

Geology of the Lower Owyhee River Oregon's "Grand Canyon"

By Kenneth Giles and Kyle House
2026 Edition



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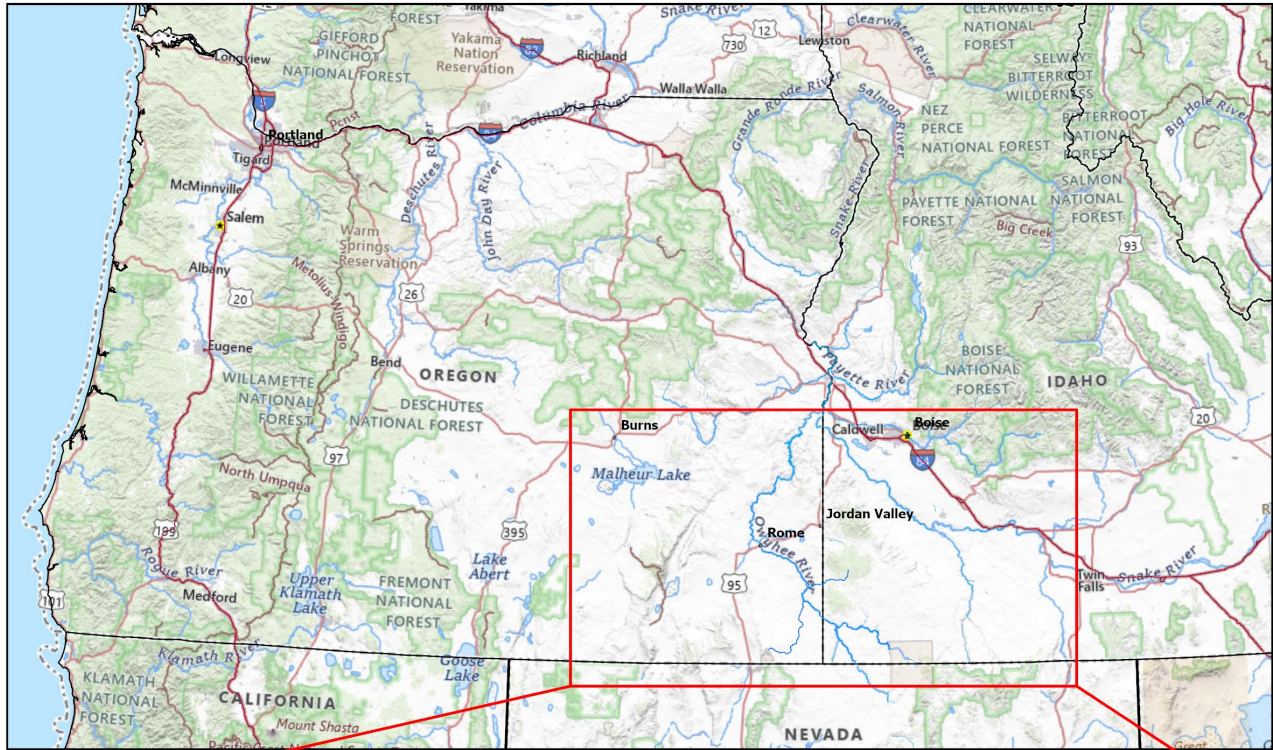
All photos and maps are by the authors, unless otherwise noted.

