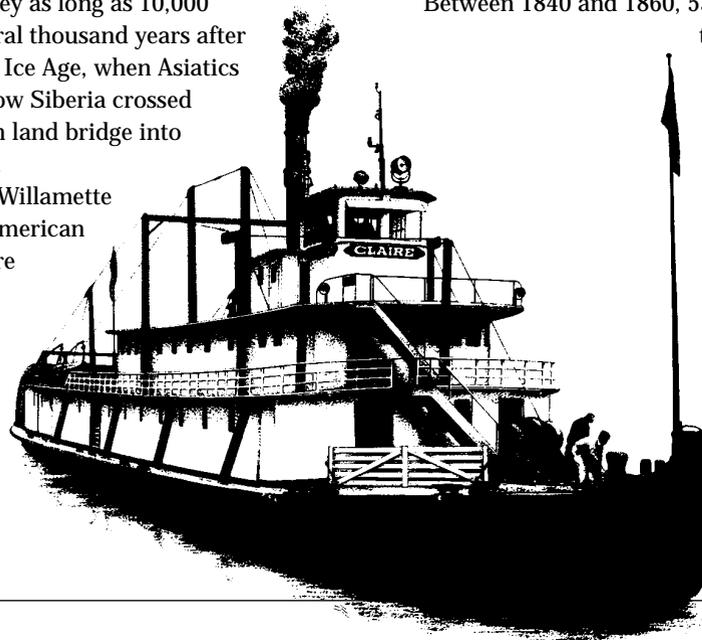
lived near and along the Calapooia River. Other Kalapuyans included the Tualatin, Santiam, Yamhill and Luckiamute bands. Chinookan people occupied the lower Willamette below the falls. The Clackamas were members of the Chinook family group. The native bands in the valley subsisted mostly on nuts, berries and roots, although they also were good hunters—using the snare and trap as effectively as the bow and arrow.

A smallpox epidemic in 1782-83, followed by a malaria epidemic from 1830-33, wiped out 80 percent of the native people. By 1856, surviving members of the various bands were resettled under treaty onto the Grand Ronde reservation near Valley Junction.

EARLY SETTLEMENT

The Willamette River was first noted by English navigator Lt. William R. Broughton, a member of Capt. George Vancouver’s expedition, in 1792. Explorers Lewis and Clark, on behalf of the United States, ventured up it for about seven miles in 1806. The first Euro-Americans were the fur trappers, mostly working for the Hudson’s Bay Company at Ft. Vancouver, followed by the missionaries, who tried mightily to convert Native Americans to Christianity. Following them were the settlers, mostly farmers, who crossed the Oregon Trail. Between 1840 and 1860, 53,000 of them reached the valleys of Oregon.

Oregon City figured prominently in early history: not only was it an early Euro-American settlement in Oregon, in 1844 it also became the first city incorporated west of the Rockies. It was established by Dr. John McLoughlin, chief factor for the Hudson’s Bay Company at Ft. Vancouver, who is considered the “Father of Oregon.”



Below the falls, Linnton, St. Johns, Portland, Milwaukie, Linn City (now West Linn) and Oregon City all competed fiercely for dominance. Portland was the eventual winner. The river itself helped settle the issue. The major 1861 flood, for instance, wiped out many promising settlements—such as Linn City and Champoeg—as well as their prospects.

By the 1830s, settlement had gained a solid foothold above the falls. Many retired French-Canadians, who had

worked for Hudson's Bay Company, settled around Champoeg and St. Paul in what became known as French Prairie. Their wheat and produce needed markets, and with the 1849 California gold rush came the need for a reliable system of river commerce.

STEAMBOAT ERA

From the 1850s to the early 1900s, the steamboat was king

of the Willamette. Oregon City was initially the farthest upstream point of navigation. Over time, paddlewheelers began to operate above Willamette Falls. Occasionally, boats made it as far upriver as Eugene. Smaller steamboats even ventured up the Tualatin, Yamhill and Long Tom—small tributaries of the Willamette.

In 1873, the Willamette Falls Canal & Locks Company opened a 1,200-foot-long series of locks that lifted boats around the 41-foot-high falls at Oregon City. The locks hastened the growth and development of Oregon's fertile interior. At their peak in the 1880s, dozens of steamboats—their whistles sure to draw a crowd to the dock—moved tons of cargo and passenger traffic along the state's vital artery of commerce.

RAILS AND ROADS: THE TRANSFORMATION

By the 1880s, railroads had penetrated into the Willamette Valley. River communities such as Lincoln and Fairfield, once thriving trade centers, were bypassed. In 1883, the transcontinental railroad arrived in Portland, solidifying the iron link that would siphon away much of the steamboat trade.

The arrival of roads and gasoline-powered vehicles completed the transition away from riverboat trade. By the early 1900s, it was possible to maneuver a vehicle the full length of the valley, and in 1919 the state published its first official

road map. Truck and rail transportation soon dominated shipping in the valley. The steamboat whistle was silenced.

OUR FORGOTTEN RIVER

Perhaps the most discouraging period in the river's history was that of the early 1900s, when the Willamette became heavily polluted and neglected. With the decline of river commerce, wharves and docks were torn down. In some cities, roads or freeways replaced them; in others, new industries located along the river.

Soon, these industries began dumping their wastes directly into the river.

Cities and towns did the same. By the 1930s, the river was almost biologically dead—and certainly unsafe to swim. This condition persisted until after World War II, when federally funded sewage treatment facilities and other pollution controls began to restore the river.

By the early 1970s, the cleanup of the Willamette was a national success story. The river was declared safe for swimming in 1972. These efforts not only made it possible for salmon and steelhead runs to rebound, they again made the river attractive for boating, angling and other recreation.

Helping with this turn-about was Oregon's Willamette River Greenway Program. It was created by the Oregon Legislature in 1967 as a testament to the river's historic and natural resource significance, and its recreational potential. The greenway program is a cooperative state and local government effort to maintain and enhance the scenic, recreational, historic, natural and agricultural qualities of the river and its adjacent lands.

THE MODERN DAY WILLAMETTE

Today's river bustles with activity. Commercial tugs and barges navigate the locks to move wood chips, logs, sand and gravel, and other products to market. Huge freighters and oceangoing barges move tons of cargo through the Port of Portland and private docks in the Portland harbor.

Recreation is now the fastest-growing use of the river. Pleasure boating, skiing and angling are increasing. Portland, Lake Oswego, Salem, Albany, Corvallis, Harrisburg, Eugene and Springfield are among the cities and towns that have greatly increased parklands and public access along the Willamette. The public is reclaiming its river.

In 1998, the Willamette was named an American Heritage River, a federal designation to assist in restoring and protecting the river.



First Oregon-built steamer

On Christmas Day, 1850, the 160-foot steamboat "Lot Whitcomb," above, was launched at the Milwaukie basin. The first steamboat built in Oregon, its sidewheels measured 18 feet in diameter. By 1878, some 52 sidewheel and sternwheel steamers had been built along the Willamette, most of them at Canemah just above Willamette Falls. In 1854, at Canemah, the boilers on the steamer "Gazelle" exploded, killing 24 people.

ABOVE LEFT: "Father of Oregon" John McLoughlin

ABOVE: Sidewheeler "Lot Whitcomb"

1861 FLOOD

The devastating 1861 flood wiped out scores of communities and landings, "sucking and sweeping everything into its path," according to one account. Historic Champoeg was among the casualties, inundated by more than 20 feet of water.



Watchable wildlife

Oregon's Watchable Wildlife, a pamphlet of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, provides good information about where to go to enjoy animal life.

Canada geese

The Willamette runs down the center of the Pacific migratory flyway. Canada geese begin showing up along the Willamette in mid-October, including the rare dusky Canada goose for whose protection the national wildlife refuges in the Willamette Valley were originally created.

White sturgeon

The largest fish in the Willamette is the white sturgeon, growing to more than 8 feet in length. These giants are fished mostly in the lower river. Popular spots are below the falls in Oregon City, and near Sellwood Riverfront Park, the Steel Bridge and the Rivergate industrial district in Portland. Upriver, the mouth of the Long Tom is one of the better-known holes.

ABOVE: *Baby raccoon*

ABOVE RIGHT: *Camas Lily*

Plant and Animal Life

One of the remarkable qualities of the Willamette River is the amount of wildlife it supports even though it travels through Oregon's most populous region. It is possible—even likely—to come across bald eagles, osprey, great blue heron, Canada geese, deer, otter, beaver, rare turtles, salamanders and numerous other animals along the river.

This variety makes the Willamette a favorite location for nature viewing, fishing and hunting. Having public land and wildlife refuges near the river



enhances these recreational opportunities. Care should be taken to minimize human impact on this habitat. Many migratory birds, for instance, are protected by state and federal law. Some plant and animal species are listed as threatened or endangered. In particular, nesting areas should not be disturbed.

Any destruction of protected habitat, violation of fishing or hunting regulations, or any other threat to protected species should be reported to the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW).

BIRDS

One of the most visible birds along the Willamette is the great blue heron. Its rarer cousin, the green-backed heron, can occasionally be seen as well. Nesting areas, called rookeries, are found in various locations, including Ross Island, Oaks Bottom, Goat Island, Molalla State Park, Luckiamute Landing and Alton Baker Park in Eugene.

Six state and national wildlife refuges are located along or near the river (see map and refuge guide on page 5), representing 24,000 acres of important winter habitat for geese, ducks and swans. In addition, large raptors such as the osprey, red-tailed hawk, great horned owl and bald eagle live along the waterway.

Songbirds such as the goldfinch, tree swallow, dark-eyed junco and common yellowthroat flit around in trees and meadows.

Kingfishers, killdeer, mallard ducks and common mergansers are often seen along the river. Occasionally, the beautiful song of Oregon's state bird—the western meadowlark—is heard. The pileated woodpecker and red-shafted flicker also abound.

FISH

The spring chinook run is the Willamette's dominant run of anadromous fish (species that spawn in fresh water after growing to adult size in the ocean). This run now contributes substantially to the Columbia River commercial and sport fisheries, as well as supporting a choice fishery in the Willamette and its tributaries.

The salmon enter the river as early as February, and typically pass over Willamette Falls in May and June. A smaller fall chinook run occurs in mid-August to late September.

Steelhead enter the river in both the summer and winter. Summer-run steelhead pass the falls from early March until October, followed by the winter steelhead from early November to mid-May. Cutthroat and rainbow trout are most plentiful in the waters above

Peoria. Willamette cutthroat migrate into tributaries in the fall to spawn. Whitefish, another member of the trout family, also are abundant in the upper Willamette.

Panfish are found wherever the water slows and warms—such as sloughs and quiet channels—or around man-made structures. Crappie, bluegill and largemouth bass are the most abundant, but smallmouth

One of the largest black cottonwoods in the United States survives in Willamette Mission State Park—a 250-year-old giant measuring more than 26 feet around and 155 feet in height.



bass, catfish and perch also can be found. Occasionally walleye, found only below Willamette Falls, are caught.

A wide variety of non-game fish are readily available to the angler throughout the river. Some of the more common species include carp, sucker and squawfish.

Several good fishing areas are highlighted on page 10.

ANIMALS

Common mammals are black-tailed deer, raccoon, otter and nutria (a South American import that is similar to a beaver, but smaller). Occasionally, a red fox, coyote or mink can be

seen. Oregon's state animal, the beaver, can be found in some locations.

The river corridor also features a variety of reptiles and amphibians, including gopher snake, garter snake, ringneck snake, long-toed salamander, rough-skinned newt, tree frog and the introduced bullfrog. The rare western pond turtle and painted turtle only remain in a few sloughs and oxbow lakes.

VEGETATION

The Willamette Valley and river system contain a rich array of plant life. Early explorers found the river lined for up to two miles on each side with dense forests.

Trees such as black cottonwood, Oregon white oak, Oregon ash, western redcedar, big-leaf maple, Douglas fir, grand fir, ponderosa pine and willow made up these impressive forests. Nearly all of it has been replaced by agriculture, gravel mining and urbanization. Forest remnants are located at Luckiamute Landing, Willamette Mission State Park (on Grand Island) and Scappoose Bay Landing.

The river's riparian areas and low wet areas along the river's shorelines are abundant with lush growth. The sloughs, islands, marshes and swamp areas are composed of trees, shrubs, grasses, wildflowers and other herbaceous plants.

These areas are of extreme importance to the health of the river and support wildlife. The vegetation filters and purifies water as it moves into and along the river. The complex plant communities provide valuable habitat for animals and insects that live along the river. Large native plant communities can be found on Sauvie Island, Oaks Bottom, Cardiani Bar near Yamhill Landing, Wells Island and the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum near Springfield.



WILDLIFE VIEWING AREAS

There are many areas to enjoy the Willamette River's abundant wildlife. They include:

Burlington Bottom

A 428-acre area north of the Sauvie Island bridge along the west side of Multnomah Channel, set aside to benefit wintering waterfowl and associated wetland wildlife.

Oaks Bottom

160-acre preserve has a great diversity of water features and plant communities. Heavily used by heron, waterfowl and smaller birds. Trailhead is at SE 7th Ave. and Sellwood Blvd. in Portland.

Luckiamute Landing

A good boat camping spot and Willamette greenway parcel opposite the mouth of the Santiam River. Excellent area for viewing remnants of the gallery forests that used to line the Willamette. Ospreys, turkey vultures and herons frequent the area.

Middle Fork

Osprey, red-tailed hawks and bald eagles grace the skies. At Dexter Dam, watch adult chinook salmon in fish ladder and holding ponds from May-October.

ABOVE: Riparian vegetation

WILDLIFE REFUGES ALONG THE WILLAMETTE



Sauvie Island Wildlife Management Area

Take Highway 30 to Sauvie Island bridge, proceed toward north end of Sauvie Island. Refuge is off Reeder Road.

12,000 acres of state-owned habitat for wintering waterfowl, swans, herons, sandhill cranes, bald eagles and 250 other species. Access restricted during the hunting season and spring. Fishing allowed.

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

Located along the Tualatin River east of Sherwood, about 12 miles upriver from its confluence with the Willamette.

Newest national wildlife refuge in Oregon. Now less than 100 acres, it is expected to be expanded eventually to several thousand acres.

Basket Slough National Wildlife Refuge

From Rickreall (6 miles west of Salem), go west on Highway 22. Refuge is about 2 miles on the right.

Features migratory waterfowl. By mid-November, large number of Canada geese, tundra swans, ducks and white swans are present. Hunting permitted. Public access limited Nov. 1 to April 15.

Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge

Exit I-5 10 miles south of Salem at the Ankeny Hill exit. Follow Wintel Road west (toward Sidney) about 2 miles to refuge boundary.

2,800 acres of floodplains that support large populations of wintering Canada geese and ducks. Two loop trails. Hunting allowed. Public access limited Nov. 1 to April 15.

E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area

Between Highway 99W and the river. 10 miles north of Corvallis at former Camp Adair Army post.

State preserve features upland game birds, waterfowl, bald eagles, deer and other species. Hunting permitted in fall and winter. Walk or bike on many miles of old military roads.

William J. Finley National Wildlife Refuge

Drive south from Corvallis on Highway 99W about 10 miles to entrance sign on west side of road. Turn west and follow signs about 4 miles to refuge office.

5,235-acre refuge supports large concentrations of Canada geese, including rare dusky Canada geese. Over 200 species of wildlife and numerous observation sites. Hunting and fishing allowed. Public access limited Nov. 1 to April 15.



Boating on the Willamette

The Willamette is one of Oregon's most popular—and congested—waterways for boating. Use of the river by recreational boaters increased 175 percent since 1978. In 1993, approximately 730,000 boat use days were logged—more than half of that in the lower 18 miles of the river within Multnomah County.

BOATERS' CHECKLIST

Powerboaters and sailboaters should have on board at all times:

- Wearable U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets for each person on board
- Approved, fully charged fire extinguishers
- Bell or whistle (as required)
- Paddles or oars
- Anchor
- Tool kit, spare parts and flashlight
- Extra food, water and survival equipment for trips longer than one day
- First aid kit
- Compass, fenders, line, bucket, bilge pump, two-way radio or mobile telephone

Those using canoes, kayaks and rafts should have rescue throw bags, helmets, flashlights, first aid kits and extra clothing. Be sure to bring waterproof containers.

New life jacket law

All recreational boats under 16 feet—including all canoes and kayaks—must carry a wearable life jacket for each person on board. Children 12 and younger must wear life jackets when on boats that are underway.

ABOVE: *Preparing to boat*
ABOVE RIGHT: *Inflatable kayak near Armitage Park*

Boating activity on the Willamette includes ski boats and runabouts, yachts, sailcraft, rowing shells and sculls, canoes, kayaks, fishing boats, jet boats and personal watercraft (such as Jet Skis).

Shallow waters, changing stream conditions and rapids pose dangers along the Middle and Coast forks and in the Eugene-Springfield area. Much of the river below Dexter and Cottage Grove dams can be navigated by most craft, except motorboats with propellers. Due to many shallow stretches, local



knowledge is critical if your motor has a propeller. In the upper Willamette, strainers—trees and branches that have toppled into the river—can capsize

a boat and even hold its occupants under water.

While swimming accidents result in the most drownings per year, boating provides its share of accidents and injuries. Most can be avoided if boat operators observe boating safety rules and use common sense and courtesy at all times.

Oregon Boating Regulations, published by the Oregon State Marine Board and updated yearly, contains a digest of all regulations and restrictions. Other guides, including the *Oregon Boater's Handbook*, offer comprehensive tips on safety, navigation rules and equipment. All of these publications are available from the Oregon State Marine Board as well as from many boat dealers and fishing supply outlets.

TAKE A COURSE

Call 1-800-336-BOAT for information on Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadron boating classes. Or, for \$1 (to cover postage and handling of materials), take the Marine Board's correspondence course, *Boating Basics*. Passing this course can save you money on boat insurance.



BOAT SAFETY TIPS

Here are a few tips to make your outing safe and pleasurable:

- **Check your boat** and equipment prior to use, especially fuel systems, lights and horns, motors, and trailers. Be alert for leaks.
- **Check weather** conditions and, if your trip will be for more than a day or in whitewater areas, file a float plan with a friend or neighbor.
- **Avoid or limit alcohol** consumption—most fatal boating accidents involve alcohol.
- **Brief passengers** on operational and emergency procedures, and don't overload your boat. It greatly increases the threat of capsizing.
- **Make sure** you have adequate and accessible life jackets on board. Check to make sure they fit. Children and non-swimmers should wear life jackets at all times.
- **Tow skiers**, inner tubes and other recreational devices only between sunrise and sunset. In addition to the operator, there must be an observer in the boat. You also must wave a red or orange "skier down" flag (at least 12 by 12 inches) when a skier is in the water.
- **Know how** to read channel buoys and markers (see page 7). Many stretches of the Willamette below Canby have in-water hazards, including rocks and snags under the surface.
- **Beware** of large commercial vessels. Avoid anchoring in the commercial shipping channel.
- **Be aware** of good boating etiquette. Observe all Slow-no wake zones.
 - **Be on the alert** for others, especially swimmers and skiers. Personal watercraft users should avoid jumping wakes or operating near other boats and big ships. Don't follow boats or skiers too closely or shift direction suddenly.
 - **Don't boat alone**, especially on whitewater stretches.
 - **Avoid boating after dark**—and be sure to use the proper lights if you do.

