

Jasper State Recreation Site is a 60-acre riverside park downstream from Elijah Bristow. A fun place for family outings and a perfect destination for reunions and weddings, the park offers:

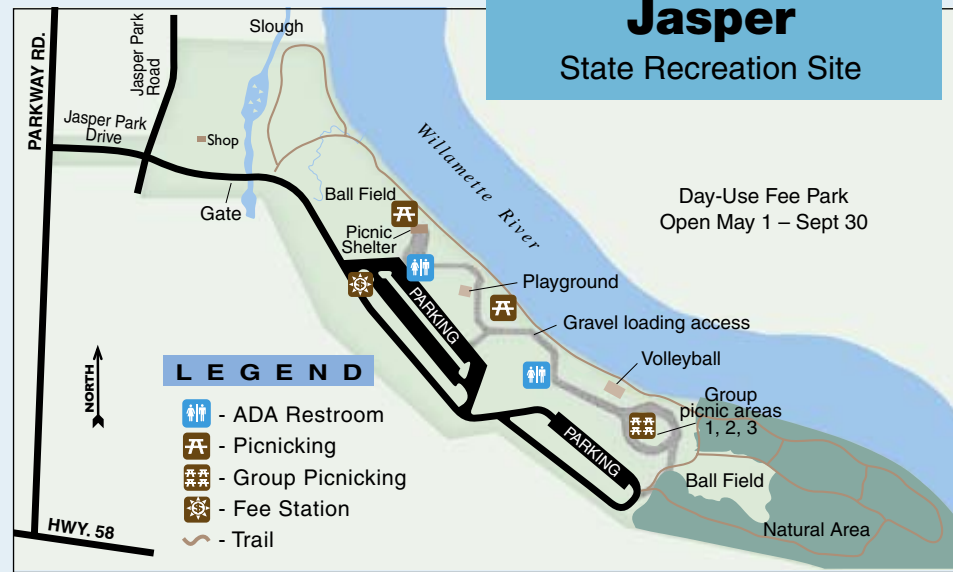
- Large grassy play areas
- Two playgrounds
- Two ball fields
- A volleyball set-up
- Four group picnic shelters

One of the picnic shelters has room for 150 people. Each of the others accommodates 100. All may be reserved by calling 1-800-452-5687.

A natural area bisected by walking trails lies just upstream from the group picnic areas.

The park is home to a variety of native birds, including herons, osprey, hawks and many songbirds.

Trails offer anglers access to a riverbank shaded by giant cottonwoods and maple trees.



Lowell State Recreation Site is small but packed with amenities. Lying next to the town of Lowell on the north shore of Dexter Reservoir, it offers:

- Marina
- Concession for boaters
- Boat trailer parking lot
- Swimming area
- Picnic shelter
- Basketball and volleyball courts
- Playground
- Good fishing

With its towering oaks, the park is a beautiful place for a picnic. Its shelter (capacity 150) may be reserved by calling 1-800-452-5687.



Nature
HISTORY
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Southern Willamette Valley Parks