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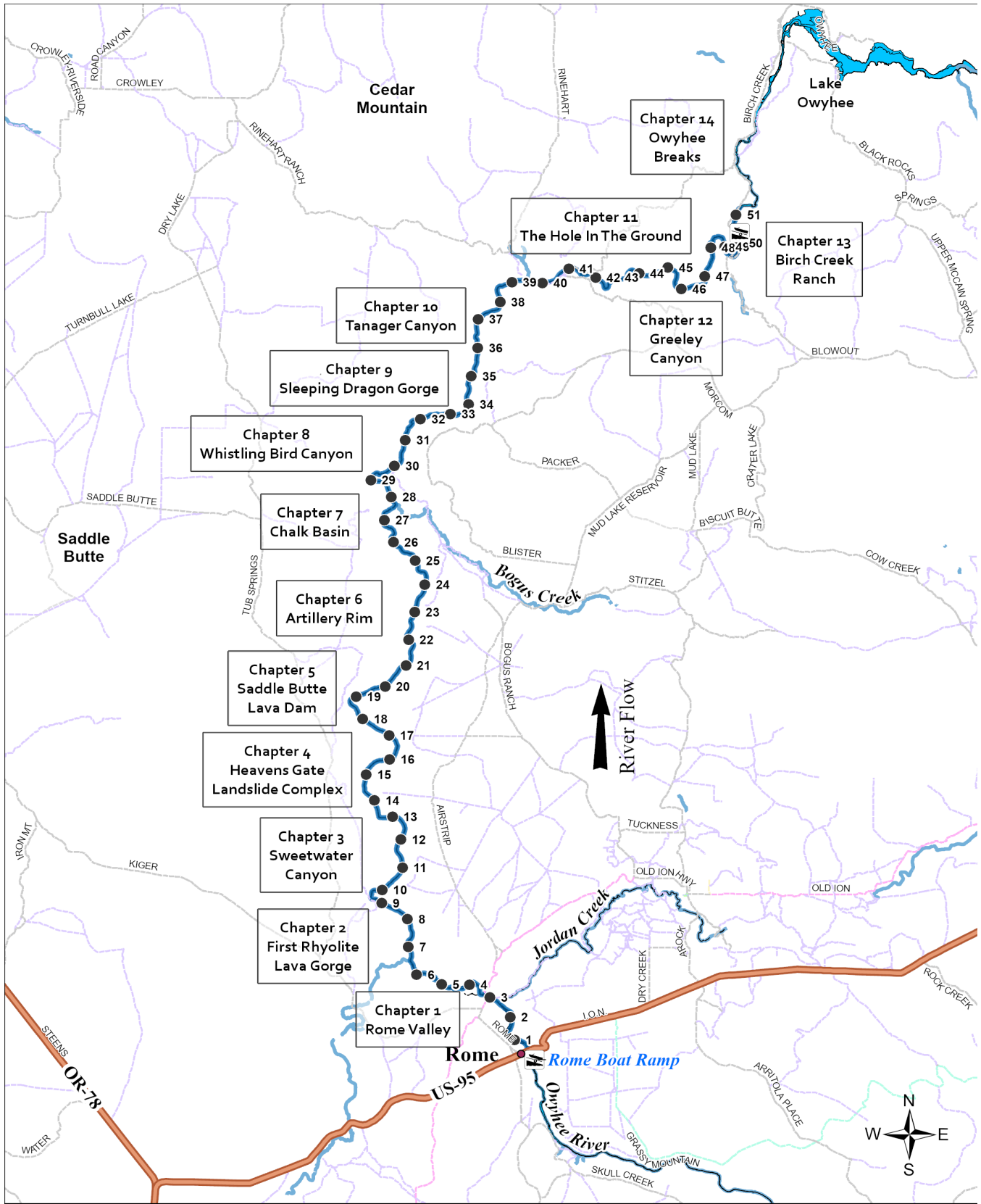
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Cover photo: "Sleeping Dragon Gorge and Tanager Canyon"
by Kyle House