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

There are a variety of natural navigation hazards on the Willamette River and its tributaries. These include whitewater stretches, shallows and rocky shoals, narrow side channels, dead-heads and strainers (trees, stumps and branches in the water), powerful currents and river eddies, low-head dams, and a major waterfall. Other river traffic—including boats, personal watercraft, swimmers, skiers and

anglers—also represent hazards. In addition, weather—including wind, precipitation, fog, sun glare and lightning—must be taken into account. Boaters should be prepared for cold water as the Willamette River is below 60° Fahrenheit most of the year. The river's currents, channels and levels are highly changeable. Without proper precautions, any stretch of the river can be dangerous.

The chart below describes the general character and types of hazards you may encounter on each river section.

RIVER CHARACTERISTICS AND HAZARDS

Middle and Coast Forks

(Dexter, Cottage Grove dams to River Mile 185) Swift water with many small rapids, rocks, shallow areas and potentially dangerous side channels. Watch for fallen trees, limbs and debris. Stretch above Jasper advised for experienced boaters only; scout river before you launch. Beware of dangerous I-5 rapids at Springfield. Coast Fork may be unnavigable during summer low-water periods.

BOATING OPTIONS: *Drift or float in canoes, drift boats, kayaks, rafts. Jet-boats OK in most areas.*

Springfield to Albany

(River Mile 185 to River Mile 118) Fast water and four significant rapids through Eugene section; advisable only for experienced boaters. Below Eugene, current remains fast, river channel changes regularly and there are frequent shallows. Beware of trees, other in-water hazards and unnavigable side channels. Current slows downstream from Corvallis.

BOATING OPTIONS: *Drift or float in canoes, drift boats, kayaks or rafts. Jet-boats OK in all areas except Eugene area and shallow channels, sloughs. Small propeller-driven boats OK in Albany area. Watch for crewing near Corvallis. Skiing OK in certain areas downriver from Corvallis, but local knowledge is important to avoid shallow stretches.*

Albany to St. Paul/Newberg

(River Mile 118 to River Mile 50) Relatively slow current, but occasional shallow side channels and sloughs. Watch for log debris, rock benches, wing dams and shallow stretches.

BOATING OPTIONS: *Drift or float in canoes, drift boats, kayaks or rafts. Jet-boats and personal watercraft are OK in all areas except shallow channels and sloughs. Propeller-driven craft and waterskiing are acceptable near Newberg, Salem and Albany, but local knowledge is important to avoid shallow stretches.*

Newberg to Portland

(River Mile 50 to River Mile 0) Slow current but many rocky shoals upriver from Portland. Maps show locations of major problem areas, but not all. Beware of Willamette Falls above Oregon City. Watch for logs, trees and other in-water debris. Heavy commercial river traffic and recreational use create congestion. Watch for commercial tugs and barges below Newberg. Large ships frequent Portland harbor. Don't anchor in shipping channel. Observe buoys, channel markers and Slow-no wake zones near floating homes and moorages. Watch for personal watercraft, swimmers and waterskiers.

BOATING OPTIONS: *Best for propeller-driven craft and jet-boats. Canoes, sculls, kayaks and other small craft OK in localized areas away from congestion.*

Multnomah Channel

(River Mile 21.5M to River Mile 0M) Very slow moving. Occasional logs, trees and other in-water debris. Channel is narrow; watch for other boaters, waterskiers. Slow down and watch your wake near floating homes and moorages.

BOATING OPTIONS: *Acceptable to virtually all craft. Frequently congested area. Canoes and kayaks more suitable for Gilbert River and Sturgeon Lake areas on Sauvie Island.*



NAVIGATION AIDS

It is important to know how to read waterway markers:

Boats Keep Out

◆ Special explanations may be printed on side of marker

◆ **Danger**
The nature of the danger may be indicated

○ **Controlled Area**
Type of control is indicated

□ **Information**
For displaying official information such as directions, distances, location

● **Left of Channel**
Green buoy marks left side of channel when proceeding upstream

● **Right of Channel**
Red buoy marks right side of channel when proceeding upstream

RULES OF THE ROAD

Rivers, like highways, have rules that govern right-of-way. On water, these are called rules of the road.

The boat that has the right-of-way on the river is called the stand-on boat. The boat that must yield is called the give-way boat. The rules of the road have the force of law. Boaters can be penalized for failure to observe them.

Crossing

When two boats are on intersecting courses, the boat to the right (the starboard side) is the stand-on boat and has the right-of-way. The give-way boat must alter its course or speed to avoid a collision with the stand-on boat. The stand-on boat should maintain its right-of-way course in the crossing situation.

Overtaking

A boat being overtaken or passed by another boat has the right-of-way. The boat being passed must hold its course and speed as it is being passed. The overtaking boat must pass at a sufficient distance to avoid a collision or endangering the other boat with its wake.

Meeting head-on or nearly so

When two boats approach each other head-on, each must alter course to the right to avoid collision. If the two boats are far to the left or right of each other, no change in course is necessary.

Excursions and Outings

The Willamette River offers many options for recreational outings. These include boating, water skiing, fishing, hunting, birdwatching, hiking, bicycling, or just a pleasant Sunday drive. Many can be done in a day. Consult the maps in this guide for more information.

Willamette River Greenway Program

The Willamette River Greenway program is administered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), which has acquired many parcels along the river. OPRD provides recreational opportunities on State Park and greenway lands while encouraging appropriate land use and natural resource stewardship on adjoining privately owned lands. Signs along the river denote specific Willamette River greenway parcels that are available for public use.



Visitor information

Visitor Information Centers have calendars of major community events along the river. The *Willamette River Calendar*, published by the Willamette River Institute (503/222-2546), also includes information about historical and cultural events associated with the river.

ABOVE: *Harrisburg City Park and gazebo*

ABOVE RIGHT: *Bicycling at Champoeg Park*

PLANNING AN OUTING

Most destinations along the Willamette are only an hour or two apart by car. Therefore, many outings can be day trips—although floating the river's entire length or taking a leisurely bicycle trip can easily consume a week. In any event, allow adequate time for travel both on and off the river. Seven or eight hours of travel and recreating can be quite enough for one day.



The maps in this guide show all public land along the river, plus major historical, cultural and natural points of interest. Connecting roads are marked. Services provided at parks, waysides, access points and marinas are indicated on the maps. For state and local parks with camping, it is wise to reserve a site ahead of time in the summer.

The maps, while generally accurate, do not represent all hazards nor are they to be used in place of official navigation charts. Each map contains a brief summary of significant known hazards and their general location as signified by (NH). Be aware of other potential hazards and the possibility that a listed hazard may have changed or not be accurately characterized by this guide.

The maps, while generally accurate, do not represent all hazards nor are they to be used in place of official navigation charts. Each map contains a brief summary of significant known hazards and their general location as signified by (NH). Be aware of other potential hazards and the possibility that a listed hazard may have changed or not be accurately characterized by this guide.

DESTINATIONS

A trip or outing can be organized around state and local parks, wildlife refuges, cities and towns, and historic sites. It's a good idea to plan a day outing around no more than

two or three prime stopping points, including lunch. Consider planning trips around themes—such as history, ferries or a community festival.

Ten Oregon state parks are shown in this guide (see page 11). Of these, only Champoeg has overnight vehicular camping. However, boater camping is allowed at some local parks, Bowers Rock State Park and state greenway parcels as indicated on the maps. Fires should be confined to fire rings on greenway or state park sites.

A number of game refuges and wildlife sanctuaries beckon birdwatchers and hikers, including state and national wildlife areas (see page 5), and special preserves such as Oaks Bottom in Portland. Other good areas to observe wildlife are accessible to boaters, such as Harkens Lake Landing, the mouths of the Luckiamute, Santiam and McKenzie rivers, and the entire Middle Fork. Many state and local parks offer excellent wildlife viewing.

Historic sites abound. Many are abandoned towns or landings that require considerable research and patience to locate, such as Fairview, Linn City and Canemah. Some sites, however, are quite accessible, including the

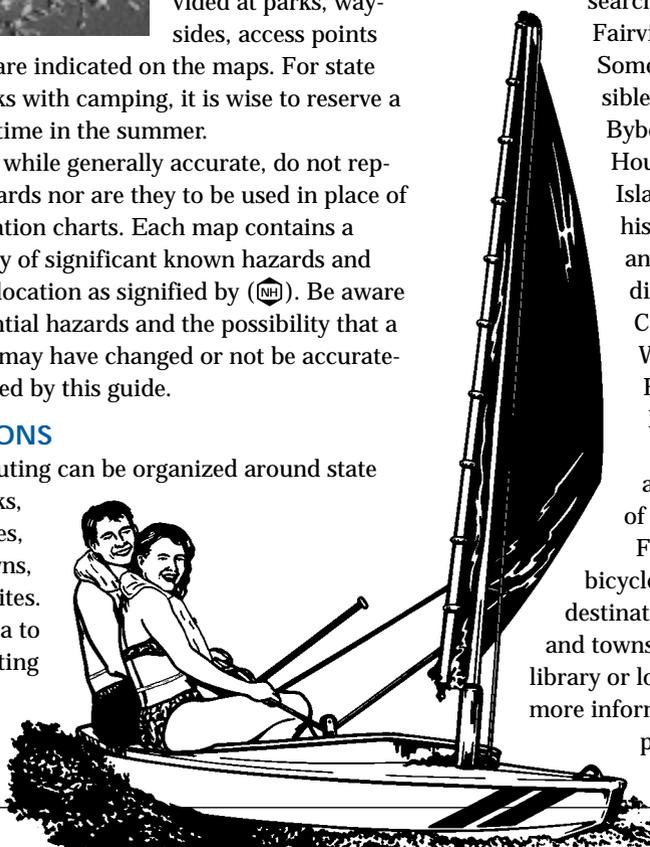
Bybee-Howell House on Sauvie Island, Portland's historic Yamhill and Old Town districts, Oregon City and the Willamette Falls Locks, Butteville,

Champoeg, Buena Vista Ferry, and the lost town of Orleans east of Corvallis.

For those planning a car or bicycle trip, many other interesting destinations await the curious in cities and towns near the river. Check your library or local chamber of commerce for more information. The list of resources on page 32 of this guide may help.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

The Oregon State Marine Board contracts with county sheriffs' departments to patrol the entire river. In case of an emergency, dial 9-1-1.



RIVER OUTINGS

The most popular way to use the river is to be out on it. Boat launches are shown on the maps that follow. In addition to skiing and fishing, enjoy-

able excursions can include cruises to various parks or other points of interest. Fatigue, sun, wind and alcohol can all play a factor in water recreation—a tired or intoxicated boater is more likely to have an accident. Plan your trips accordingly and limit—or, better yet, avoid—alcohol consumption.

As shown on the maps, numerous state greenway parcels are accessible either from the river or roads. Green-

way parcels accessible by vehicle are signed at public roads. Greenway parcels accessible only by boat have river milepost signs located for the boater's convenience.

Please respect private property and obey all “no trespassing” and “no hunting” signs. Some parts of the main stem of the Willamette River channel are public only to the “ordinary low water” line. As such, some of the river bank and gravel bars along the river are privately owned. Because of this, parks and greenway lands that provide public access to and along the river are especially valuable public resources.

Float trips by canoe, kayak or rubber raft are popular. Except for the upper forks and around the Eugene-Springfield area, there are few whitewater hazards. Above Corvallis, it is not uncommon for the current to be swift. Below Newberg, the current is very leisurely.

The chart on this page suggests typical float times between major points on the river. However, these estimates will vary from party to party depending on type of boat, ability of the paddlers, weather conditions and water

velocity. Especially in the lower Willamette, winds can greatly slow the progress of hand-propelled boats. In addition, tides can actually push the river upstream below Oregon City.

BIKING AND HIKING

Besides short bicycle rides in and around some of the parks along the river, there are many enjoyable longer rides. Excursions take bicyclists along rural back roads, through small towns, past historic places and to various river crossings. All three remaining ferries—Canby, Wheatland and Buena Vista—can be included on bicycle outings.

Most state parks are popular for hiking and nature walks, as are Sauvie Island, greenway trails in Eugene and Portland, George Rogers Park (Lake Oswego), Minto-Brown Island Park (Salem) and others shown on the following maps.

HUNTING AND FISHING

Hunting for deer, waterfowl and upland game is permitted in some locations. Hunting is allowed at those greenway parcels shown with a hunting symbol in this guide—but only during authorized seasons with a shotgun or bow and arrow. Three greenway sites—Lynx Hollow Access on the Coast Fork, Truax Island Access (RM 128) and Wapato Access on Multnomah Channel—have special hunting restrictions because of their locations. For more specific information about hunting on state greenway parcels, contact Champoege or Armitage state parks. For general hunting information, contact the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW). See page 32 in this guide for appropriate state park or ODFW telephone numbers.

Hunting on private lands is allowed only by permission of landowner, subject to state game rules. Obey “no hunting” signs. Angling regulations vary along the river. Check the angling synopsis, available wherever fishing licenses are sold, for specifics on restrictions.

RIVER MILEAGE AND FLOAT TIMES*

River Segment	River Miles	Estimated Float Time
Dexter Reservoir-Springfield	18	4 hours
Armitage State Park-		
Harrisburg	21	4 hours
Harrisburg-Corvallis	29	8 hours
Corvallis-Albany	11	5 hours
Albany-Buena Vista	15	6 hours
Buena Vista-Independence	11	5 hours
Independence-Salem	12	5 hours
Salem-Wheatland Ferry	12	5 hours
Wheatland Ferry-		
San Salvador Park	15	5-6 hours
San Salvador-		
Champoege State Park	11	5 hours
Champoege State Park-		
West Linn	17	8 hours
West Linn-Willamette Park	12	6-7 hours
Willamette Park-		
Kelley Point Park	18	10 hours

*Estimates based on a leisurely pace with rest and lunch stops. Add extra time for additional sightseeing. From *Canoe Routes of Northwest Oregon*, published by The Mountaineers, Seattle, Wash.

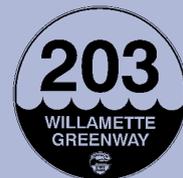


Using the maps

Care has been taken to make all river maps faithful to the river alignment (based on 1993 aerial photography), but it must be understood that the Willamette is a dynamic river that changes and can be confusing and dangerous to navigate. **Don't count on the maps to depict every hazard or unpassable channel.**

River Miles 00

All river miles in this guide originate at the river's mouth, starting with River Mile (RM) 0, and increasing in value moving upstream. The left bank (L) and right bank (R) of all river locations in this guide are determined by facing downstream. At many points along the river, Willamette River greenway signs indicate the appropriate river mile. When used with maps in this guide, these signs can help boaters identify their location on the river.



ABOVE: Strolling along a Willamette greenway parcel
LEFT: Fishing on the Middle Fork



Driving

An interesting mid-valley trip could include excursions across the Buena Vista and Wheatland ferries with a side visit to the State Capitol Building in Salem. A nice rest stop is Minto-Brown Island Park south of Salem, which features picnic areas as well as excellent running, walking and bicycle paths. It is best to limit total driving time to 3-5 hours, especially with children.

Waterskiing

Popular skiing points include Multnomah Channel, Sellwood to Willamette Park in Portland, the Milwaukie basin, above Willamette Falls, Newberg to Wilsonville, and the Salem, Albany and Corvallis areas.

Remember, it is the law to wave a red or orange "skier down" flag while a skier is in the water.

Bicycling

For a fall bike ride, try the 36-mile Junction City-Harrisburg loop timed to coincide with either the Junction City Scandinavian Festival or Harrisburg's Harvest Fest.

ABOVE: Lowell covered bridge at Dexter Reservoir

ABOVE RIGHT: Willamette Falls and locks

Virtually all areas of the Willamette offer good fishing year-round. Most libraries or bookstores contain good, locally produced fishing guides that can point anglers of all ages to good fishing holes, baits and lures, and conditions when fishing is best. Some of the more popular spots are listed in the adjacent table.

POPULAR DESTINATIONS

Here's a sampling of places to go to enjoy the Willamette River system:

Sauvie Island (RM 0-21M)

Popular for bicycle rides (Gillihan Loop Road is 12 miles), nature walks, and fruit and vegetable stands. More than 1,000 acres are cultivated each year. Grains seeded in the fall provide green forage for wintering ducks and geese. A parking permit is required in state wildlife areas.

Tom McCall Waterfront Park (RM 11-12)

Offers a chance to walk, jog, or bicycle along several miles of Portland's urban waterfront. It also provides access on the south end to Riverplace, a complex of restaurants, shops, hotel and condominiums. The Hawthorne bridge connects pedestrians and bicyclists to the Eastside Esplanade, and to a pathway to the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

Oaks Amusement Park (RM 16)

Open to the public during the summer, this private park offers roller skating, thrill rides, and a children's theater. Built in 1905, the park features a 60-foot ferris wheel and the largest wood-floor skating rink on the West Coast.



Willamette Falls Locks (RM 26)

Locks at West Linn were placed in service in 1873. The wooden locks are the oldest continuously operating multi-lock system

in America. A museum exhibits many historic photographs and artifacts. Picnic area and restrooms are available.

French Prairie (RM 35-70)

Butteville, St. Paul and Champoeg were originally settled by French Canadian retirees of the Hudson's Bay Company. Hence, this area is sometimes referred to as "French Prairie." A riverbank marker denotes location of historic Butteville and its landing, founded in 1845.

SUGGESTED FISHING AREAS

Multnomah Channel

(RM 0) Good spring chinook salmon fishery; also winter steelhead. Gilbert River and Sturgeon Lake fishing is mainly for warm-water game fish, primarily catfish, perch and crappie. Bank fishing is possible in several areas. Success rates are best during March through June.

Cedar Oak Island

(RM 23) Hides a sheltered lagoon that offers good fishing for perch, crappie, bullheads, bluegill and bass. It is especially good for winter angling because it is protected from the river's high-water winter currents.

Clackamas River

(RM 25) Particularly at its confluence with the Willamette, the Clackamas is among the top salmon and steelhead producers in the entire Columbia system. Features are spring chinook, summer steelhead, coho, a small run of fall chinook and a good run of winter steelhead.

Rock Island

(RM 30) Its sloughs and environs provide good habitat for bass and other warm-water fish. It is a popular fishing hole due to its proximity to Highway 99E. Popular for boat-in camping.

Molalla River

(RM 36) Channel catfish can be caught at the junction of the Molalla and Willamette, along with crappie, bass, and bullheads, and salmon, steelhead and trout in season. Large late steelhead run.

Yamhill River

(RM 55) Bass, crappie, bluegill, perch, catfish, trout and salmon frequent the Yamhill River area. A good smallmouth bass fishery also exists in the lower Yamhill.

Buena Vista/Luckiamute River

(RM 106) For two miles upstream of Buena Vista Park and ferry is a good stretch of the Willamette for smallmouth and largemouth bass, as well as crappie and bluegill. Nearby Luckiamute River offers a good population of native cutthroat, with large migrating cutthroat arriving in winter for an additional fishery.