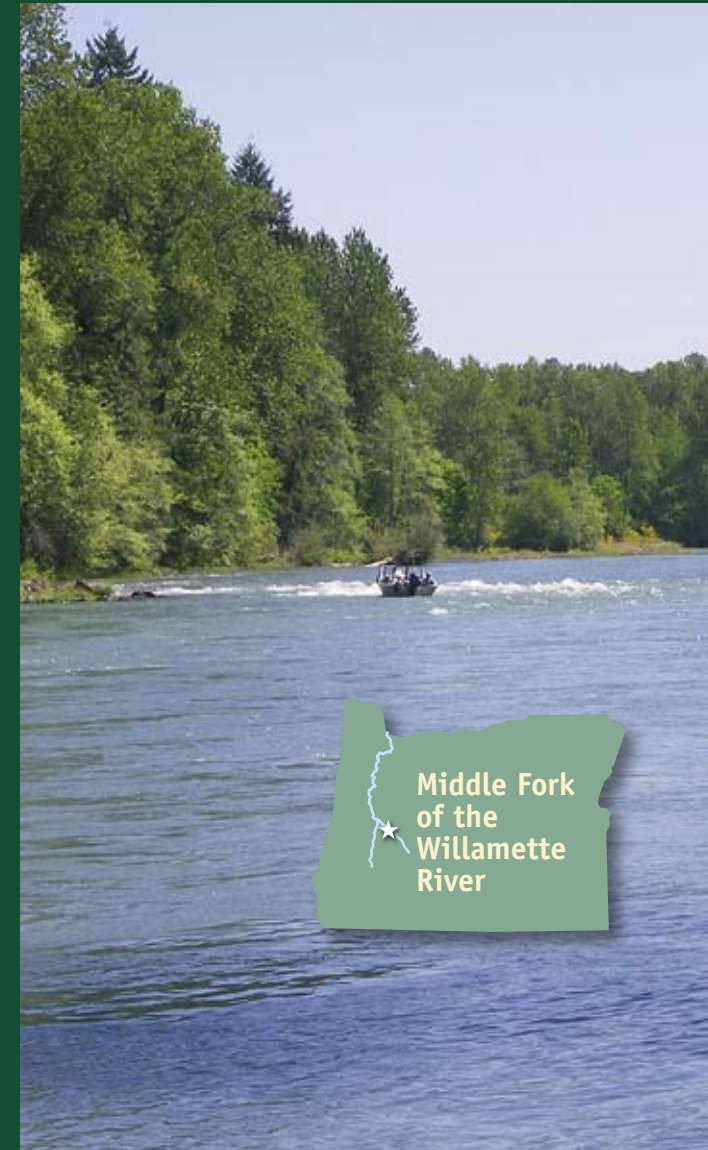
- Elijah Bristow State Park
- Dexter State Recreation Site
- Jasper State Recreation Site
- Lowell State Recreation Site

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Wildlife viewing platform at Elijah Bristow.

Elijah Bristow State Park is an 847-acre collage of meadows, wetlands, ponds and scattered woodlands along the south bank of the Middle Fork of the Willamette River. It is the centerpiece of a complex of parks on the river below and above Dexter Dam.

Mountain bike riders, horseback riders and hikers share nearly 12 miles of trails that lead to great fishing holes and quiet places for watching wildlife, such as deer, elk, beaver, great blue herons, hawks, bald eagles and coyotes. Professional botanists and student naturalists are lured by the park's diverse ecosystems, model restoration efforts and prime breeding grounds for the Western pond turtle. Seasonal salmon runs present added spectacles for sightseers and enticements for anglers.

P I C N I C K I N G

A large grassy area accommodates three group picnic areas with restrooms, electricity, water, tables, fire rings and horseshoe pits. All three areas may be reserved by calling 1-800-452-5687. A non-reservable area lies next to Lost Creek.

T R A I L S

A large equestrian staging area in the southwest corner of the park serves horse riding groups. One of several trailheads in the park, the staging area includes horse trailer parking, hitching posts, corrals, water, electricity, toilets and a group shelter.

Trailheads also are located at the day-use parking lots and picnic areas. An ADA-accessible wildlife viewing platform leads off the entrance road and the River Trail just south of the group picnic areas.

The River Trail is part of the Eugene to Pacific Coast Trail that begins at Alton Baker Park in Eugene and ends at the Pacific Crest Trail near Oakridge.

All trails are shared-use, except for the one-mile Turtle Trail and the 1/2-mile Oak Nature Trail, which are for hiking or walking only.

P A R K N A M E S A K E

The park is named after Elijah Bristow, the first pioneer settler in Lane County and founder of the community of Pleasant Hill. Bristow was a woodsman and explorer who first ventured into this area in 1845. In June, 1846, while looking for a place to build a home, Bristow was struck by the beauty of the area and decided to settle here. In the fall he finished what is thought to be the first house built in Lane County. Later, he helped establish the community's first church and school, donating part of his land for their construction.



Dexter State Recreation Site

Dexter State Recreation Site is sandwiched between the east side of Elijah Bristow State Park and the west shore of Dexter Reservoir. The park offers boaters a launching area, boat trailer parking for 70 vehicles and a courtesy dock just south of a shoreline picnic area. Sailing and power boating are both popular.