Location of the Lower Owyhee River



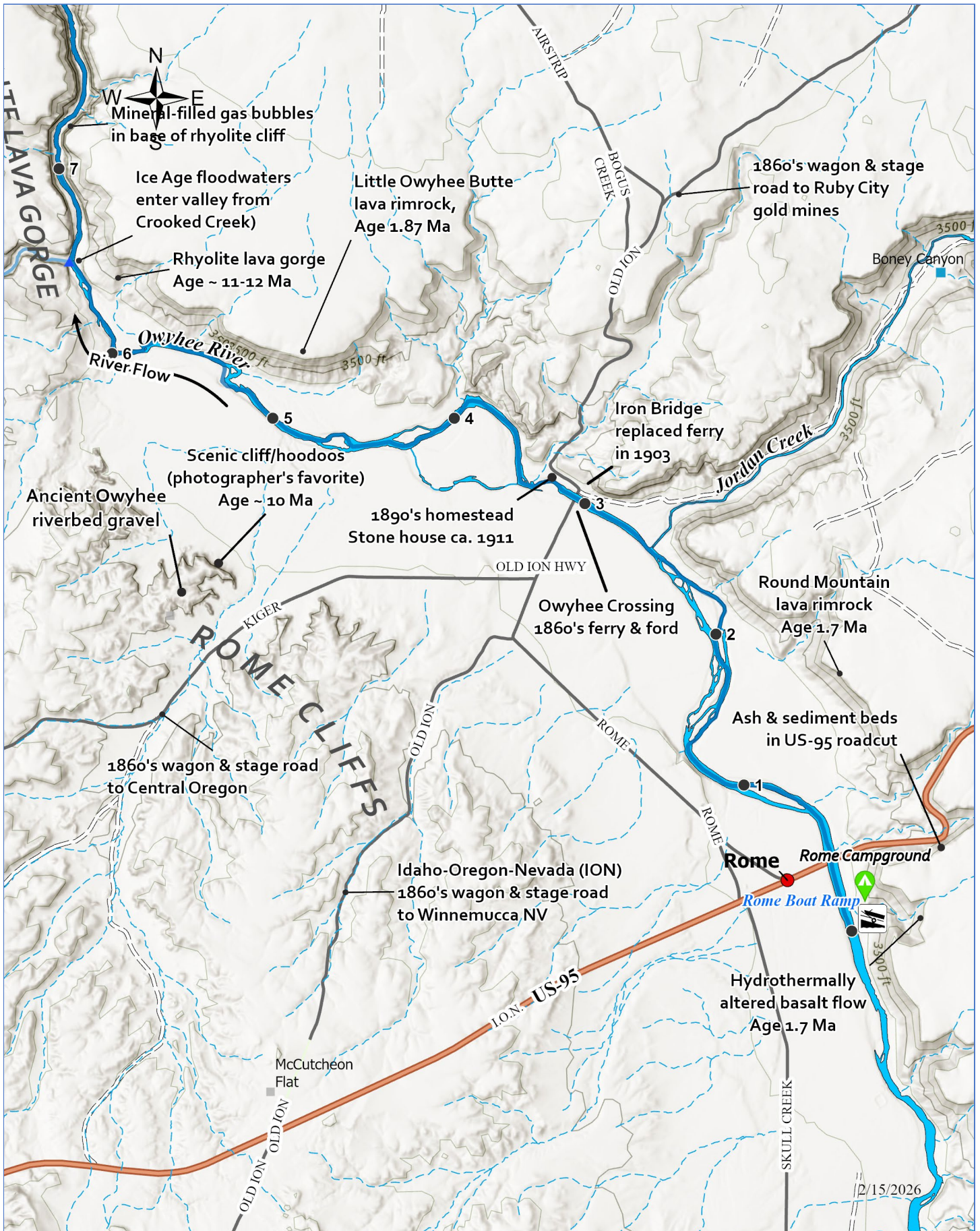
Location of River Segments (Chapters)



Book chapters are arranged in the order that rafts travel, starting at the Rome boat ramp (mile 0) and ending at the Birch Creek Ranch boat ramp (mile 50), from south to north. Eight full-page boating guide maps are located at the end of this book.