Calapooia River

(RM 119) The Calapooia River joins the Willamette at Bryant Park in Albany. Its inflow draws feeding fish, such as bass, crappie, bluegill and catfish. Fishing for trout, steelhead and salmon, in season, also is practical. Largemouth bass and panfish are available.

Peoria

(RM 141) The 10 to 12 river miles from Peoria to Corvallis are filled with fishing opportunities. Sloughs surrounding a series of islands provide relatively unfished habitats for all of the fish species found in the river. Cutthroat trout are quite abundant from Peoria upstream.

Long Tom River

(RM 145) The Long Tom has largemouth bass, crappie and brown bullhead in lower section. Also, a popular sturgeon hole exists at its confluence with the Willamette.

McKenzie River

(RM 175) The McKenzie is one of Oregon's best fishing rivers, with plump redds rainbow trout, native cutthroat trout, summer steelhead and spring chinook providing anglers with plenty of action. Lower section is a catch and release zone.

Middle Fork

(RM 187-203) A substantial hatchery release program has made spring chinook and summer steelhead fishery attractive below Dexter Dam. There also is a limited winter steelhead run. Fall Creek, which enters near Jasper, has a good trout fishery.

Willamette River ferries

The three remaining ferries on the Willamette can be enjoyed in a day outing or a longer bicycle excursion—the Canby Ferry (RM 34) near Canby, Wheatland Ferry (RM 72) north of Salem and Buena Vista Ferry (RM 106) south of Salem. Good picnic points would be Champoeg State Park, Willamette Mission State Park (at the Wheatland Ferry) or Minto-Brown Island Park in Salem.

Eugene/Springfield riverfront (RM 178-186)

This area offers a nice network of public bike paths and trails along both sides of the river, joined by several footbridges. An old canoe way connects Alton Baker Park to the West D Street Greenway in Springfield.

GUIDE TO OREGON STATE PARKS								
River Mile (RM)	⚓	🚣	🚶	🚲	♿	⚠️	🚰	🚻
24 Mary S. Young	●	●	●	●	●			
36 Molalla River	●	●	●		●			
46 Champoeg	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
73 Willamette Mission	●	●	●	●	●			
Sarah Helmick (Luckiamute River)	●	●	●	●	●			
202 Lowell State Recreation Site	●	●			●			
202 Dexter State Recreation Site	●	●			●			
203 Elijah Bristow	●	●	●	●	●			

OREGON STATE PARKS

Mary S. Young State Park

Riverfront park features hiking trails, a short bicycle trail and athletic fields. New footbridge connects to Cedar Oak Island, park and natural area managed by the city of West Linn. Located on Highway 43 in West Linn, about 9 miles southwest of Portland.

Molalla River State Park

Features a 1½ mile hiking trail along which waterfowl, frogs and songbirds can be viewed. Park also has a large great blue heron rookery; nesting activity occurs from February through July. Located along the Molalla and Willamette rivers near Canby.

Champoeg State Park

The Champoeg site is most famous for being where the decisive vote for organizing the first

provisional government in the Northwest was taken on May 2, 1843. The site is now a state park with grassy fields, boat tie-up, picnic areas, 48-site campground, extensive bike trails and two museums. Located off Highway 99W, 7 miles east of Newberg.

Willamette Mission State Park

Original site of Rev. Jason Lee's Methodist mission. A new 4-mile bike trail winds through river bottomlands. A small lake in the park contains a boat ramp and is good for panfishing. Located on Wheatland Ferry Road, 8 miles north of Salem.

Sarah Helmick State Park

Small park along the Luckiamute River. Offers picnicking and some good fishing holes. Located off Highway 99W, 6 miles south of Monmouth.

Jasper State Recreation Site

Shorter hiking trails, group picnicking sites, children's play area, volleyball court, horse-shoe pits and softball fields, fishing on the riverbank. Excellent birding opportunities. Located approximately RM 96.

Lowell State Recreation Site

56-slip marina, boat ramps and a boat-house maintained by Oregon Association of Rowers. Swimming, a basketball court, picnicking. Located approximately RM 202.

Dexter State Recreation Site

Very popular with rowers, boaters and speedboaters. Food concessionaire. Located approximately RM 202.

Elijah Bristow State Park

Sprawling day-use park with 16 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails, plus several miles of riverfront. Located along Middle Fork of the Willamette off Highway 58, 7 miles southeast of Eugene.



FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

A selected listing:

June

Rose Festival
Portland/503-227-2681

Folklife Festival
Corvallis/541-757-0205

Outdoor Concerts
Lake Oswego/503-636-9673

Historical Pageant
Champoeg/503-678-1649

July

Old Fashioned July 4th
Harrisburg/541-998-6154

Riverfest
Clackamette Park/503-650-5219

Oregon Trail Pageant
Oregon City/503-657-0988

Victorian Days
Albany/541-928-0911

August

Crawfish Festival
Tualatin/503-692-0780

Waterfront Festival
West Salem/503-581-4325

Filbert Festival
Springfield/541-744-2628

September

Eugene Celebration
Eugene/541-687-5215

Indian Summer Folk Life Festival
St. Paul/503-678-1649

Bybee-Howell House Wintering-In
Sauvie Island/503-222-1741

October

Sternwheeler Race
Portland/503-223-3928

Sauerkraut Festival
Scappoose/503-543-7991

ABOVE: The pioneer festival at Champoeg

LEFT: Historic Champoeg State Park

1

THE FORKS



MAJOR FEATURES

206 Lowell Covered Bridge

Built by Lane County in 1945, it crosses the mid-section of Dexter Reservoir.

204 Dexter Holding Ponds

Watch adult chinook salmon in fish ladder and holding ponds from May to October. Osprey and wood ducks nest in area April to September.

203 Elijah Bristow State Park

A large day-use park with hiking, picnicking and horseback riding.

201 Pengra Access

Launch point named for Bynon Pengra, a surveyor of the Oregon Central Military Road.

191 Clearwater Park

A popular put-in and take-out point in Springfield.

Middle and Coast Forks

Officially, the Willamette River begins where the Middle Fork emerges from Lake Timpanogas high in the Oregon Cascades. However, the river is considered navigable only below Dexter Dam at River Mile 203, some 58 miles downstream from Lake Timpanogas. The smaller second fork—the Coast Fork—begins above Cottage Grove to the west. The two forks join at Springfield.

Swirling through small channels, over and around downed trees, and creating myriad small whirlpools, the Middle Fork is a swiftly moving stream as it sets



off below Dexter Reservoir and through Elijah Bristow State Park. On its journey to the Columbia, the Willamette will change complexion many times. Here it is a remarkably clear stream that is popular with anglers and rafters alike as it

flows over rocky beds and boulders. It is common to see osprey, hawks and an occasional eagle flying above, while waterfowl work the shores and eddies. Anglers in drift boats or in waders vie for spring chinook salmon, steelhead and native cutthroat trout.

Above the town of Jasper, the Middle Fork is challenging—especially for canoes. Drift boats and rafts have an easier time. Jet boats usually can get all the way to Dexter Dam, but they must pay heed to shallows opposite Jasper Park and elsewhere. Snags and strainers (fallen trees) make some channels difficult or unpassable; conditions change frequently. Keep alert at all times for strainers and underwater debris. Before navigating these upper reaches, it is best to scout the river or get current local information from the Lane County Sheriff's office, the City of Eugene Outdoor Program or local river outfitters.

The Coast Fork, similarly, is a challenging

stretch. During high water in the spring, it can be swift and demanding even for the experienced rafter. During low water most of the rest of the year, rocks and shallows make this fork difficult, if not unpleasant, to float. Check local water conditions before venturing out.

RIVER MILEPOSTS
Middle Fork

The Dexter Holding Ponds (RM 203) are immediately below Dexter Dam. There are several hand-launch points: (1) downriver 100 yards from the Dexter holding ponds, (2) on the opposite bank at Dexter County Park, or (3) from the Pengra Access (RM 201) greenway parcel further downriver. Pengra Access is a good launch point that avoids some upriver hazards. Just below the mouth of Fall Creek (RM 198.5) are some hazardous channels.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Bridge (RM 197) alerts you that Jasper County Park (RM 195) and its river shallows are just a mile or so ahead. Further, on the left, is the Jasper Bridge boat launch (RM 194) that attracts many rafters bound for one of Springfield's riverside parks, such as Clearwater Park (RM 191) or Island Park (RM 185).

Coast Fork

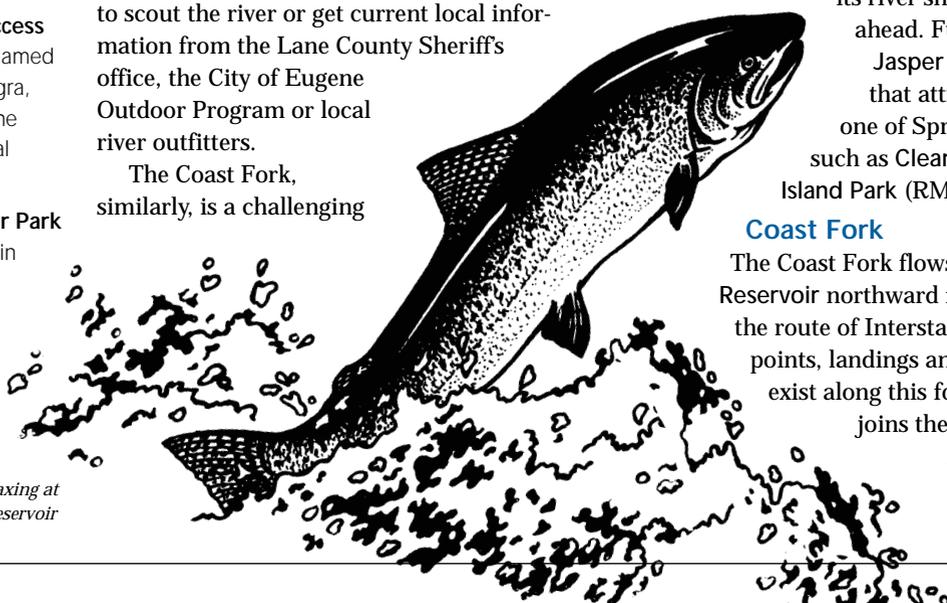
The Coast Fork flows from Cottage Grove Reservoir northward for 29 river miles, paralleling the route of Interstate 5. Several public access points, landings and hand launch locations exist along this fork. At river mile 187, it joins the Middle Fork, forming the mainstem Willamette.

EXCURSIONS



A challenging day trip is to float a canoe, drift boat or raft from Dexter Reservoir to Springfield—12 to 18 river miles depending on your put-in and take-out points. There are hazards along the way; only the experienced should try this run above Jasper Bridge. ESTIMATED FLOAT TIME: 3 TO 5 HOURS.

A shorter trip would be to launch at Clearwater Park and exit at Island Park, 6 miles downriver. ESTIMATED FLOAT TIME: 2.5 HOURS.



ABOVE RIGHT: *Relaxing at Cottage Grove Reservoir*

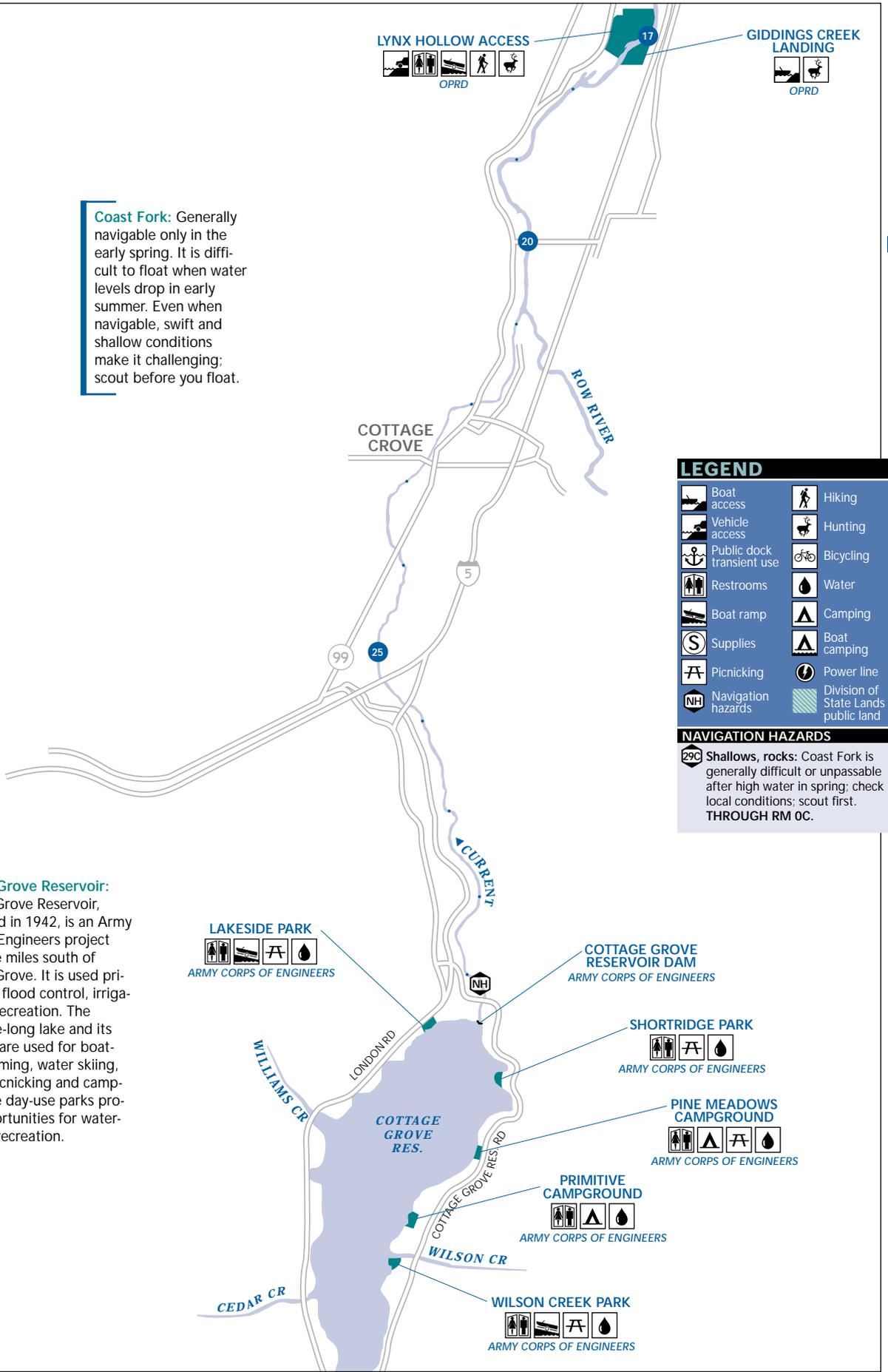


RIVER MILES

River miles are indicated by a **00** at 5-mile intervals as well as at the top and bottom of each map. River mileage mile-by-mile is indicated by small dots in the river channel. There are three **zero points** for river miles; at the confluences of Multnomah Channel with the Columbia River at St. Helens, the mainstem Willamette with the Columbia at Kelley Point in Portland, and the Coast Fork with the Middle Fork at Springfield. River miles increase proceeding upriver. Major **navigation hazards** are shown with a **NH**. Specific hazards are described in the legend on each map and are listed by river mile. Be alert for other hazards as well.

Coast Fork: Generally navigable only in the early spring. It is difficult to float when water levels drop in early summer. Even when navigable, swift and shallow conditions make it challenging; scout before you float.

Cottage Grove Reservoir: Cottage Grove Reservoir, completed in 1942, is an Army Corps of Engineers project about five miles south of Cottage Grove. It is used primarily for flood control, irrigation and recreation. The three-mile-long lake and its shoreline are used for boating, swimming, water skiing, fishing, picnicking and camping. Three day-use parks provide opportunities for water-oriented recreation.



LEGEND			
	Boat access		Hiking
	Vehicle access		Hunting
	Public dock transient use		Bicycling
	Restrooms		Water
	Boat ramp		Camping
	Supplies		Boat camping
	Picnicking		Power line
	Navigation hazards		Division of State Lands public land

NAVIGATION HAZARDS
29C Shallows, rocks: Coast Fork is generally difficult or unpassable after high water in spring; check local conditions; scout first. **THROUGH RM 0C.**

RM to
RM 16C to 0C



ALTON BAKER PARK & WATERWAY
CITY OF EUGENE

FRANKLIN PARK GREENWAY
CITY OF EUGENE

EUGENE

WEST D STREET GREENWAY
WILLAMALANE PARK DISTRICT

DORRIS RANCH LIVING HISTORY FARM
WILLAMALANE PARK DISTRICT

GLASSBAR ISLAND LANDING
OPRD

BUFORD RECREATION AREA
LANE COUNTY

ALTON BAKER EASTGATE WOODLANDS
WILLAMALANE PARK DISTRICT

ISLAND PARK
WILLAMALANE PARK DISTRICT

MILLRACE PARK
WILLAMALANE PARK DISTRICT

CLEARWATER BOAT RAMP
WILLAMALANE PARK DISTRICT

MIDDLE FORK

ARBORETUM
MT PISGAH

PISGAH LANDING
OPRD

SEAVY LANDING
OPRD

CAMAS SWALE LANDING
OPRD

BRISTOW LANDING
OPRD

CRESWELL

CLOVERDALE ACCESS
OPRD

COUGAR MOUNTAIN ACCESS
OPRD

LYNX HOLLOW ACCESS
OPRD

Springfield: In 1849, Elias M. Briggs located a land claim near here. For many years a portion of his claim was known as "the spring-field", hence the town's eventual name. Springfield rated occasional (rare) visits by steamboats from down-river ports during the winter high-water season. Like Eugene, much of Springfield's Willamette waterfront is a parkway.

Millrace Park: The Springfield Millrace diverted Willamette river in order to power early mills. This fueled the local economy. The former Booth-Kelly mill was the largest mill of the largest lumber company of its day, and the flour mill powered by the Millrace was at one time Lane County's largest, lasting for 75 years.

Dorris Ranch: Site of the first commercial filbert nut orchard in the United States, Dorris Ranch in Springfield continues as a fully productive commercial filbert orchard and living history farm. Year-round walking tours, educational programs, workshops, special events and preservation projects enable visitors to experience early Oregon history first-hand.