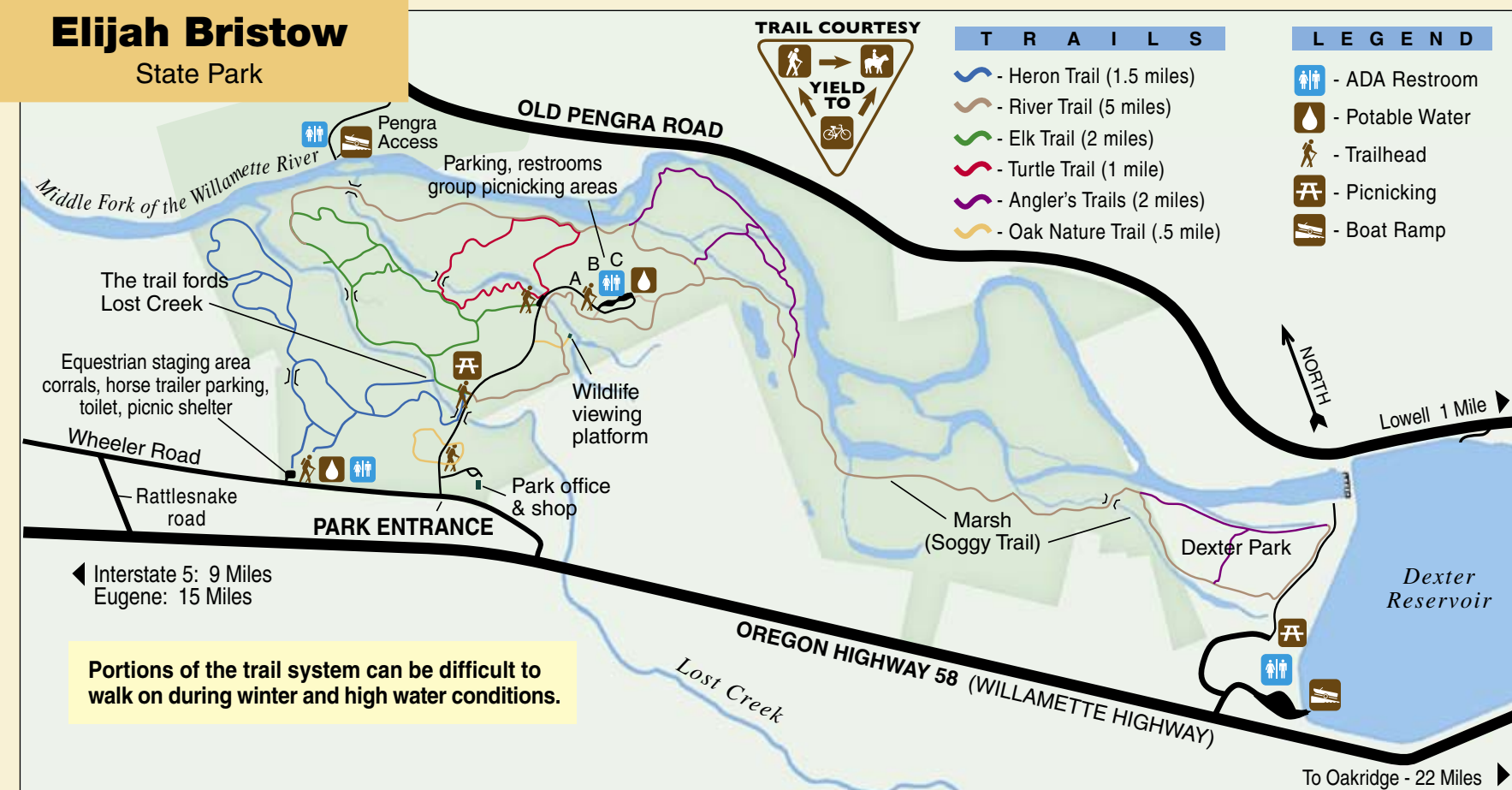
Many visitors come here to play disc golf on a challenging 18-hole course carved through the park's woodlands. It's free, but donations are welcome. (A drop box is next to the first tee.)

Area anglers know the park as a great place to hook small and largemouth bass, crappie and trout. A popular salmon fishing area is just below Dexter Dam.

A trail connects the site with Elijah Bristow.



Elijah Bristow State Park



Portions of the trail system can be difficult to walk on during winter and high water conditions.