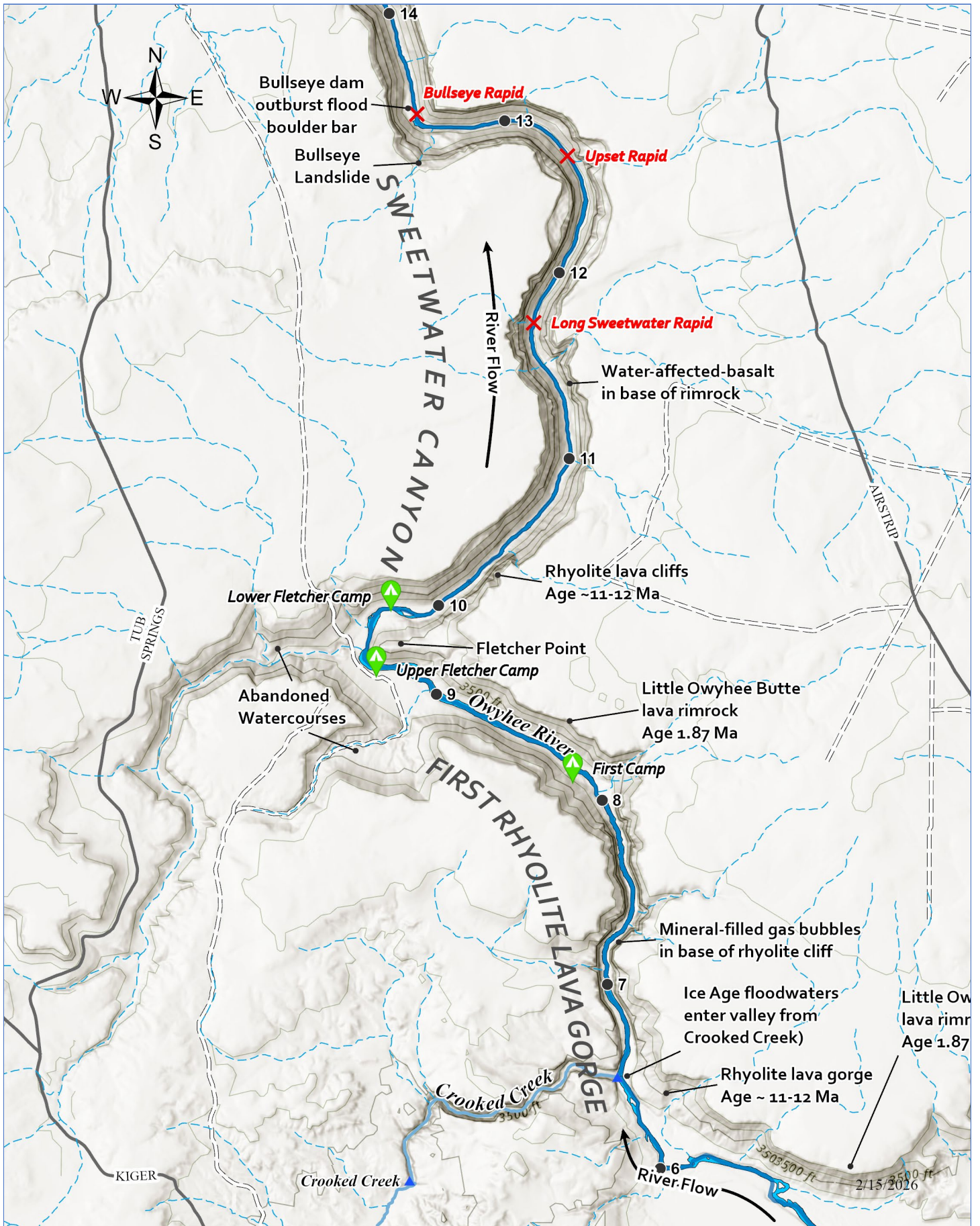
Boating Guide Maps 1-8

Map 1



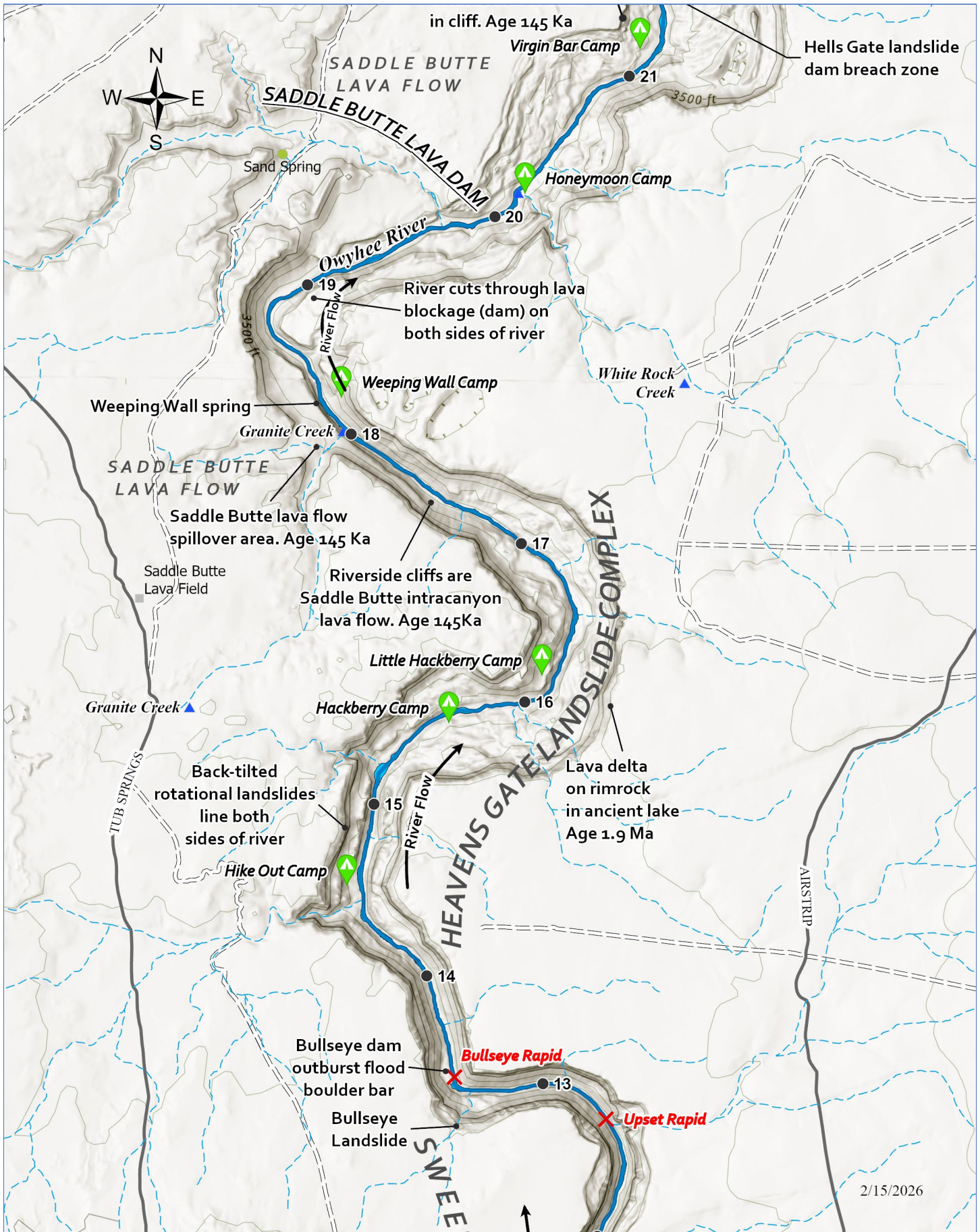