LEGEND

- Boat access
- Vehicle access
- Public dock transient use
- Restrooms
- Boat ramp
- Supplies
- Picnicking
- Navigation hazards
- Hiking
- Hunting
- Bicycling
- Water
- Camping
- Boat camping
- Power line
- Division of State Lands public land

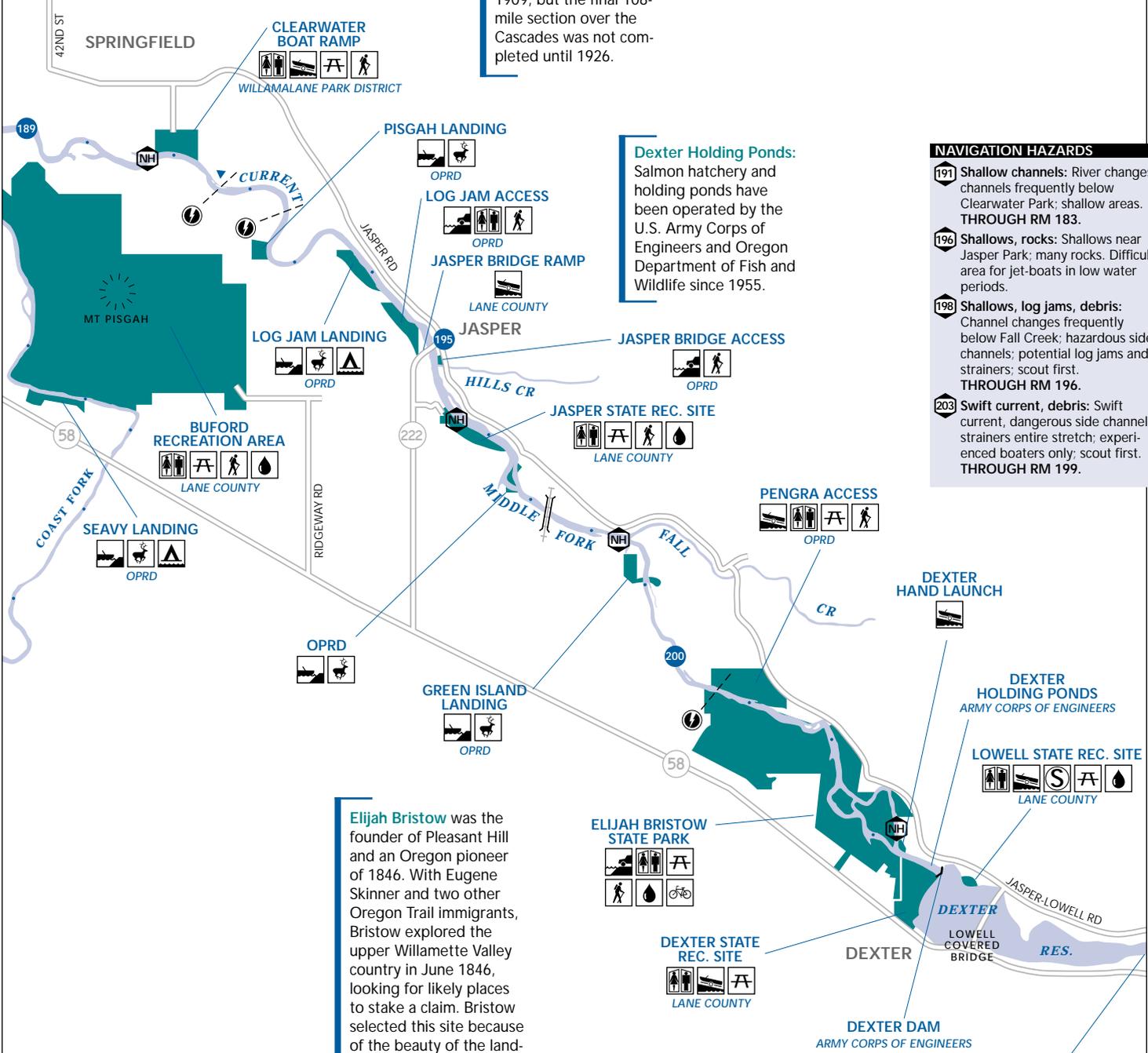
NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 183** **Rapids:** 3-foot waves, left channel below Autzen footbridge; middle and right channels are shallow; hazardous area for swimmers.
- 184** **Diversion dam:** Dangerous obstacles upriver from I-5 freeway bridge; river flows over low-head dam between cement abutments left side; dangerous current along above-water revetment. Take shallow channel far right.
- 191** **Shallow channels:** River changes channels frequently below Clearwater Park; shallow areas. **THROUGH RM 183.**
- 16C** **Shallows, rocks:** Coast Fork is generally difficult or unpassable after high water in spring; check local conditions; scout first. **THROUGH RM 0C.**

RM to



Railroad: Southern Pacific mainline follows portions of the Middle Fork. Railroad construction to this area began in 1909, but the final 108-mile section over the Cascades was not completed until 1926.



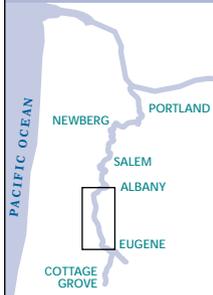
Dexter Holding Ponds: Salmon hatchery and holding ponds have been operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife since 1955.

- NAVIGATION HAZARDS**
- 191 **Shallow channels:** River changes channels frequently below Clearwater Park; shallow areas. **THROUGH RM 183.**
 - 196 **Shallows, rocks:** Shallows near Jasper Park; many rocks. Difficult area for jet-boats in low water periods.
 - 198 **Shallows, log jams, debris:** Channel changes frequently below Fall Creek; hazardous side channels; potential log jams and strainers; scout first. **THROUGH RM 196.**
 - 203 **Swift current, debris:** Swift current, dangerous side channels, strainers entire stretch; experienced boaters only; scout first. **THROUGH RM 199.**

Elijah Bristow was the founder of Pleasant Hill and an Oregon pioneer of 1846. With Eugene Skinner and two other Oregon Trail immigrants, Bristow explored the upper Willamette Valley country in June 1846, looking for likely places to stake a claim. Bristow selected this site because of the beauty of the landscape. The park named in his honor is a sprawling state park with several miles of beautiful river-front and picnic areas.

The **Lowell covered bridge**, originally built in 1907, now crosses part of the mid-section of Dexter Reservoir. The bridge was rebuilt by Lane County in 1945.

2

THE UPPER
MAINSTEMMAJOR
FEATURES185 Island Park
and boat launch

These are adjacent to the historic Springfield railway station and the Springfield millrace. Island Park is the site of the annual Hilbert Festival.

183 Alton Baker
Park and Eastgate
Woodlands

These comprise much of the major public greenway in Springfield and Eugene.

175 McKenzie River

One of Oregon's great whitewater fishing streams, for which the famed McKenzie riverboat (drift boat) is named.

149 Long Tom River

Unpassable by boat today, but was once used by steamboats as far upriver as Monroe.

Greenway
parcels

A number of which are located between Corvallis and Albany.

ABOVE RIGHT: *Mainstem stretch near Eugene*

Springfield to Albany

After the two major forks of the Willamette join forces near Springfield, the mainstem river begins its final 185-mile, 420-foot-in-elevation descent to Portland. Not yet a full-sized river, this upper mainstem of the Willamette still has a few exciting twists, turns and rapids in store.

The current is typically fast through Springfield and Eugene. At least five rapids will be encountered, offering both challenge and a likelihood of getting wet. Of most concern to boaters is the diversion dam encountered just above the I-5 crossing in Springfield. This stretch is recommended only for experienced kayakers and canoeists.

Downstream from Eugene, the Willamette maintains its energy and rapid flow. Between Eugene and Harrisburg, the river flows in many intertwined or "braided" channels marked by occasional snags and strainers—but no real rapids. It is wise to stay alert



for shallows, obstructions, strainers and unnavigable side channels. Here, the river is naturally unstable in a wide floodplain, often spilling

over its shallow channels during high water to create new ones. What is depicted as a channel on the map might now be a gravel bar or marsh.

Even after Harrisburg, the fickle river can lure a boater down a shallow side-channel or through some unexpected water hydraulics. Only after Corvallis does the Willamette begin to slacken its pace and form itself into a more reliable single channel with intermittent islands.

RIVER MILEPOSTS

Island Park (RM 185), on the right bank, has a good boat launch. Beware of the dangerous diversion dam and rapids at the I-5 bridge about a mile downriver. Boaters should follow the shallow right channel to avoid treacherous currents along a mid-river revetment or a three-foot plunge over the dam itself. At the Autzen footbridge (RM 183), the main channel (left) sports three-foot

standing waves. Middle and right channels can be shallow.

West D Street Greenway (RM 184) was created by re-routing a local street. Alton Baker Park (RM 184-182), the major regional metropolitan park, runs along the right bank to the Ferry Street Bridge. It contains a popular canoeway. About 150 yards above the Washington Street Bridge are additional rapids.

The McKenzie River joins the Willamette at RM 175. Armitage Park, which has a good boat ramp, is about seven miles upstream on the McKenzie, offering an interesting side trip.

Whitely (RM 175.5) and Hileman (RM 173.5) are maintained boat ramps, but neither is on the main channel and both are difficult to locate from the river. They also may require portages.

At Harrisburg (RM 160), look for the new gazebo at the riverfront park and a boat ramp just downriver from it. Landing hand-powered craft at McCartney Park (RM 156) is difficult because of strong currents. However, it's another 15 miles to the next boat ramp at Peoria Park (RM 141).

The river above Corvallis (RM 140-132) is filled with snags and strainers. The Crystal Lake Boat Ramp (RM 133) is at the downriver end of Willamette Park. A boat launch is at Michael's Landing (RM 131), north of the Harrison Street bridge.

The remaining 11-mile run to Albany is pleasant and easy. The best boat ramp above Albany is at Hyak Park (RM 122).

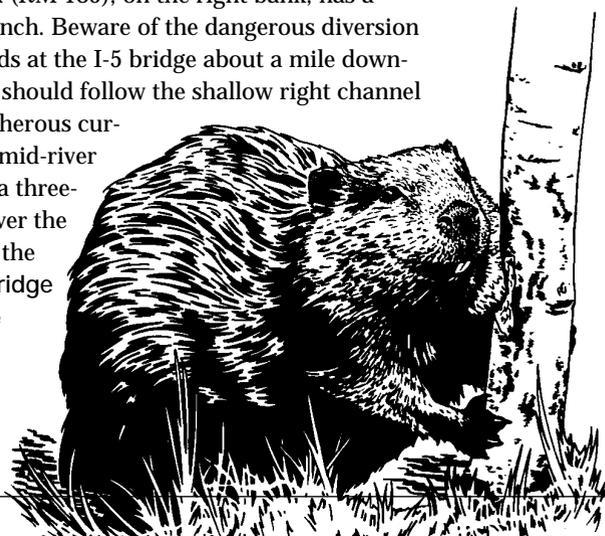
EXCURSIONS

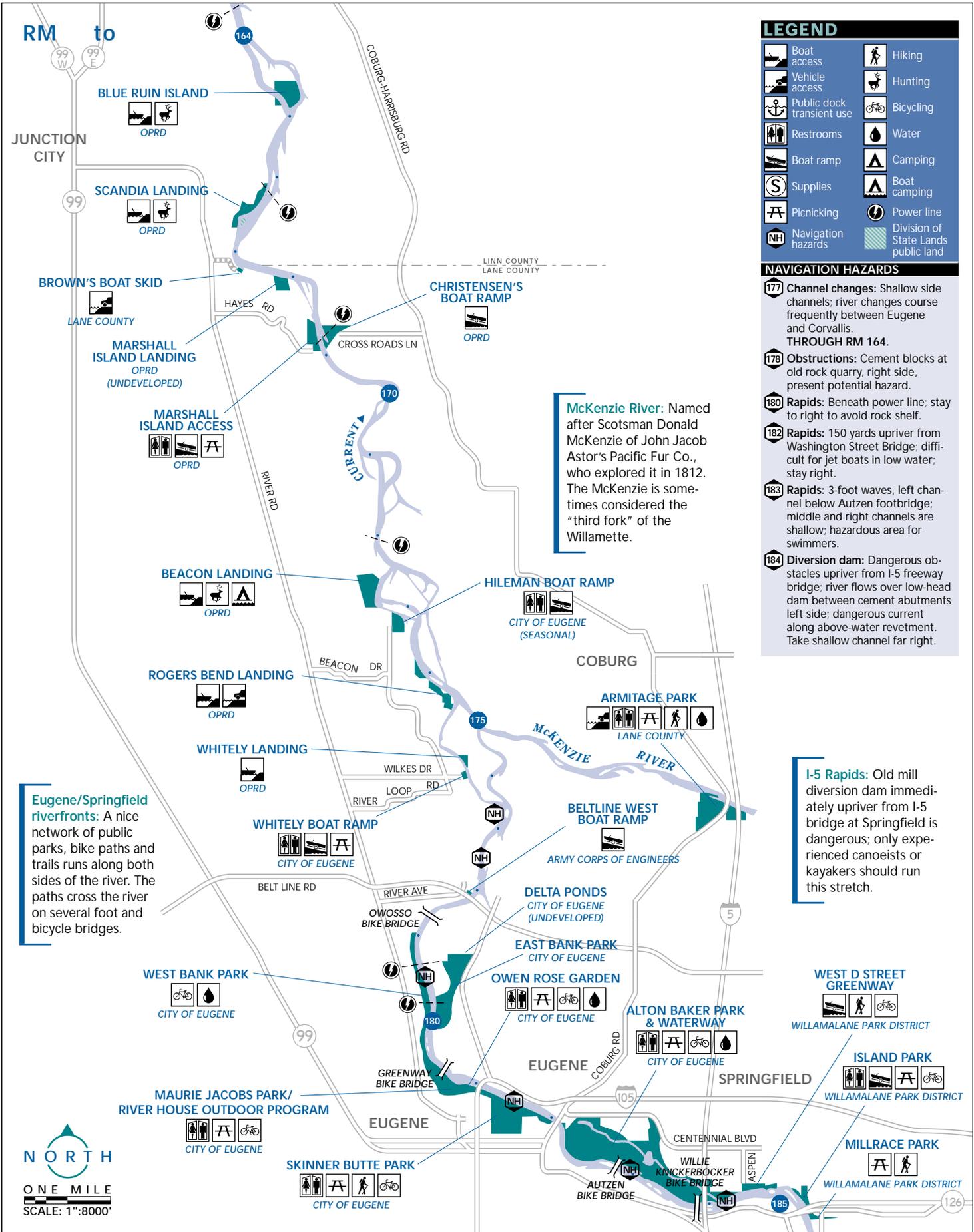


Try a good one-day float trip from Armitage Park to Harrisburg (19 river miles). Drift boat fishing is popular in this stretch. ESTIMATED FLOAT TIME: 4 HOURS.

Or take a two-day run to Corvallis (49 miles), pulling out at Willamette Park (Crystal Lake boat ramp). ESTIMATED FLOAT TIME: 10 HOURS.

A popular half-day outing is the 11 miles from Crystal Lake boat ramp in Corvallis to Hyak Park upriver from Albany. ESTIMATED FLOAT TIME: 3 HOURS.





LEGEND

	Boat access		Hiking
	Vehicle access		Hunting
	Public dock transient use		Bicycling
	Restrooms		Water
	Boat ramp		Camping
	Supplies		Boat camping
	Picnicking		Power line
	Navigation hazards		Division of State Lands public land

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 177 Channel changes:** Shallow side channels; river changes course frequently between Eugene and Corvallis.
THROUGH RM 164.
- 178 Obstructions:** Cement blocks at old rock quarry, right side, present potential hazard.
- 180 Rapids:** Beneath power line; stay to right to avoid rock shelf.
- 182 Rapids:** 150 yards upriver from Washington Street Bridge; difficult for jet boats in low water; stay right.
- 183 Rapids:** 3-foot waves, left channel below Autzen footbridge; middle and right channels are shallow; hazardous area for swimmers.
- 184 Diversion dam:** Dangerous obstacles upriver from I-5 freeway bridge; river flows over low-head dam between cement abutments left side; dangerous current along above-water revetment. Take shallow channel far right.

McKenzie River: Named after Scotsman Donald McKenzie of John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Co., who explored it in 1812. The McKenzie is sometimes considered the "third fork" of the Willamette.

Eugene/Springfield riverfronts: A nice network of public parks, bike paths and trails runs along both sides of the river. The paths cross the river on several foot and bicycle bridges.

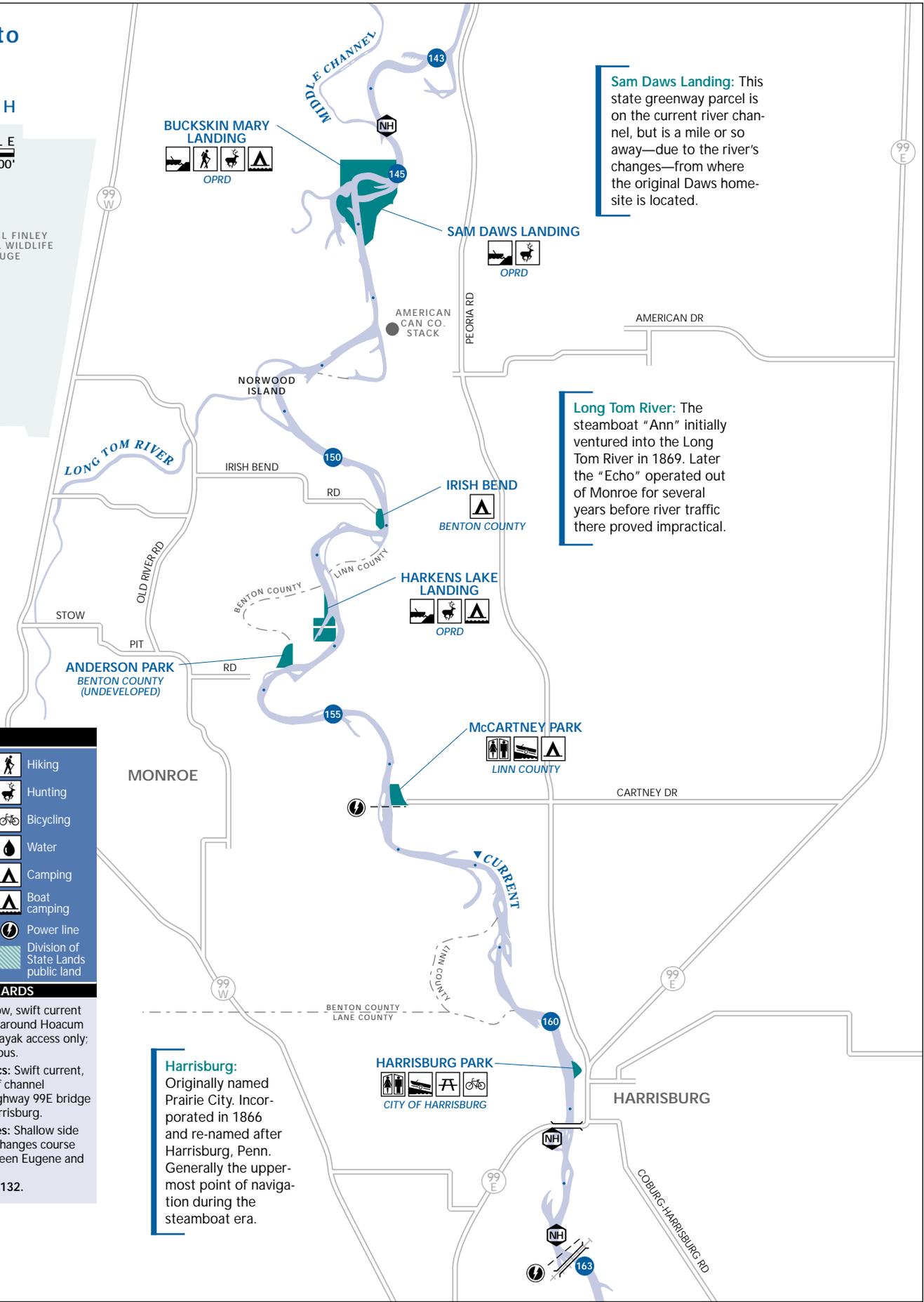
I-5 Rapids: Old mill diversion dam immediately upriver from I-5 bridge at Springfield is dangerous; only experienced canoeists or kayakers should run this stretch.



RM to



WILLIAM L. FINLEY
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE



Sam Daws Landing: This state greenway parcel is on the current river channel, but is a mile or so away—due to the river's changes—from where the original Daws home-site is located.

Long Tom River: The steamboat "Ann" initially ventured into the Long Tom River in 1869. Later the "Echo" operated out of Monroe for several years before river traffic there proved impractical.

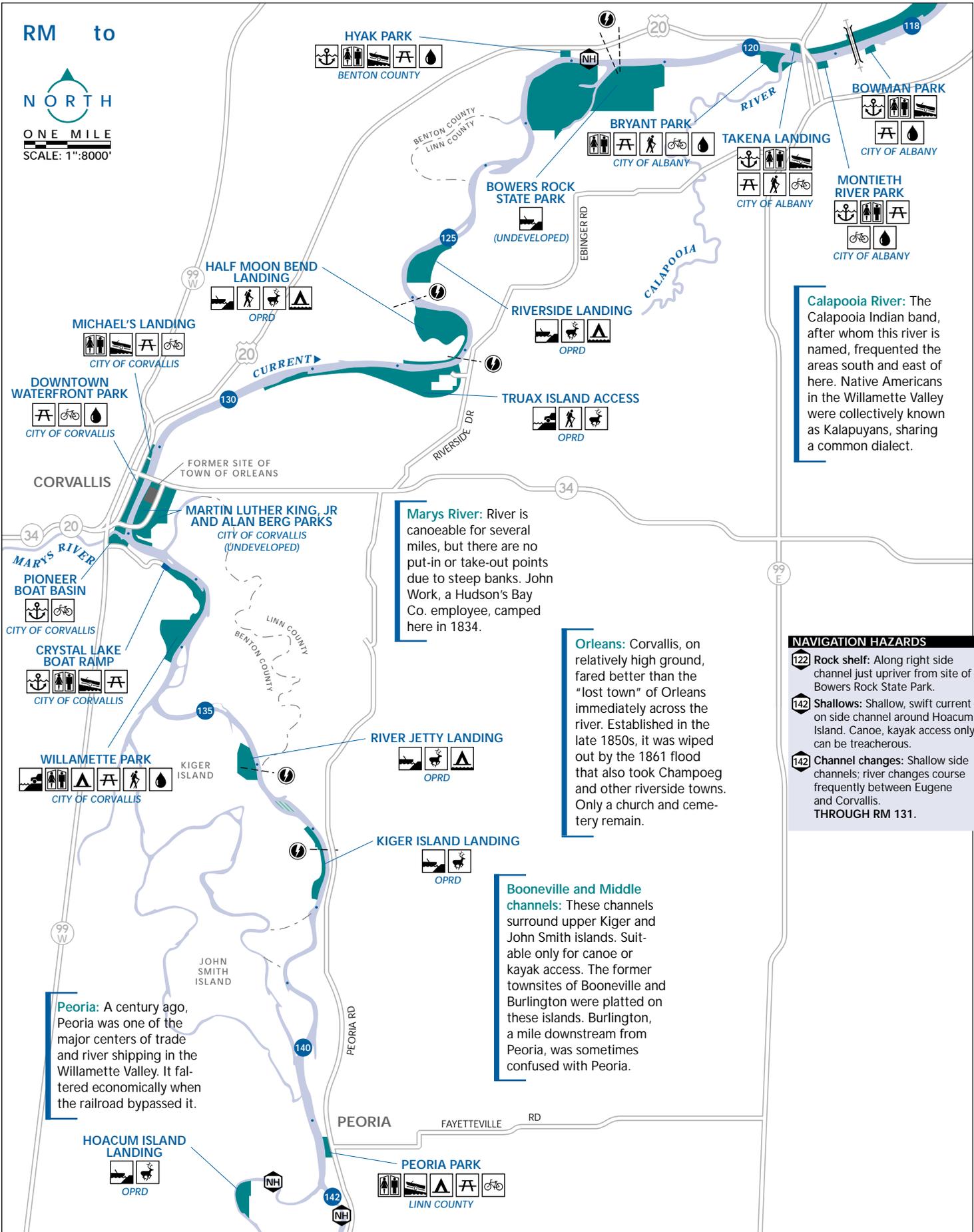
Harrisburg: Originally named Prairie City. Incorporated in 1866 and re-named after Harrisburg, Penn. Generally the upper-most point of navigation during the steamboat era.

LEGEND

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 145** Shallows: Shallow, swift current on side channel around Hoacum Island. Canoe, kayak access only; can be treacherous.
- 161** Water hydraulics: Swift current, eddy left side of channel approaching Highway 99E bridge upriver from Harrisburg.
- 163** Channel changes: Shallow side channels; river changes course frequently between Eugene and Corvallis. **THROUGH RM 132.**

RM to



HYAK PARK
BENTON COUNTY

BRYANT PARK
CITY OF ALBANY

BOWMAN PARK
CITY OF ALBANY

TAKENA LANDING
CITY OF ALBANY

MONTIETH RIVER PARK
CITY OF ALBANY

HALF MOON BEND LANDING
OPRD

BOWERS ROCK STATE PARK
(UNDEVELOPED)

RIVERSIDE LANDING
OPRD

MICHAEL'S LANDING
CITY OF CORVALLIS

TRUAX ISLAND ACCESS
OPRD

DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT PARK
CITY OF CORVALLIS

CORVALLIS

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR AND ALAN BERG PARKS
CITY OF CORVALLIS (UNDEVELOPED)

Marys River: River is canoeable for several miles, but there are no put-in or take-out points due to steep banks. John Work, a Hudson's Bay Co. employee, camped here in 1834.

Orleans: Corvallis, on relatively high ground, fared better than the "lost town" of Orleans immediately across the river. Established in the late 1850s, it was wiped out by the 1861 flood that also took Champoege and other riverside towns. Only a church and cemetery remain.

PIONEER BOAT BASIN
CITY OF CORVALLIS

CRYSTAL LAKE BOAT RAMP
CITY OF CORVALLIS

RIVER JETTY LANDING
OPRD

WILLAMETTE PARK
CITY OF CORVALLIS

KIGER ISLAND

KIGER ISLAND LANDING
OPRD

Booneville and Middle channels: These channels surround upper Kiger and John Smith islands. Suitable only for canoe or kayak access. The former townsites of Booneville and Burlington were platted on these islands. Burlington, a mile downstream from Peoria, was sometimes confused with Peoria.

Peoria: A century ago, Peoria was one of the major centers of trade and river shipping in the Willamette Valley. It faltered economically when the railroad bypassed it.

HOACUM ISLAND LANDING
OPRD

PEORIA

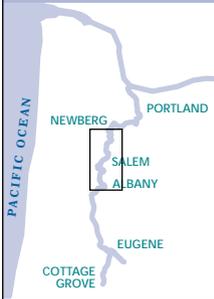
PEORIA PARK
LINN COUNTY

Calapooya River: The Calapooya Indian band, after whom this river is named, frequented the areas south and east of here. Native Americans in the Willamette Valley were collectively known as Kalapuyans, sharing a common dialect.

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 122 Rock shelf:** Along right side channel just upriver from site of Bowers Rock State Park.
- 142 Shallows:** Shallow, swift current on side channel around Hoacum Island. Canoe, kayak access only; can be treacherous.
- 142 Channel changes:** Shallow side channels; river changes course frequently between Eugene and Corvallis.

THROUGH RM 131.



MAJOR FEATURES

103 Ankeny Refuge
One of three national wildlife refuges that provide important winter habitat for geese and other waterfowl in the Willamette Valley.

84 Salem
In 1852, the steamer "Canemah" transported lawmakers from Oregon City to Salem to unite with the rest of the territorial government after Congress settled the territorial capital dispute. Salem then became the state capital when Oregon achieved statehood in 1859.

77 Lincoln Access
Once the largest shipping port on the river above Portland, Lincoln is now just a small rural community.

73 Willamette Mission State Park
Site of the Northwest's first Indian mission station in 1834.

ABOVE RIGHT: *Willamette Mission State Park*

Albany to St. Paul/Newberg

This midsection of the Willamette Valley, tamed by settlers during the 1850s through 1880s, became the fertile heartland that fueled Oregon's growth and development. Many prosperous towns and landings sprang up along the river, but today are gone—as faint a memory as the steamboat's whistle.

The middle section of the mainstem Willamette continues to slow and no longer actively creates new channels. River depths average 12-15 feet, although there are occasional shallows and strong

currents—especially near obstructions—that can upset a careless boater. In other places, the river slows and deepens to as much as 80 feet. Many sloughs and side channels lure anglers in search of bass, crappie and other panfish. Angling for spring chinook near Willamette Mission State Park can be productive during late April and May.

Scores of abandoned landings, as well as some major settlements of the steamboat era—Fairfield, and Buena Vista among them—have long since declined or disappeared altogether into Oregon's past. Of the early river towns, Salem, Corvallis, Albany, Independence and a few others remain.

This section is particularly bucolic, and features two of the remaining three Willamette River ferries—Buena Vista and Wheatland. Both have been in operation since the early 1850s. Buena Vista was site of important clay pipe and cooking ware kilns that served early Willamette Valley farms. Wheatland was opposite where Rev. Jason Lee founded his Methodist mission in 1834.

RIVER MILEPOSTS

Albany (RM 120-117) has four easily accessible city parks—Takena Landing (RM 119-117), Bryant Park (RM 120),



Bowman Park (RM 119) and Monteith Park (RM 118). The Bryant boat ramp is no longer usable. Monteith Park provides a transient tie-up dock and good access

to downtown Albany.

The Santiam River joins opposite Luckiamute Landing (RM 108-107). This is a good fishing and wildlife viewing area. Remnants of the old gallery forest can be seen around Luckiamute Landing, which is frequented by bald eagles and wild turkeys.

The Buena Vista Ferry (RM 106) is next to Buena Vista Park. Just downriver, Wells Island Park (RM 106-105) is an undeveloped island popular for boat camping.

At Independence Riverfront Park and boat ramp (RM 95.5), the town's old ferry landing is still visible. Further on, Salem, Oregon's capital, has an excellent riverfront park, Wallace Marine Park (RM 84-83), with two boat ramps—the downstream one for hand-launch only. Salem's downtown riverfront is being developed as a major public recreation park.

A small transient tie-up (RM 84) provides access to downtown Salem. Next are Wheatland Ferry (RM 72) and Willamette Mission State Park. The park has a boat ramp for non-motorized craft, below the ferry landing on the right bank.

San Salvador Park (RM 57) has a well-maintained boat ramp. Beyond it, the Yamhill River (RM 55) joins the Willamette. The Yamhill can be navigated upriver to a boat ramp at Dayton (RM 5 on the Yamhill)—and sometimes to Lafayette. Be careful of shoals.

EXCURSIONS



A good float trip is to put in at the Santiam boat ramp at the I-5 Santiam bridges rest area (freeway mile 241). Float the five miles to the Willamette and then to either Independence Park (18 river miles) or Wallace Marine Park in Salem (28 miles). ESTIMATED FLOAT TIME: 4 TO 6 HOURS.

A good car or bicycle trip is to take country roads to and across the Wheatland or Buena Vista ferries.



RM to



INDEPENDENCE BAR LANDING
 OPRD

SARAH HELMICK STATE PARK
 OPRD

Buena Vista Ferry: Operates April through October, Wednesday through Sunday. Hours 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends. Pedestrians and bicyclists are free; cars and small pickup trucks are \$1; vehicles with trailers are \$2.

AMERICAN BOTTOM LANDING
 OPRD

SIDNEY ACCESS
 OPRD

Buena Vista: Once home of the Oregon Pottery Company, which from 1866-1896 produced pottery wares used throughout the Willamette Valley and Oregon.

BUENA VISTA PARK
 POLK COUNTY

WELLS ISLAND PARK
 POLK COUNTY

LUCKIAMUTE LANDING
 OPRD

Santiam River: Until forced to the Grand Ronde reservation in 1856, the Santiam band of Native Americans lived in the valleys of the middle and south forks of the Santiam.

SANTIAM REST AREA HAND LAUNCH
 ODOT

BLACK DOG LANDING
 OPRD

Takena Landing: Albany's original name was Takenah—a Native American word describing the "large pool or depression" created by the Calapooia River where it joins the Willamette. Too often this got translated to mean "hole in the ground"; hence the decision to rename the community.

LEGEND	
	Boat access
	Vehicle access
	Public dock transient use
	Restrooms
	Boat ramp
	Supplies
	Picnicking
	Navigation hazards
	Hiking
	Hunting
	Bicycling
	Water
	Camping
	Boat camping
	Power line
	Division of State Lands public land

NAVIGATION HAZARDS	
	101 Shallow channels: Watch for small, shallow channels next 5 miles; channels change seasonally. THROUGH RM 97.
	120 Congested area: Watch for other river traffic in Albany vicinity. THROUGH RM 117.

BOWERS ROCK STATE PARK (UNDEVELOPED)
 BENTON COUNTY

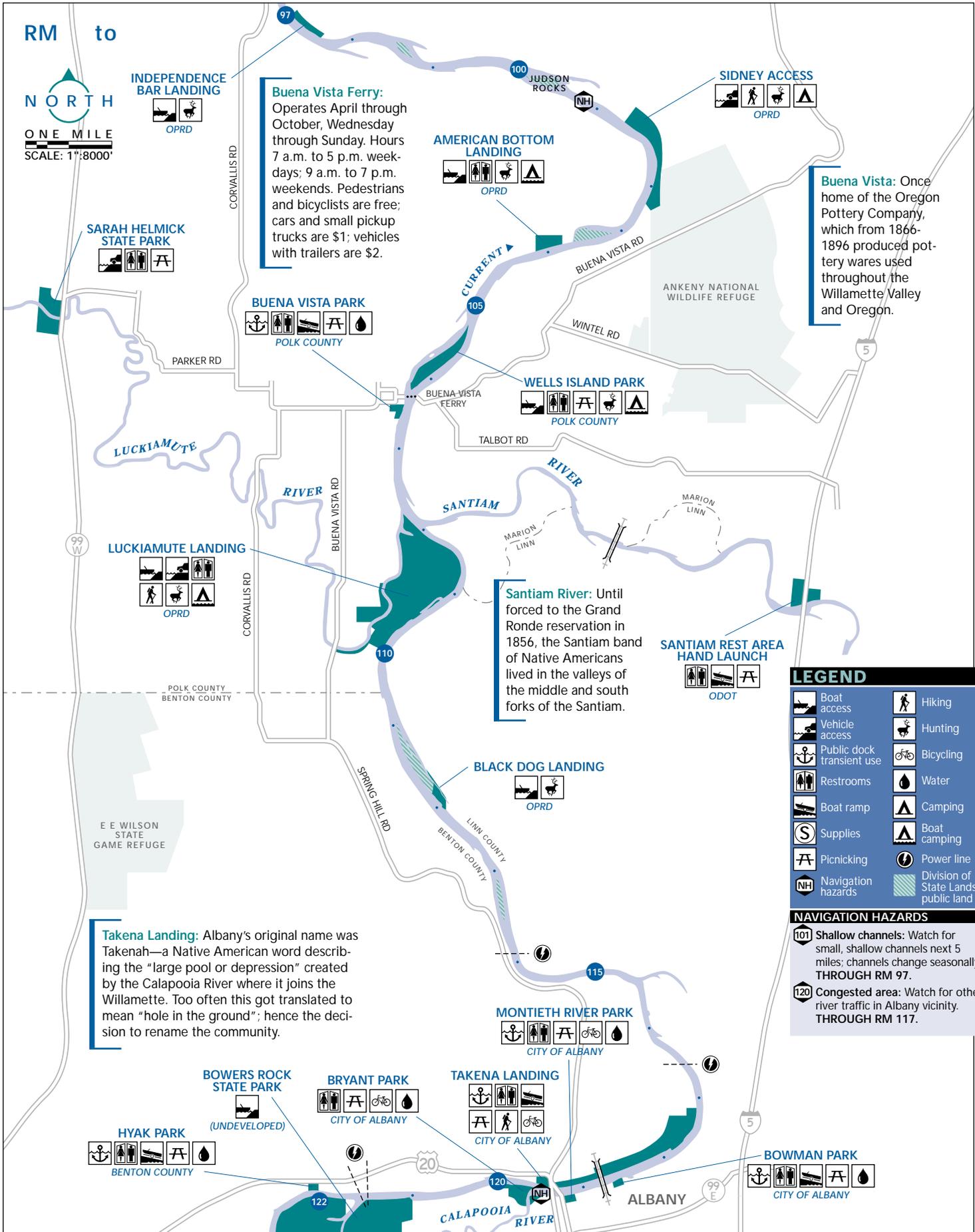
BRYANT PARK
 CITY OF ALBANY

TAKENA LANDING
 CITY OF ALBANY

HYAK PARK
 BENTON COUNTY

MONTIETH RIVER PARK
 CITY OF ALBANY

BOWMAN PARK
 CITY OF ALBANY



RM to



ONE MILE SCALE: 1":8000'

Lincoln Access: One of the Willamette's most successful early-day towns—named after President Lincoln—won fame for shipping out a record 350,000 bushels of wheat one year. It boasted a half-mile-long waterfront of warehouses and wharves, none of which remains.

Spongs Landing: The Spongs family settled opposite the old town of Lincoln, where they established a ferry in competition with Doak's Ferry across the river. The ferry owners reportedly withheld landing rights from each other, culminating in "a shooting fray between crews" that, fortunately, resulted in no casualties.

Eola: The area at the foot of Eola Hills was once a town called Cincinnati, established in 1849 and a prospering little community by 1851. At one time it was mentioned as a possible site for the state capital. Eola Hills spread out to the north at the bend in the river. Joshua "Sheep" Shaw named it after the Ohio town he grew up in; Shaw and his family were the first immigrants to drive sheep over the "Road to Oregon" in 1844. The town was situated just downriver from Rickreall Creek.