Boating Guide Maps 1-8

Map 2



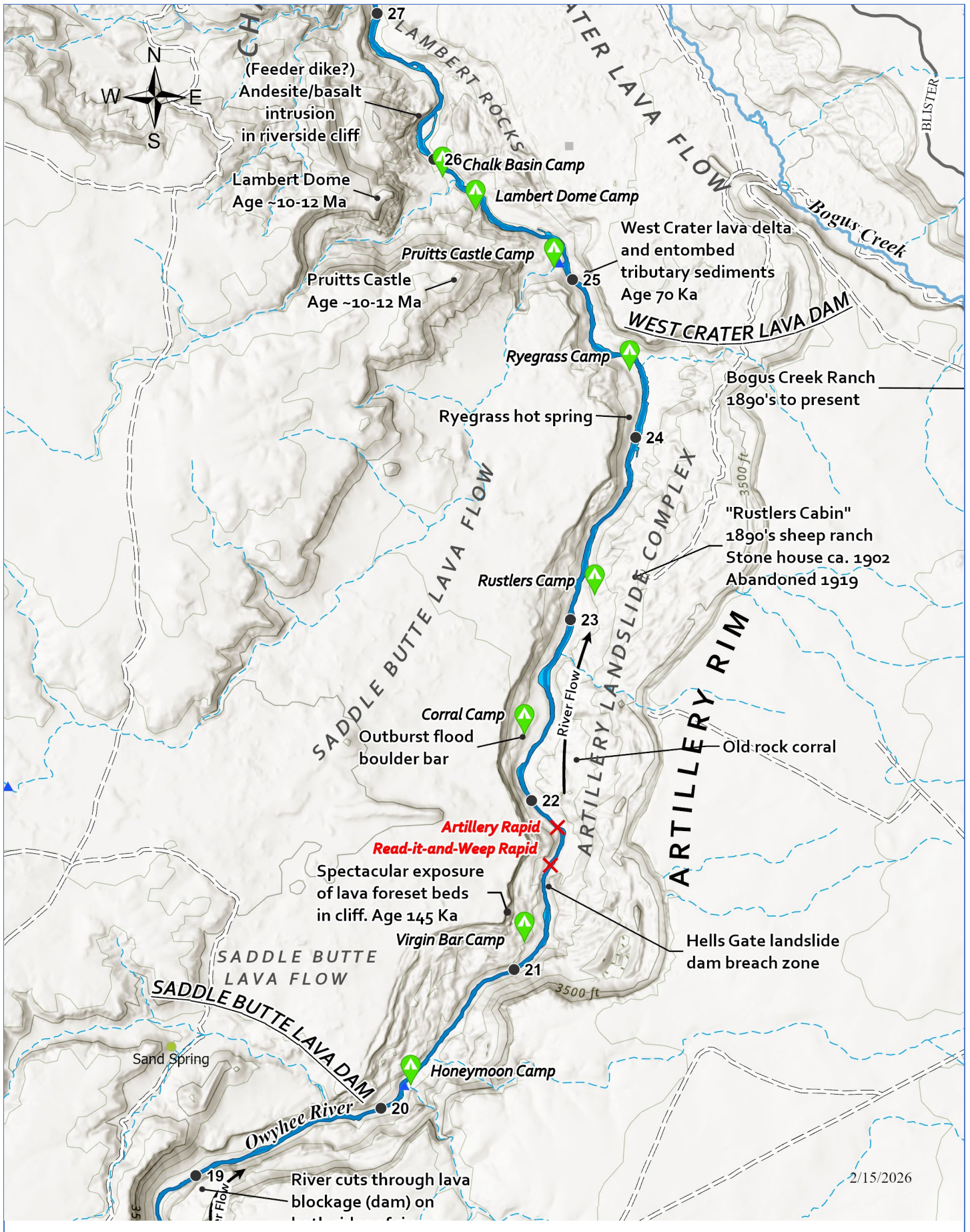
Boating Guide Maps 1-8