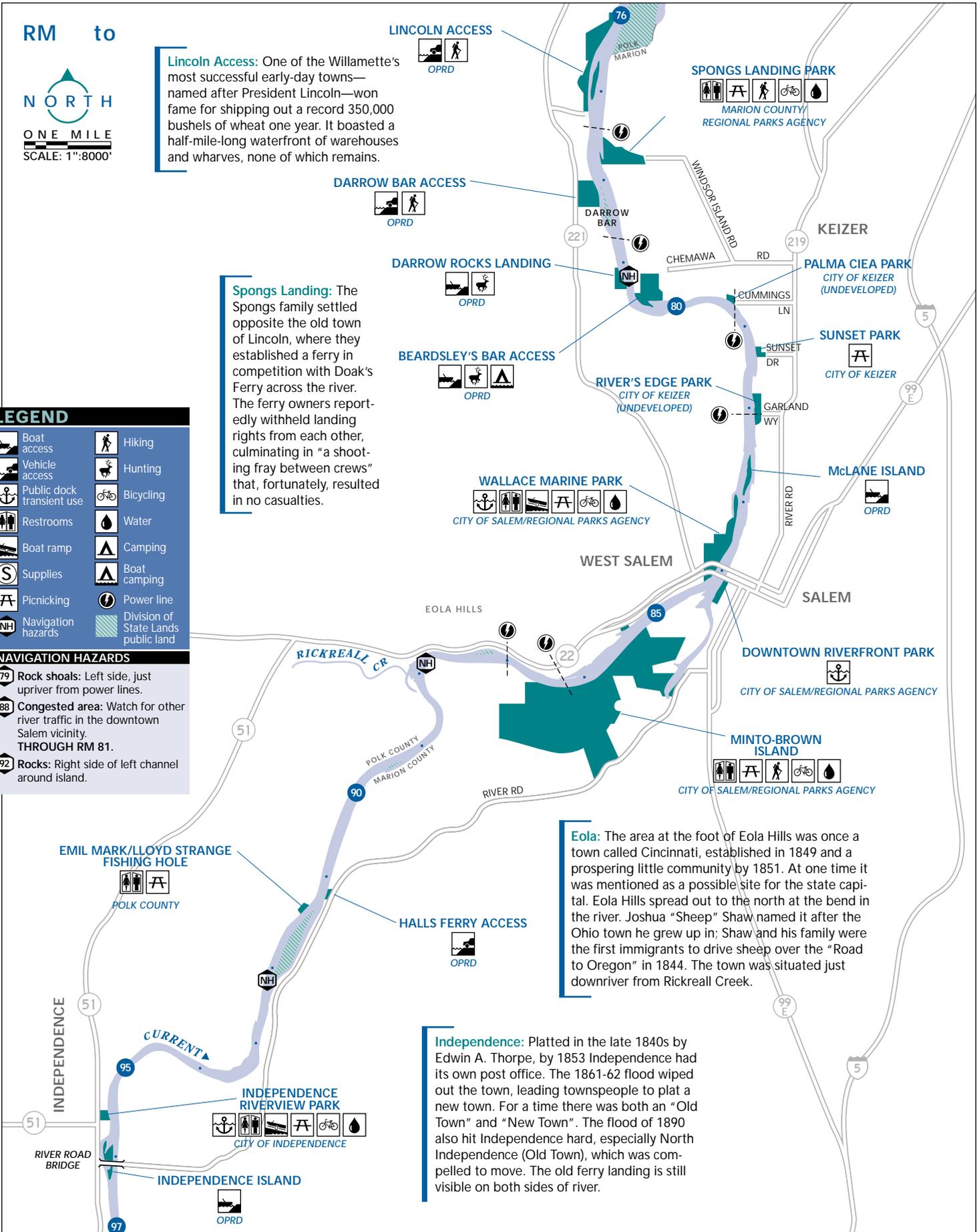
Independence: Platted in the late 1840s by Edwin A. Thorpe, by 1853 Independence had its own post office. The 1861-62 flood wiped out the town, leading townspeople to plat a new town. For a time there was both an "Old Town" and "New Town". The flood of 1890 also hit Independence hard, especially North Independence (Old Town), which was compelled to move. The old ferry landing is still visible on both sides of river.

LEGEND

	Boat access		Hiking
	Vehicle access		Hunting
	Public dock transient use		Bicycling
	Restrooms		Water
	Boat ramp		Camping
	Supplies		Boat camping
	Picnicking		Power line
	Navigation hazards		Division of State Lands public land

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 79** Rock shoals: Left side, just upriver from power lines.
- 88** Congested area: Watch for other river traffic in the downtown Salem vicinity. THROUGH RM 81.
- 92** Rocks: Right side of left channel around island.



LINCOLN ACCESS



SPONGS LANDING PARK



MARION COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS AGENCY

DARROW BAR ACCESS



DARROW ROCKS LANDING



BEARDSLEY'S BAR ACCESS



RIVER'S EDGE PARK

CITY OF KEIZER (UNDEVELOPED)

WALLACE MARINE PARK



CITY OF SALEM/REGIONAL PARKS AGENCY

DOWNTOWN RIVERFRONT PARK



CITY OF SALEM/REGIONAL PARKS AGENCY

MINTO-BROWN ISLAND



CITY OF SALEM/REGIONAL PARKS AGENCY

EMIL MARK/LLOYD STRANGE FISHING HOLE



POLK COUNTY

HALLS FERRY ACCESS



INDEPENDENCE RIVERVIEW PARK

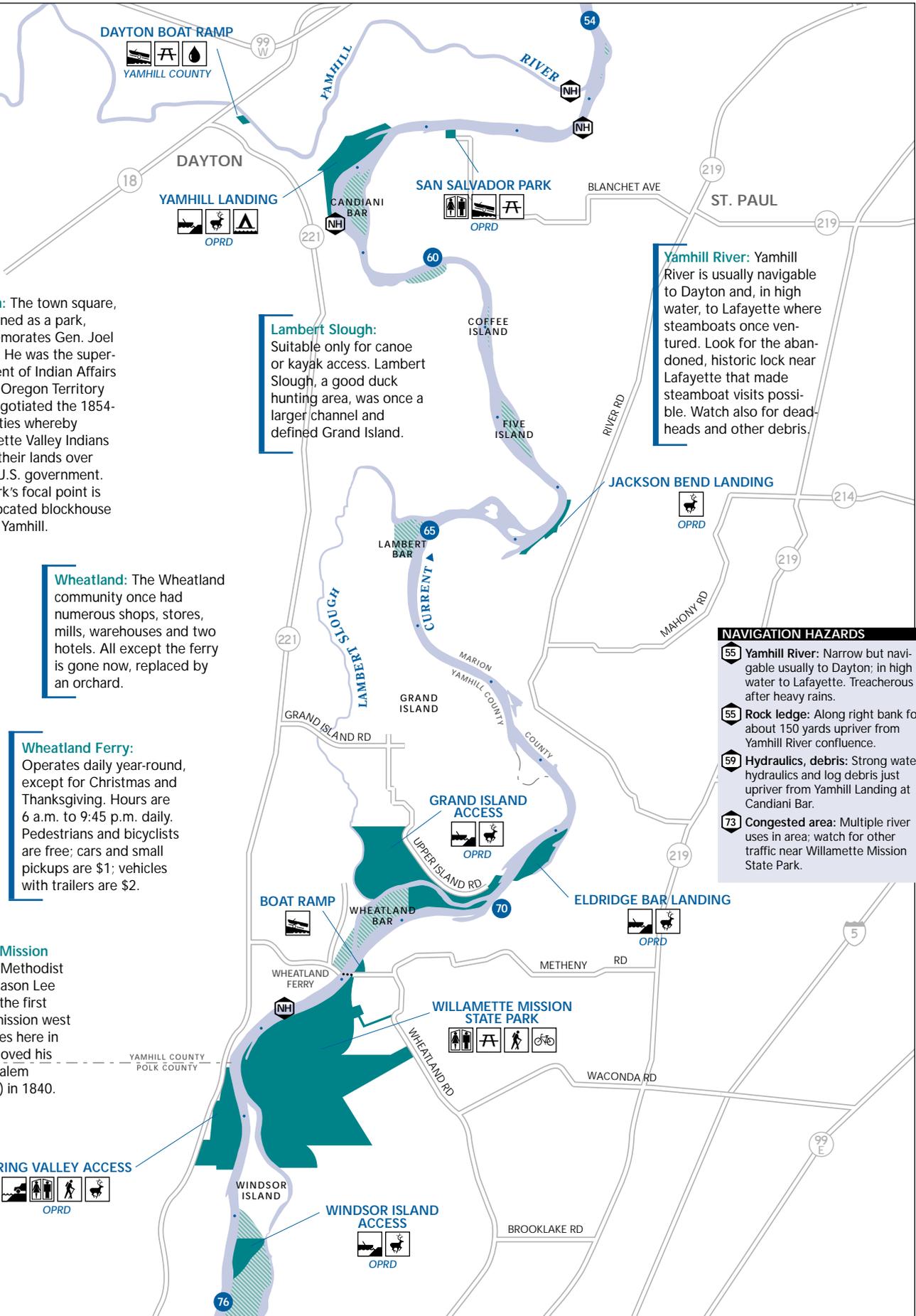


CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

INDEPENDENCE ISLAND



RM to



Dayton: The town square, maintained as a park, commemorates Gen. Joel Palmer. He was the superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Oregon Territory who negotiated the 1854-55 treaties whereby Willamette Valley Indians ceded their lands over to the U.S. government. The park's focal point is the relocated blockhouse of Fort Yamhill.

Wheatland: The Wheatland community once had numerous shops, stores, mills, warehouses and two hotels. All except the ferry is gone now, replaced by an orchard.

Wheatland Ferry: Operates daily year-round, except for Christmas and Thanksgiving. Hours are 6 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. daily. Pedestrians and bicyclists are free; cars and small pickups are \$1; vehicles with trailers are \$2.

Willamette Mission State Park: Methodist missionary Jason Lee established the first Methodist mission west of the Rockies here in 1834. Lee moved his mission to Salem (Chemeketa) in 1840.

Lambert Slough: Suitable only for canoe or kayak access. Lambert Slough, a good duck hunting area, was once a larger channel and defined Grand Island.

Yamhill River: Yamhill River is usually navigable to Dayton and, in high water, to Lafayette where steamboats once ventured. Look for the abandoned, historic lock near Lafayette that made steamboat visits possible. Watch also for deadheads and other debris.

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 55** **Yamhill River:** Narrow but navigable usually to Dayton; in high water to Lafayette where steamboats once ventured. Treacherous after heavy rains.
- 55** **Rock ledge:** Along right bank for about 150 yards upriver from Yamhill River confluence.
- 59** **Hydraulics, debris:** Strong water hydraulics and log debris just upriver from Yamhill Landing at Candiani Bar.
- 73** **Congested area:** Multiple river uses in area; watch for other traffic near Willamette Mission State Park.

4

THE LOWER MAINSTEM



MAJOR FEATURES

46 Champoege State Park

Site of the settlers' convention of May 2, 1843, which determined formation of the provisional government of the Oregon country.

34 Canby Ferry

Ferry was established in 1911; often called the "Clackamas County Navy".

Willamette Falls

27 A 41-foot-high falls passable only using the adjacent locks.

26 Oregon City

First incorporated city west of the Rockies (1844) and terminus of the Oregon Trail.

8 Waud Bluff

Site of the University of Portland and furthest upriver landing of Lewis and Clark's expedition in 1806.

Newberg to Portland

No other section of the Willamette is more steeped in Oregon history than the lower river, which begins a 20-mile long eastward bend at Newberg, then presses northward once again at Canby for its final run to the Columbia. En route, it passes through a metropolitan area where the vast majority of Oregon's population lives.

From Newberg to its confluence with the Columbia 50 river miles later, the Willamette is mostly placid and slow-moving. In this section, the river runs through a beautiful wooded gorge with narrow segments that make navigation challenging at points, especially around islands and rocky shoals.

At Oregon City, the riverbed is a basalt shelf that creates the impressive 41-foot Willamette Falls. Turbulent waters near the base of the falls are unsafe for small boats. Observe the boating and fishing dead-line (yellow markers).



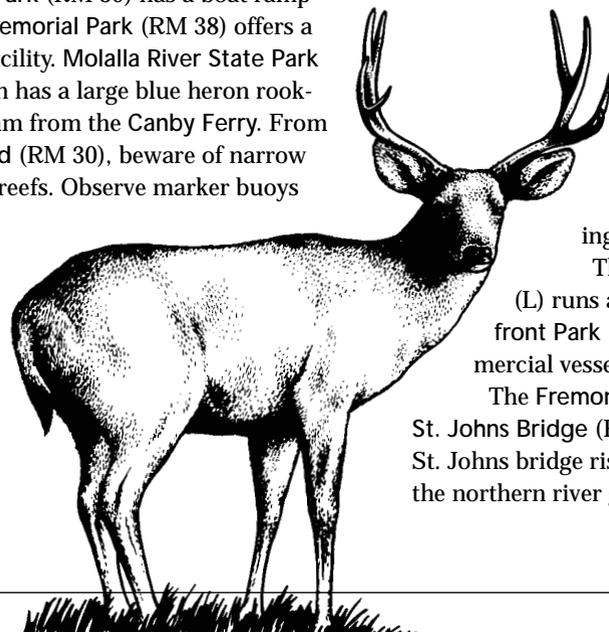
Below the falls, the river is often congested with recreational and commercial river traffic. Still, you'll see great blue heron, waterfowl, vegetation and wetlands along the way. The fishing, especially for salmon and sturgeon, is very popular.

RIVER MILEPOSTS

Rodgers Landing (RM 50) has a boat ramp and tie-up with a park and restrooms. Champoege State Park (RM 46-43), also has a tie-up. Nearby is historic Butteville Landing (RM 43).

Boones Ferry Park (RM 39) has a boat ramp and Wilsonville Memorial Park (RM 38) offers a transient tie-up facility. Molalla River State Park (RM 36-34), which has a large blue heron rookery, is just upstream from the Canby Ferry. From here to Rock Island (RM 30), beware of narrow chutes and rocky reefs. Observe marker buoys and range boards.

Bernert Landing (RM 28) has both a boat ramp and tie-up. West Linn's Willamette Park (RM 28) is at the mouth of the Tualatin River.



To enter Willamette Falls Locks (RM 27) from upriver, keep to the far left bank. The locks are open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Weekends are best due to the amount of commercial traffic—which has priority—during the week. Allow about an hour for passage each way.

Below the old Oregon City Bridge (RM 26), remnants of the historic Oregon City steamboat landing are visible. A series of public parks, islands and other access points, including Goat, Cedar and Hogg Islands, and Meldrum Bar, follow. Mary S. Young State Park (RM 24) no longer has a boat ramp. Roehr Park (RM 20) features a public boat dock connected to an outdoor amphitheater. Elk Rock Island (RM 19) is accessible by boat.

The Sellwood Bridge (RM 17) is the first of 10 vehicle bridges crossing the Willamette within Portland. Oaks Bottom (RM 16) and Ross Island (RM 15) represent important wildlife habitat. Just

beyond the Ross Island Bridge is the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (R) and the U.S.S. Blueback submarine. Riverplace (RM 13), which has a 24-hour public dock (reservations required), is within walking distance of downtown Portland.

The 27-foot-high Portland Seawall (L) runs along much of Tom McCall Waterfront Park (RM 14-12). Beware of large commercial vessels in the Portland harbor.

The Fremont Bridge (RM 11) and the majestic St. Johns Bridge (RM 6.1) follow. The spires of the St. Johns bridge rise to an imposing 418 feet, forming the northern river gateway to Portland.

EXCURSION

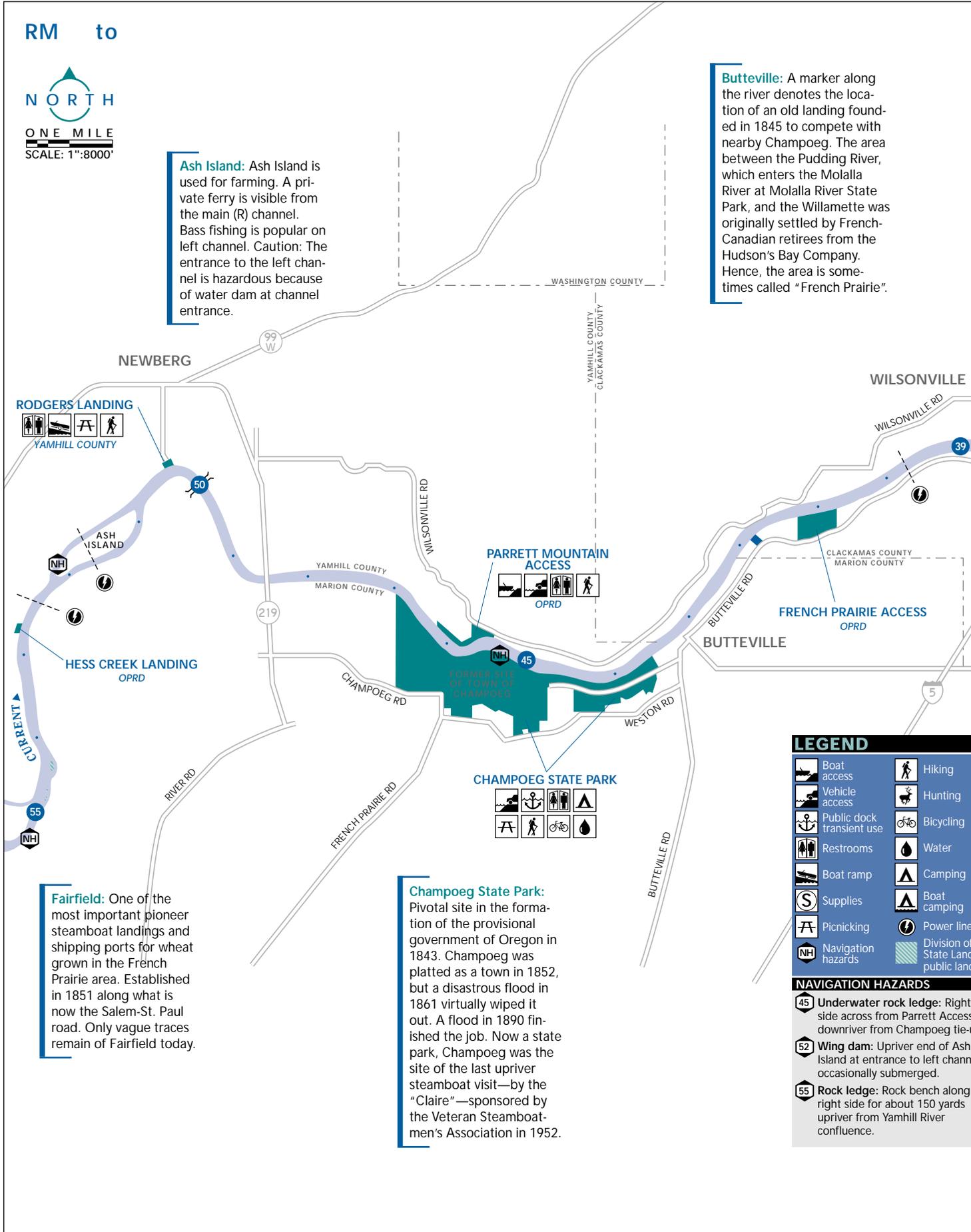


A day-long round-trip boat excursion can be enjoyed by putting in at Clackamette Park and proceeding upriver through the Willamette Falls Locks to Molalla or Champoege state parks. At cruise speed (15 knots), river travel time is about 3 hours for the round trip. Add 4 hours for passage through the locks, a lunch break and sightseeing. ESTIMATED ROUND TRIP: 7 HOURS.



Ash Island: Ash Island is used for farming. A private ferry is visible from the main (R) channel. Bass fishing is popular on left channel. Caution: The entrance to the left channel is hazardous because of water dam at channel entrance.

Butteville: A marker along the river denotes the location of an old landing founded in 1845 to compete with nearby Champoeg. The area between the Pudding River, which enters the Molalla River at Molalla River State Park, and the Willamette River was originally settled by French-Canadian retirees from the Hudson's Bay Company. Hence, the area is sometimes called "French Prairie".



Fairfield: One of the most important pioneer steamboat landings and shipping ports for wheat grown in the French Prairie area. Established in 1851 along what is now the Salem-St. Paul road. Only vague traces remain of Fairfield today.

Champoeg State Park: Pivotal site in the formation of the provisional government of Oregon in 1843. Champoeg was platted as a town in 1852, but a disastrous flood in 1861 virtually wiped it out. A flood in 1890 finished the job. Now a state park, Champoeg was the site of the last upriver steamboat visit—by the "Claire"—sponsored by the Veteran Steamboatmen's Association in 1952.

LEGEND

	Boat access		Hiking
	Vehicle access		Hunting
	Public dock transient use		Bicycling
	Restrooms		Water
	Boat ramp		Camping
	Supplies		Boat camping
	Picnicking		Power line
	Navigation hazards		Division of State Lands public land

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 45 Underwater rock ledge:** Right side across from Parrett Access; downriver from Champoeg tie-up.
- 52 Wing dam:** Upriver end of Ash Island at entrance to left channel; occasionally submerged.
- 55 Rock ledge:** Rock bench along right side for about 150 yards upriver from Yamhill River confluence.

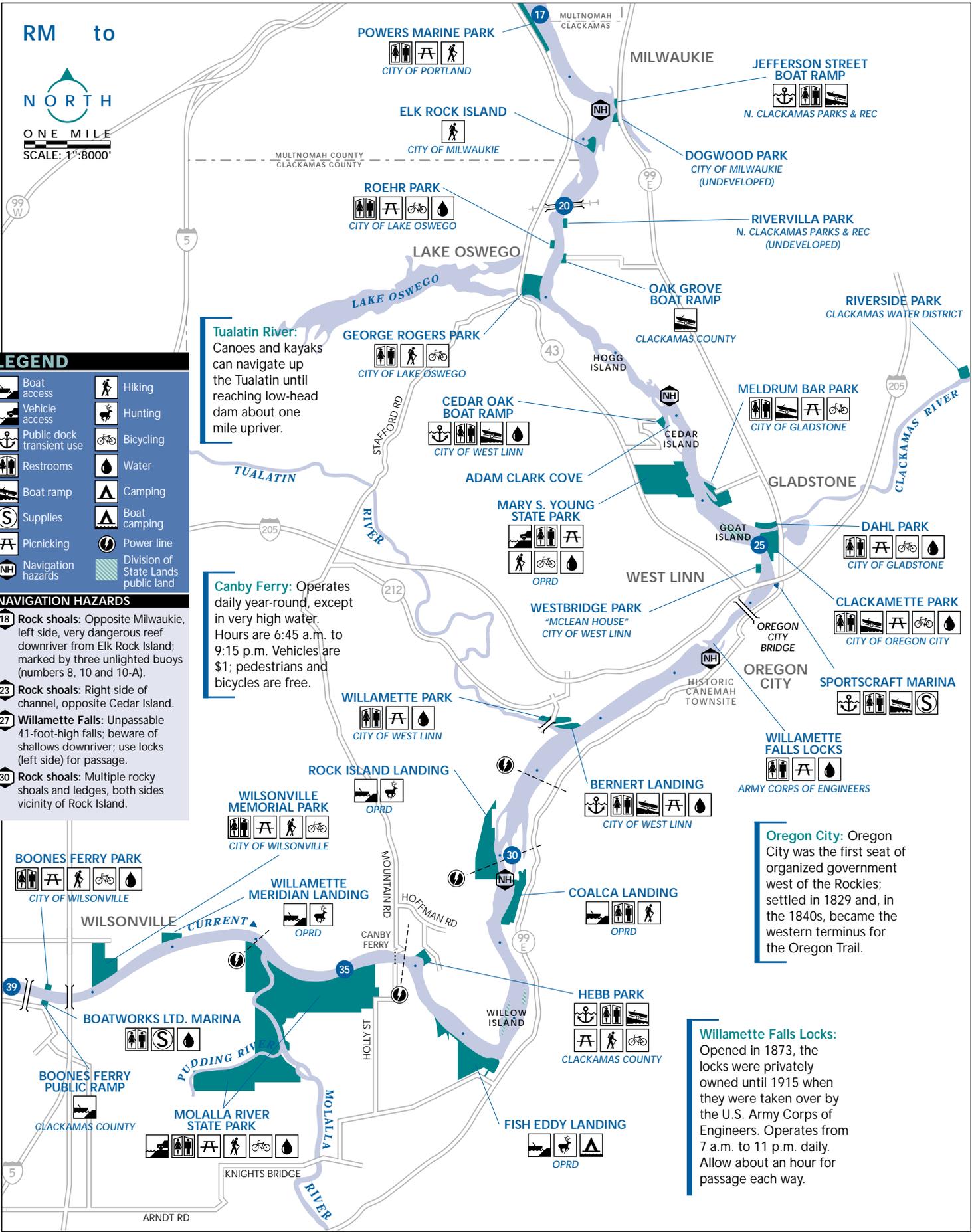
RM to



LEGEND

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 18 Rock shoals:** Opposite Milwaukie, left side, very dangerous reef downriver from Elk Rock Island; marked by three unlighted buoys (numbers 8, 10 and 10-A).
- 23 Rock shoals:** Right side of channel, opposite Cedar Island.
- 27 Willamette Falls:** Unpassable 41-foot-high falls; beware of shallows downriver; use locks (left side) for passage.
- 30 Rock shoals:** Multiple rocky shoals and ledges, both sides vicinity of Rock Island.

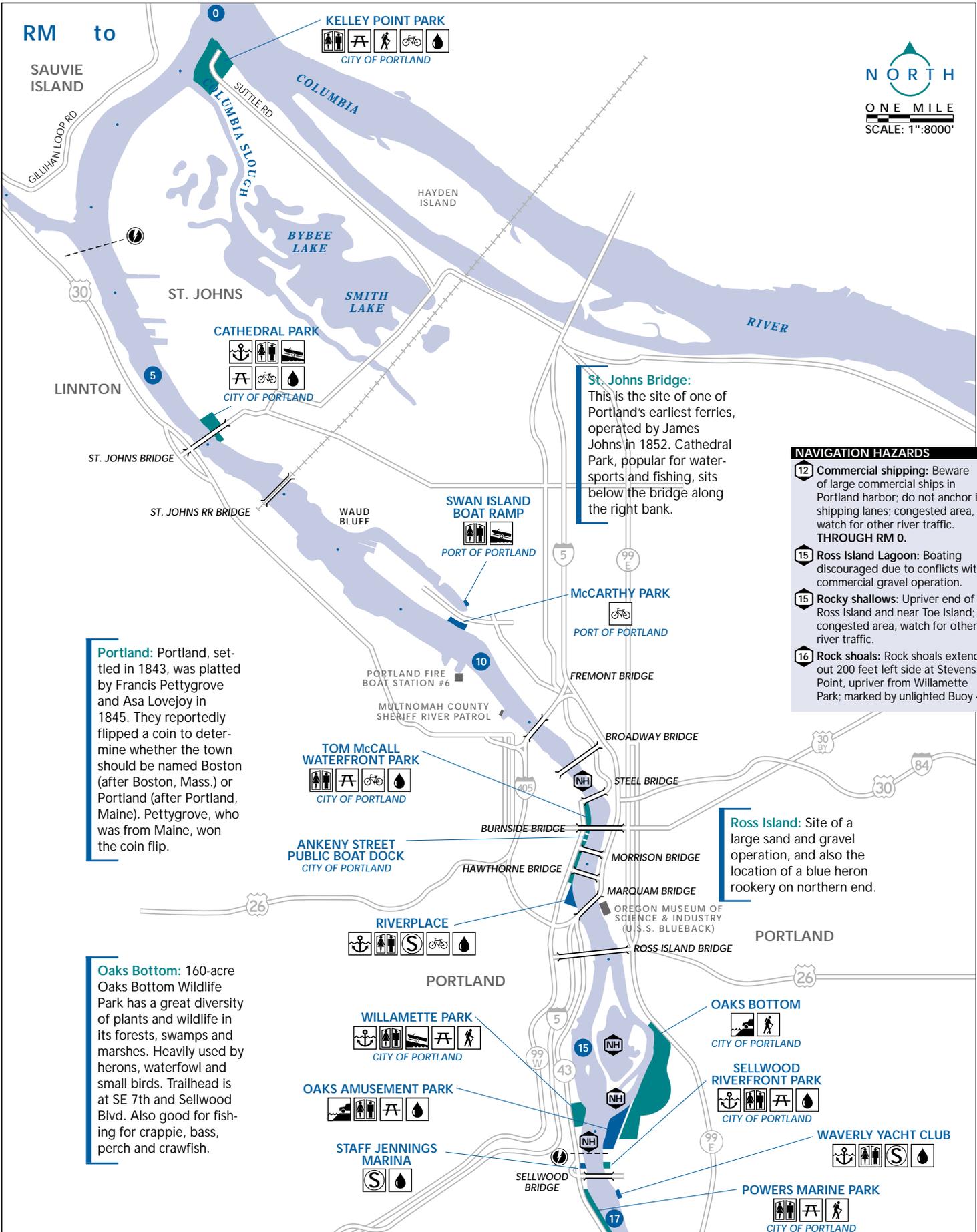


Tualatin River: Canoes and kayaks can navigate up the Tualatin until reaching low-head dam about one mile upriver.

Canby Ferry: Operates daily year-round, except in very high water. Hours are 6:45 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. Vehicles are \$1; pedestrians and bicycles are free.

Oregon City: Oregon City was the first seat of organized government west of the Rockies; settled in 1829 and, in the 1840s, became the western terminus for the Oregon Trail.

Willamette Falls Locks: Opened in 1873, the locks were privately owned until 1915 when they were taken over by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Operates from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Allow about an hour for passage each way.



RM to

SAUVIE ISLAND

KELLEY POINT PARK
CITY OF PORTLAND

CATHEDRAL PARK
CITY OF PORTLAND

SWAN ISLAND BOAT RAMP
PORT OF PORTLAND

St. Johns Bridge:
This is the site of one of Portland's earliest ferries, operated by James Johns in 1852. Cathedral Park, popular for water-sports and fishing, sits below the bridge along the right bank.

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

- 12 Commercial shipping:** Beware of large commercial ships in Portland harbor; do not anchor in shipping lanes; congested area, watch for other river traffic. **THROUGH RM 0.**
- 15 Ross Island Lagoon:** Boating discouraged due to conflicts with commercial gravel operation.
- 15 Rocky shallows:** Upriver end of Ross Island and near Toe Island; congested area, watch for other river traffic.
- 16 Rock shoals:** Rock shoals extend out 200 feet left side at Stevens' Point, upriver from Willamette Park; marked by unlighted Buoy 4.

Portland: Portland, settled in 1843, was platted by Francis Pettygrove and Asa Lovejoy in 1845. They reportedly flipped a coin to determine whether the town should be named Boston (after Boston, Mass.) or Portland (after Portland, Maine). Pettygrove, who was from Maine, won the coin flip.

Ross Island: Site of a large sand and gravel operation, and also the location of a blue heron rookery on northern end.

Oaks Bottom: 160-acre Oaks Bottom Wildlife Park has a great diversity of plants and wildlife in its forests, swamps and marshes. Heavily used by herons, waterfowl and small birds. Trailhead is at SE 7th and Sellwood Blvd. Also good for fishing for crappie, bass, perch and crawfish.

ANKENY STREET PUBLIC BOAT DOCK
CITY OF PORTLAND

TOM McCALL WATERFRONT PARK
CITY OF PORTLAND

PORTLAND FIRE BOAT STATION #6
MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF RIVER PATROL

RIVERPLACE

OAKS AMUSEMENT PARK

STAFF JENNINGS MARINA

WILLAMETTE PARK
CITY OF PORTLAND

OAKS BOTTOM
CITY OF PORTLAND

SELLWOOD RIVERFRONT PARK
CITY OF PORTLAND

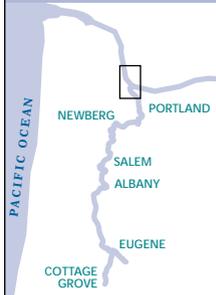
WAVERLY YACHT CLUB

POWERS MARINE PARK
CITY OF PORTLAND

SELLWOOD BRIDGE

5

MULTNOMAH CHANNEL



MAJOR FEATURES

21M Sauvie Island

An important Native American trading grounds.

11M Bybee-Howell House

A fine 1856 Classical Revival home on Sauvie Island; its ample grounds and orchards are ideal for picnics.

0M Sauvie Island Wildlife Management Area

Contains 12,000 acres of shallow lakes and sloughs suitable for canoeing, fishing, and nature viewing.

0 St. Helens

Established in 1847 by Henry M. Knighton. Just upriver, the little town of Milton was washed away in the 1861 flood.

Multnomah Channel

Once plied by paddlewheel steamers churning toward Portland or St. Helens, Multnomah Channel is now a lazy byway marked by quiet houseboat moorages and a major wildlife sanctuary—a delightful getaway from the marine congestion that otherwise dominates the lower Willamette.

Multnomah Channel begins three miles upstream from the Willamette's main confluence with the Columbia. It traverses the west flank of Sauvie Island for 21 miles until it, too, connects with the Columbia River (at St. Helens).

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, explorers for the young republic of the United States, noted the island during their 1804-06 expedition, calling it Wapato Island after the large beds of arrowhead, or wild potato, growing there. The Native American name for the plant is wapato. The island was once a center of trade for Native Americans stretching from the Willamette Valley to Idaho and Wyoming.

A French-Canadian employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, Laurent Sauve, for whom Sauvie Island is now named, established the first non-native settlement in 1838—a dairy. Since then, little other than agricultural development has occurred on the island.

The channel is mostly a peaceful waterway featuring quiet moorages, lush vegetation, plentiful songbirds and waterfowl.

RIVER MILEPOSTS

A series of moorages and marinas greets the boater between

Multnomah Channel's confluence with the

available to the public, usually for a small fee.

Pastoral Sauvie Island, on the right, is popular for bicycle rides, nature walks, swimming beaches, and its fruit and vegetable stands. Just inland is the historic Bybee-Howell House, a fine Classical Revival house built in 1856 and restored and maintained by the Oregon Historical Society. It is open to the public during the summer.

The Sauvie Island Public Boat Ramp (RM 18) is just upriver from Wapato Access (RM 17-18), near one of the sites where Nathaniel Wyeth maintained an outpost called Ft. William from 1834-1836. At Wapato Access is Hadley's Landing (RM 17.5), a transient tie-up and trail.

About halfway down the channel, the Sauvie Island Wildlife Management Area (RM 11-0) begins. It is a major wintering and resting area for more than 300,000 ducks and geese. The refuge also features swans, great blue herons, sandhill cranes, purple martins and bald eagles. Access is by road or by boat via the Gilbert River Boat Ramp (RM 6). Check rules on wildlife viewing restrictions during hunting season and in the spring.

Several parks and a marina can be found at the channel's confluence with the Columbia. These include Sand Island Marine Park at St. Helens in the Columbia River, St. Helens Landing and Columbia View Park. Scappoose Bay, a 6-mile-long backwater parallel to the channel, also contains a boat ramp and marina. Scappoose Bay Landing is a large state greenway parcel between the bay and Multnomah Channel.



Willamette and the Sauvie Island Bridge (RM 20). Several moorages have boat ramps

EXCURSIONS



Take Multnomah Channel to the Sauvie Island boat ramp or Hadley's Landing. Take a stroll—or ride bikes—on the island. Gillihan Loop Road is a flat 12-mile loop through farmland, past vegetable stands and the historic Bybee-Howell House, above. ESTIMATED TIME: ABOUT AN HOUR BY BICYCLE.

Hike to Wapato Access or walk northeasterly to the Sauvie Island Wildlife Management area (about 3 miles). Great for birdwatching, but observe seasonal restrictions.



Sturgeon Lake and other waters in Sauvie Island Wildlife Management area offer good panfish fishing. Bank fishing can be done from Oak Island along the south-western shore of Sturgeon Lake. Footbridges along Pete's Slough, south of Big McNary Lake, provide additional access for fishing and wildlife viewing.

Wapato Access, named for the wapato plant that was a staple food for Willamette Valley and Columbia Basin Indians, is a hike-able greenway parcel.

ROCKY POINTE MARINA



HAPPY ROCK MOORAGE



WAPATO ACCESS



HADLEY'S LANDING



OMP, OPRD, PORT OF PORTLAND

BURLINGTON

BURLINGTON BOAT RAMP



METRO

LARSON'S MARINA



LUCKY'S LANDING MARINA



FRED'S MARINA



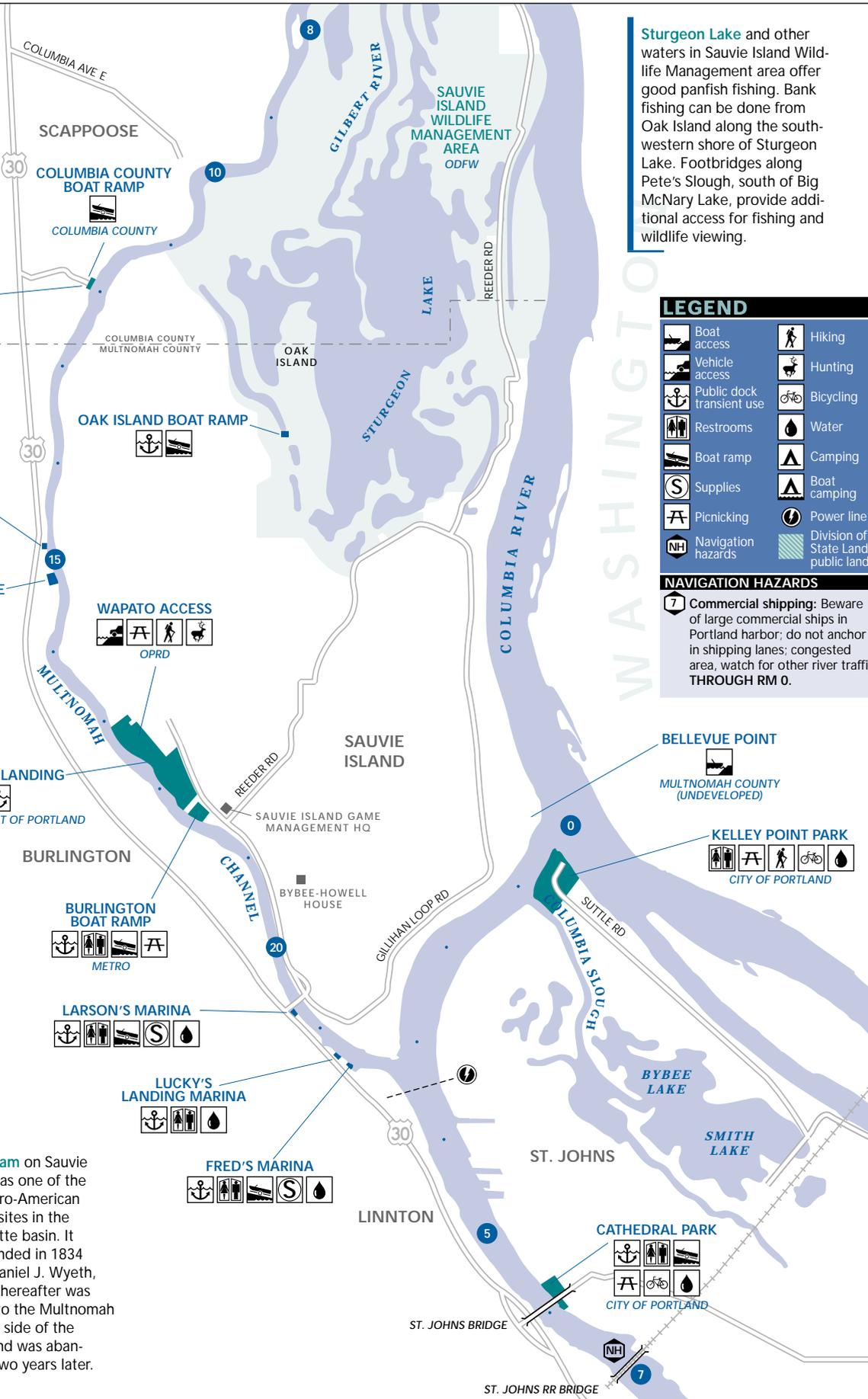
Ft. William on Sauvie Island was one of the early Euro-American trading sites in the Willamette basin. It was founded in 1834 by Nathaniel J. Wyeth, shortly thereafter was moved to the Multnomah Channel side of the island and was abandoned two years later.