Map 3



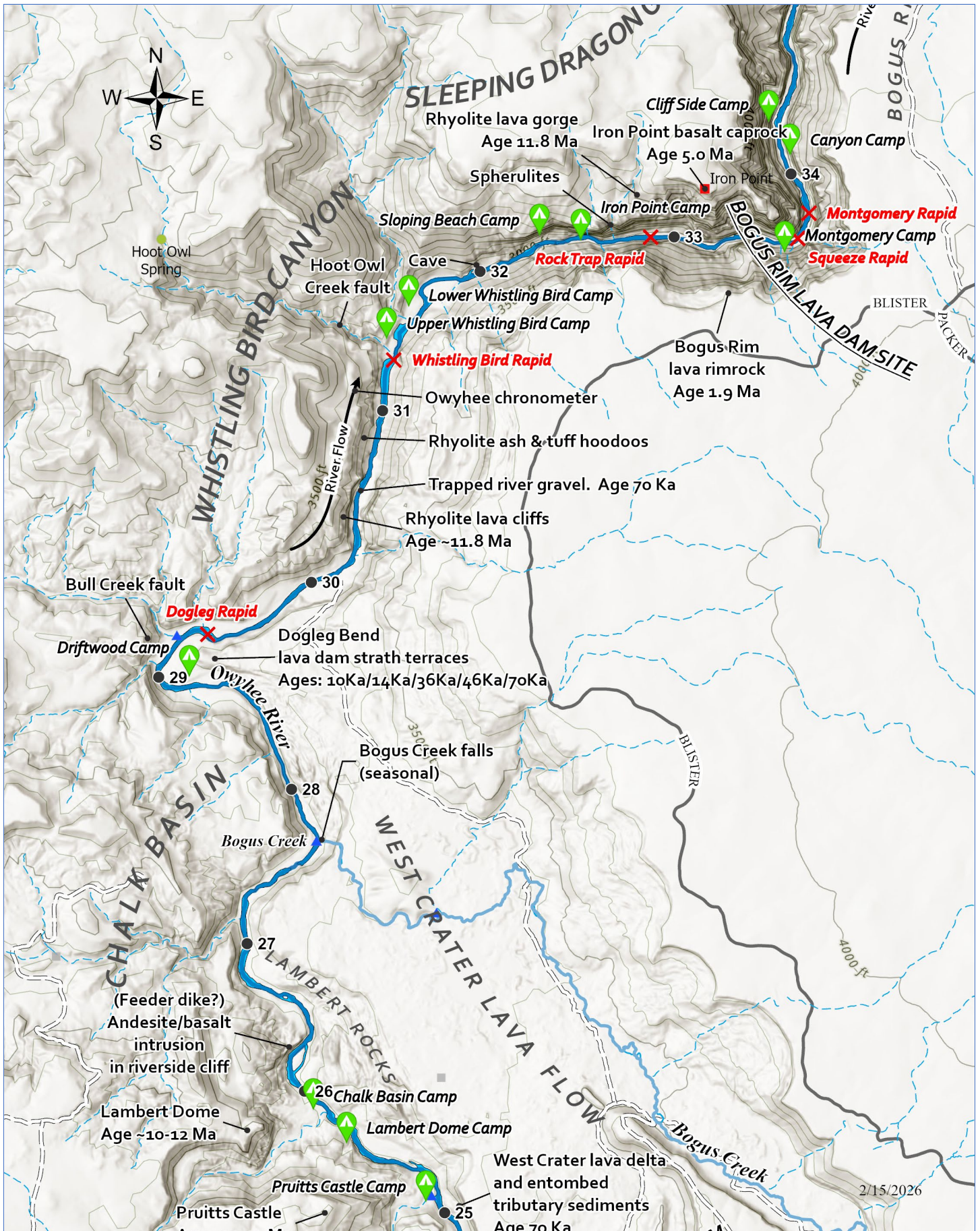
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Map 4



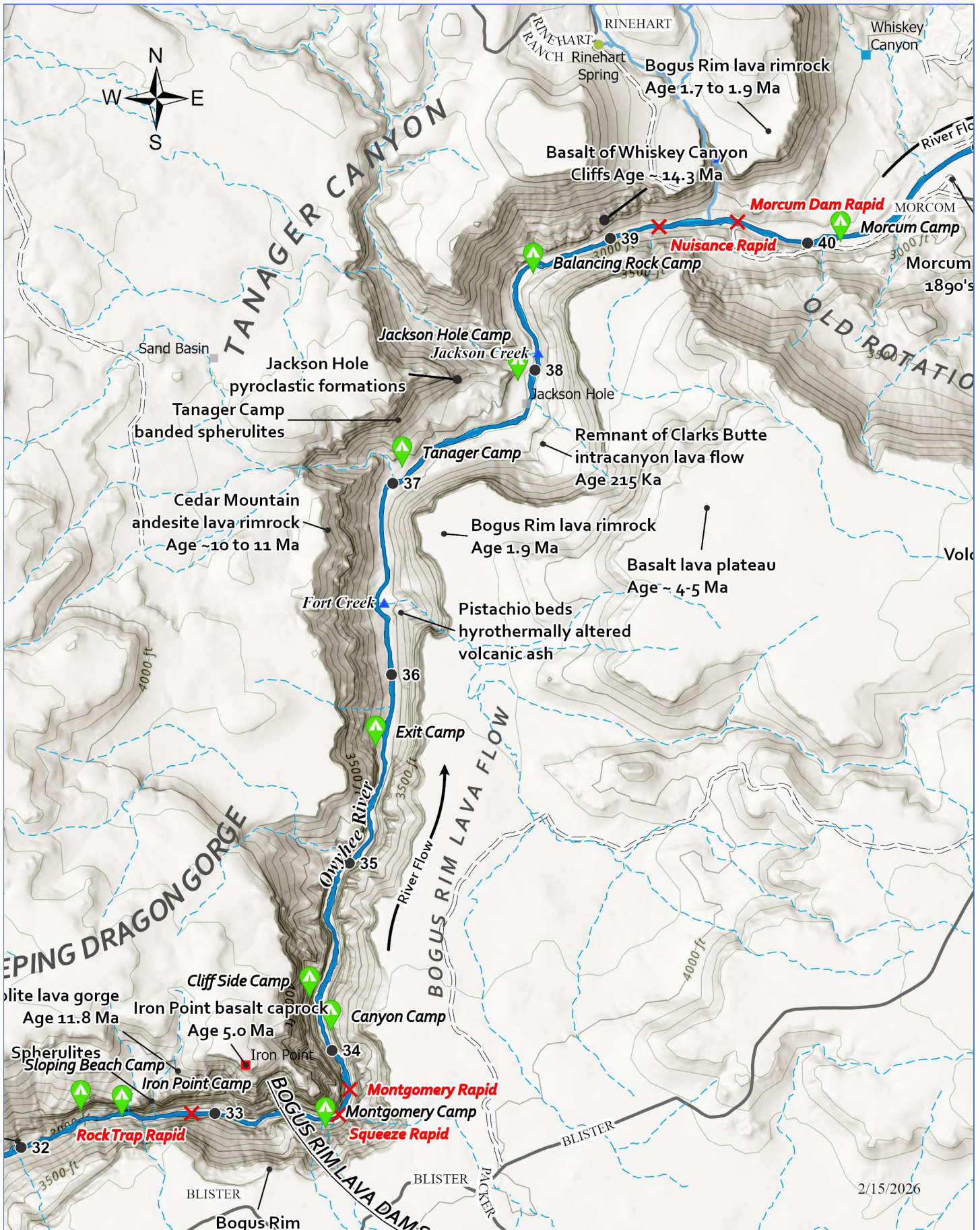
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Map 5