LEGEND

	Boat access		Hiking
	Vehicle access		Hunting
	Public dock transient use		Bicycling
	Restrooms		Water
	Boat ramp		Camping
	Supplies		Boat camping
	Picnicking		Power line
	Navigation hazards		Division of State Lands public land

NAVIGATION HAZARDS

7 Commercial shipping: Beware of large commercial ships in Portland harbor; do not anchor in shipping lanes; congested area, watch for other river traffic. **THROUGH RM 0.**



WASHINGTON

RM M to M

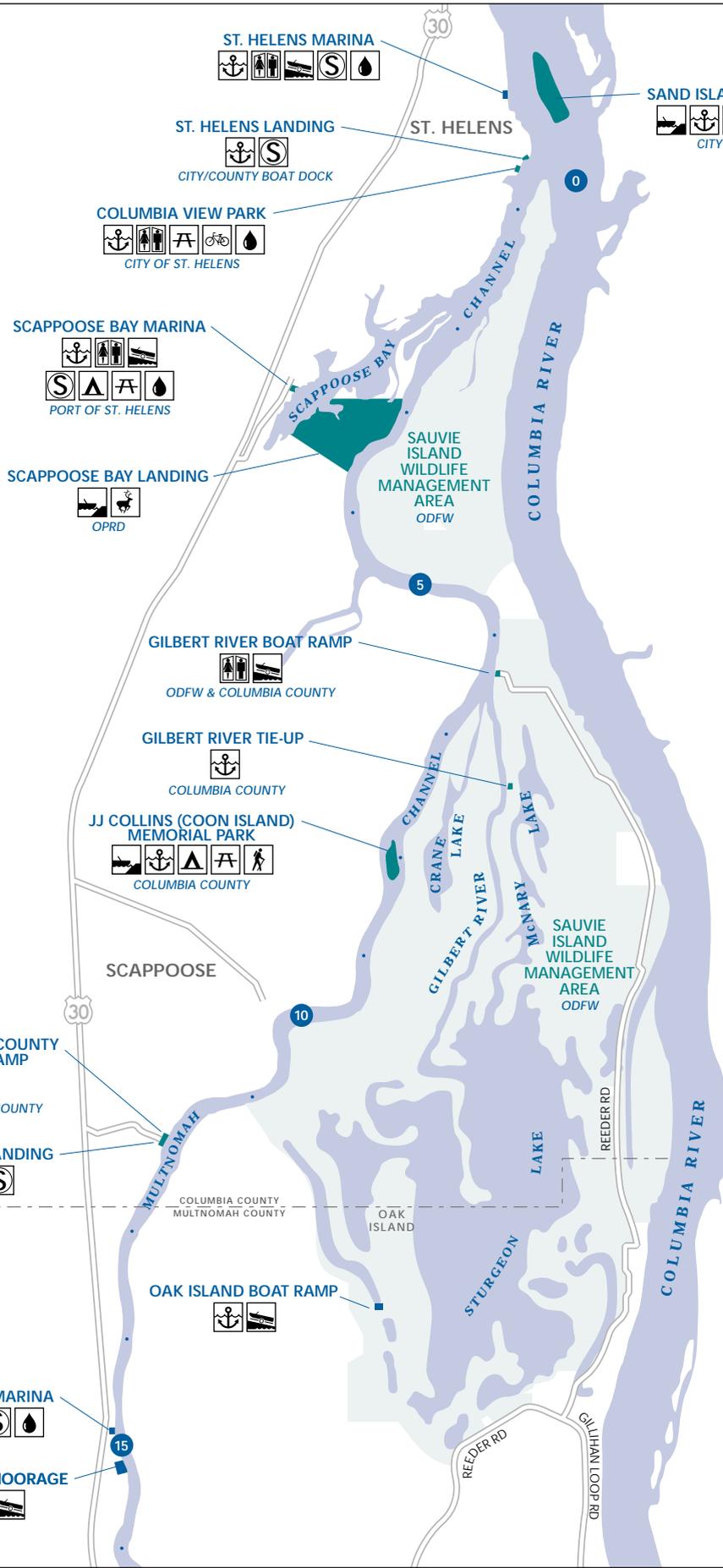


LEGEND	
	Boat access
	Vehicle access
	Public dock transient use
	Restrooms
	Boat ramp
	Supplies
	Picnicking
	Navigation hazards
	Hiking
	Hunting
	Bicycling
	Water
	Camping
	Boat camping
	Power line
	Division of State Lands public land

Wildlife viewing: The Sauvie Island Wildlife Management Area is an excellent place to enjoy bird watching and partake in other recreational activities. Check rules on viewing restrictions during the hunting season and spring. Picnicking and other day-use activities are allowed provided they do not conflict with fish and wildlife needs. Sites are not developed for these uses, drinking water is not available, and restrooms are primitive.

Public access: Users of the game management area must purchase and display an annual or daily parking permit while parked on state lands on Sauvie Island. Annual permits cost \$10.50 and daily permits cost \$3.00. Several local vendors near or on Sauvie Island sell permits. It should be remembered that the State of Oregon does not own all of the land on the north end of the island and none on the southern end. Care should be taken not to trespass on private property.

Coon Island, JJ Collins Park on Coon Island is one of the few places on the channel where camping is permitted.



WASHINGTON

Keeping Our River Clean

The Willamette River is considerably cleaner today than it was in the 1920s and 1930s, when the lower river was so poisonous that fish placed in it died within minutes. To deal with the problem, the State Sanitary Authority (now called the Department of Environmental Quality) was formed. By 1968, all major waste discharges were identified and controlled by state water quality permits. The river is now safe for swimming, boating, fishing and recreating.

Still, the Willamette does contain some pollutants. State regulation has greatly reduced the amount of industrial and municipal pollution entering the river, but the individual actions of citizens who use the river can have the greatest impact on keeping it clean. Here's how you can help:

SANITARY DISCHARGES

Human waste is a significant public health concern. The cities of Corvallis and Portland both have combined storm and sanitary sewer systems. During rainy periods, untreated municipal sewage can flow into the river. At these times, avoid direct contact with the water—especially swimming or skiing. Fish in these areas should be thoroughly washed before eating.

The use of Coast Guard-approved marine sanitation devices aboard boats is required. Use pump-out facilities or potty dump stations to properly dispose of waste. Plan your trip to use upland public restrooms found at most parks and many greenway parcels along the river. At campsites where there are no toilets, human waste should be carried out. If that is not possible,

dig a hole at least 12 inches deep—well away from the river and above the high water line—to bury wastes. Do not urinate in or near the water; preferably find a wet sand area.

OIL AND FUEL SPILLS

It is illegal to discharge any fuel or oil into any of Oregon's public waters. Check fuel tanks, hoses and valves before you untrailer your boat or leave your moorage. When refueling, shut off motors and electrical equipment, and don't smoke. Take extra precautions when fueling at

a dock. Take portable fuel tanks out of the boat and fill them on land. Wipe up any spills and discard the cloth in a safe manner.

HOUSEHOLD WASTES

Toxic materials can flow into the river when soaps, solvents, motor oil, anti-freeze and other household chemicals wash off of roofs, driveways and yards into storm drains. Thousands of small "spills" such as these have a total impact much greater than all industrial pollution combined.

SEDIMENT EROSION

Motorboat wakes increase erosion of shorelines. When traveling near the river's banks, reduce your speed. Higher speeds—especially in shallow waters—also can disturb bottom sediments which sometimes contain trapped toxic materials that can be released into the water column.

LITTERING

It is against the law to litter in state waters. Plastics are especially harmful. Items such as polystyrene cups, plastic bags, bait packages and monofilament line can kill birds, fish and marine mammals. When boating, camping or picnicking, please do your part—pack out whatever you pack in, and dispose of it properly, including food wastes.

ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM

Take a personal role in maintaining the beauty of the Willamette River, or any river, lake or stream in Oregon. The Oregon Adopt-A-River program helps volunteers adopt and clean up their favorite stretch. The program is a cooperative effort between SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism), the Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and other state and federal agencies.



Pollution alerts

The city of Portland posts alerts along the river whenever its combined sewer and storm drains overflow into the river. For information, call the River Alert Info Line, 503-823-2479.

"Please Pump, Don't Dump"

It is illegal to discharge any untreated sewage overboard from marine toilets into the river.

Use good outdoor ethics

In addition to handling human waste properly, observe good ethics at camping and picnicking spots. Only use dead and down driftwood for campfires. Use firepans at all fires, and cover fire pits at undeveloped sites after use. Better yet—use camp stoves for cooking.

Adopt-A-River

This program provides free garbage bags, buttons, window decals, how-to handbook and resource guide. Call 800-322-3326 for information.

Take The Plunge! Adopt A River!



ABOVE: Sampling water quality

LEFT: Riverbank cleanup

HOW TO REPORT POLLUTION

If you see pollution being released in the river or along its shores, report it to the Oregon Emergency Management system at 1-800-452-0311. (Effluent coming from pipes is already regulated and need not be reported.) Any oil, fuel or other contaminant leaking from boats, docks, oil drums, industrial sites or other sources should be reported immediately.

Resources

"The rivers are our brothers, they quench our thirst. The rivers carry our canoes and feed our children. If we sell you our land, you must remember and teach your children that the rivers are our brothers and yours, and you must henceforth give the rivers the kindness you would owe any brother."

—Chief Seattle,
Suquamish tribe

EMERGENCY

All locations 9-1-1
Oregon Emergency Management System
(pollution spills) 1-800-452-0311

TOWING SERVICES (PRIVATE)

M.A.S.T. Towing (Ch. 13, 16) 1-503-297-8000
cell: 780-4949
Pro Line Marina (Ch. 13, 16) 1-503-245-2329
cell: 309-3274
Rocky Pointe Marina (Ch. 16) 1-503-543-7003
Suzi and Son Marine Services 1-503-970-5493

SHERIFF'S MARINE PATROLS

Columbia County Sheriff's Office
(St. Helens) 1-503-397-2511
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
(Portland) 1-503-288-6788
Clackamas County Sheriff's Office
(Oregon City) 1-503-655-8650
Yamhill County Sheriff's Office
(McMinnville) 1-503-472-9371
Polk County Sheriff's Office (Dallas) 1-503-623-9251
Benton County Sheriff's Office (Corvallis) 1-541-757-6858
Lane County Sheriff's Office (Eugene) 1-541-341-8599

CITY PARKS/BOAT RAMPS

City of St. Helens 1-503-397-5520
City of Portland 1-503-823-2223
City of Lake Oswego 1-503-636-9673
City of West Linn 1-503-557-4700
City of Gladstone 1-503-656-5225
City of Oregon City 1-503-657-8299
City of Hillsboro 1-503-681-6120
City of Wilsonville 1-503-570-1522
City of Salem Parks Operations Division 1-503-588-6336
City of Independence 1-503-838-1212
City of Albany 1-541-967-4321
City of Corvallis 1-541-757-6918
City of Harrisburg 1-541-995-6655
City of Eugene 1-541-682-4809
City of Eugene Outdoor Program/
River House 1-541-687-5329
Willamalane Park District (Springfield) 1-541-726-4335

COUNTY PARKS/BOAT RAMPS

Columbia County (St. Helens) 1-503-397-2353
Port of St. Helens 1-503-397-2888
Metro (Portland) 1-503-797-1850
Multnomah County (see Metro)
Port of Portland 1-503-731-7527
North Clackamas Park District 1-503-794-8002
Clackamas County (Oregon City) 1-503-650-3719
Clackamas River Water (Clackamas) 1-503-656-0668
Yamhill County (McMinnville) 1-503-434-7513
ext. 3601
Marion County Public Works (Salem) 1-503-588-5036
Polk County (Dallas) 1-503-623-8172
Linn County (Albany) 1-541-967-3917
Benton County (Corvallis) 1-541-757-6871
Lane County (Eugene) 1-541-682-2000

FISHING

Oregon Bass and Panfish Club (Portland) 1-503-282-2852
Oregon Trout (Portland) 1-503-222-9091
Northwest Steelheaders (Milwaukie) 1-503-653-4176
Sport Fishing Information Line 1-800-ASK-FISH
Willamette Falls Fish Count (Oregon City) 1-503-657-2059

MULTNOMAH COUNTY BRIDGES

Bridge operations and maintenance
(Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.) 1-503-248-3757

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Oregon River Forecast (recorded) 1-503-261-9246
Portland Weather Bureau 1-503-326-2356

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Oregon Historical Society (Portland) 1-503-222-1741
Nature Conservancy (Portland) 1-503-230-1221
Oregon Wildlife Federation (Portland) 1-503-222-3731
Audubon Society of Portland 1-503-292-6855
Tualatin Riverkeepers 1-503-590-5813
Cascade Canoe Club of Salem 1-503-361-7824
Willamette Kayak and Canoe Club
(Corvallis) 1-541-753-3406
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club (Portland) 1-503-643-1153
Pacific Rivers Council (Eugene) 1-541-345-0119
River Network (Portland) 1-503-241-3506
Willamette Valley Visitors Association 1-800-526-2256
Willamette Riverkeeper (Portland) 1-503-223-6418
Lower Columbia Canoe Club, Inc.
(Portland) 1-503-292-3132
End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive
Center (Oregon City) 1-503-657-9336

OREGON STATE MARINE BOARD

OSMB web site www.marinebd.osmb.state.or.us
Boating information, classes,
boat registration (Salem) 1-503-378-8587
Boating classes (Boat/U.S. Foundation) 1-800-336-BOAT
Oregon Adopt-A-River (Statewide) 1-800-322-3326

OREGON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Camping, reservations only (statewide) 1-800-452-5687
Camping and recreation, information
only (statewide) 1-800-551-6949
State Historic Preservation Office (Salem) 1-503-378-5001
Willamette Greenway program (Salem) 1-503-378-4168
ext. 293
Portland office 1-503-731-3293

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE

Fish & wildlife report (recorded) 1-503-872-5263
General information (Portland) 1-503-872-5268

U.S. COAST GUARD

Portland (Swan Island) 1-503-240-9301
Customer Infoline
(Boating Safety Hotline) 1-800-368-5647
Search & Rescue, emergency (Portland) 1-503-240-9300

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Willamette Falls Locks 1-503-656-3381
Information Center 1-503-808-5150

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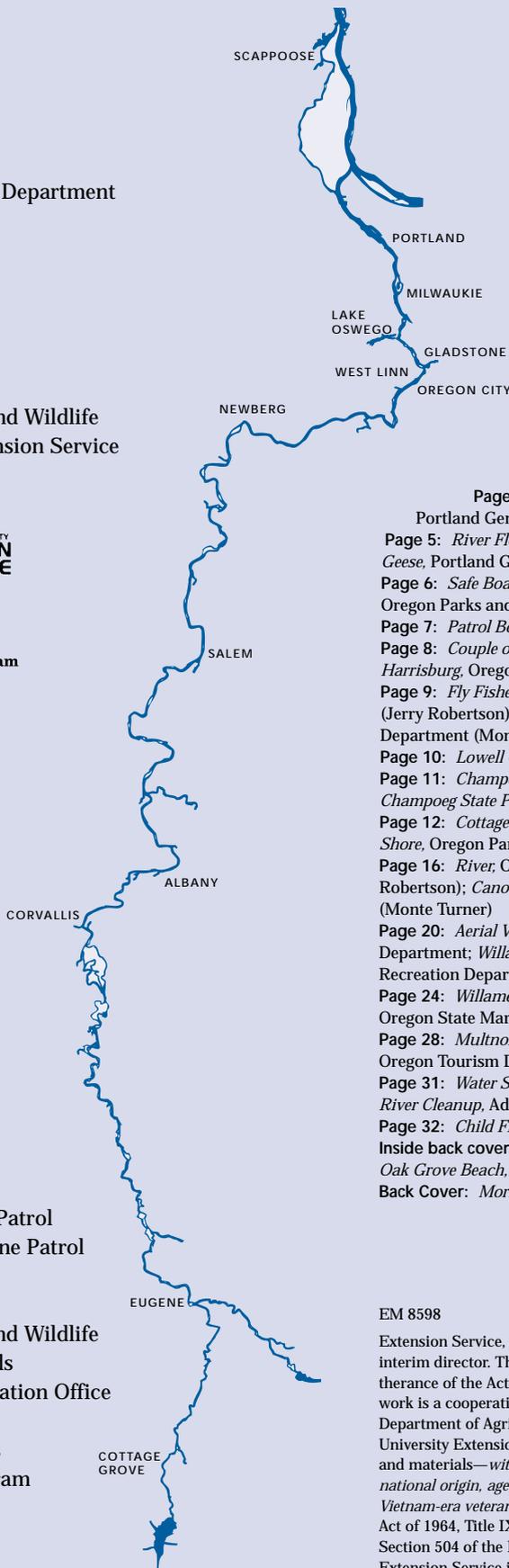
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250-422-9/98



Morning sculling on the river.

WILLAMETTE RIVER RECREATION GUIDE

The Willamette River is a vital, multi-purpose waterway that touches the lives of millions of people along its banks and throughout the Pacific Northwest. An important historical and cultural resource, the Willamette today still abounds with great natural beauty, abundant wildlife and varied recreational opportunities.

This guide is designed to make it easy to visit and experience the river—whether by boat, bicycle, motor vehicle or on foot. With detailed maps, historical and wildlife information, and suggestions for excursions, the guide is a valuable tool for anyone interested in enjoying this important 200-mile river system and greenway.

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