Boating Guide Maps 1-8

Map 6



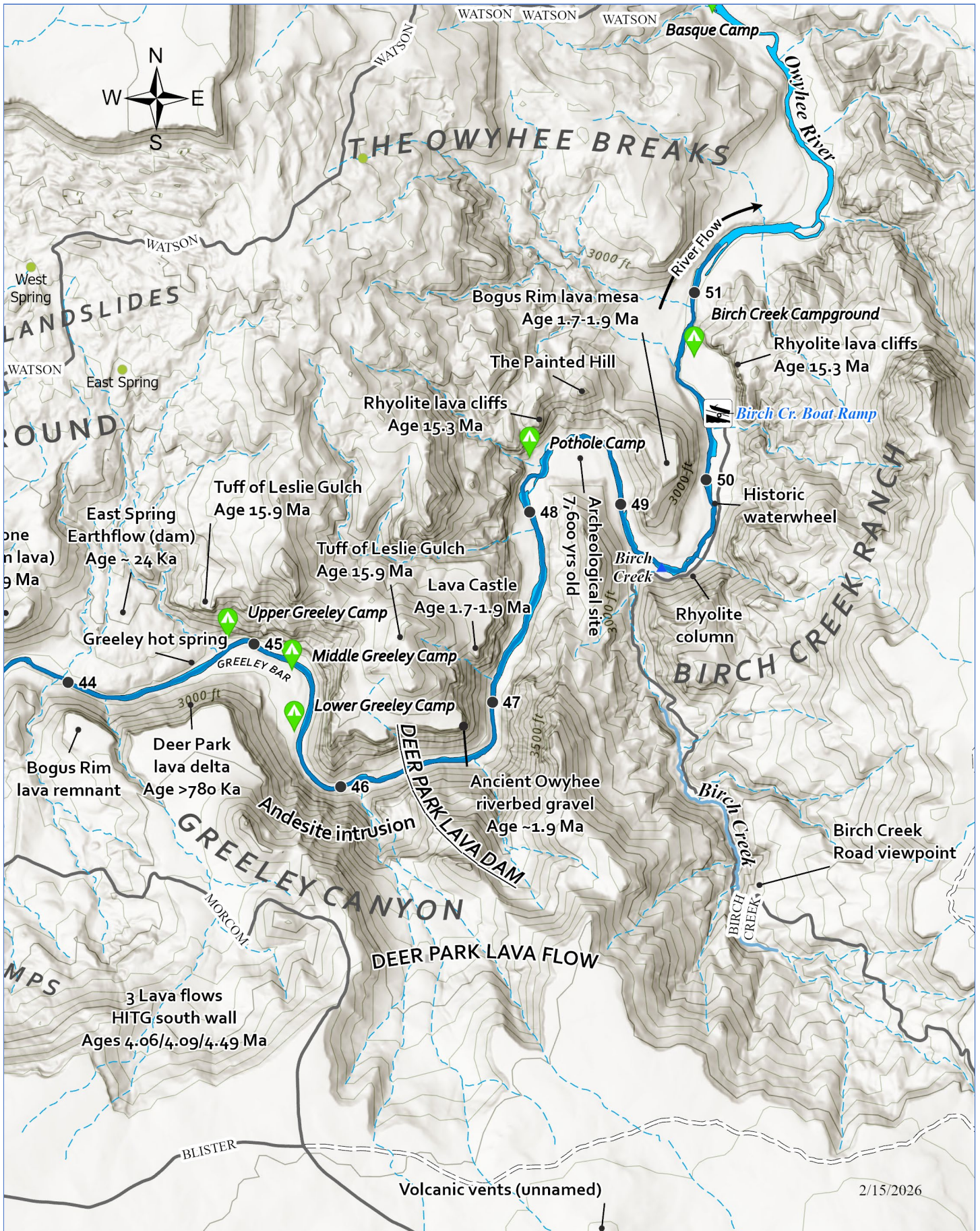
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Map 7



Boating Guide Maps 1-8

Map 8



The Authors

Kyle House is a professional geologist who has conducted research in the Owyhee Canyon since the early 2000s and leads geology raft trips down the river. Ken Giles (retired) is an enthusiastic amateur geologist who has been rafting the Owyhee River and studying its geology since the early 1970s.

The authors fell in love with the Owyhee River years ago and have long wanted to write a guide explaining its unique geology. They teamed up in 2021 and spent four field seasons researching and writing this book.



Kyle House



Ken Giles