



Bureau of Land Management, Boise District  
Forest Service, Boise National Forest

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# Payette River Maps

MAIN, MIDDLE FORK, NORTH FORK, SOUTH FORK

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## INTERNATIONAL WHITEWATER CLASSIFICATIONS

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Rapid ratings are a general guide to relative difficulty. Severe weather conditions, extreme water levels and rocks all contribute to the danger of white water boating. Use the descriptions below, the map legend, and maps to understand and prepare for the section of rapids ahead of you.

Class I: Small waves, passages clear, no serious obstacles.

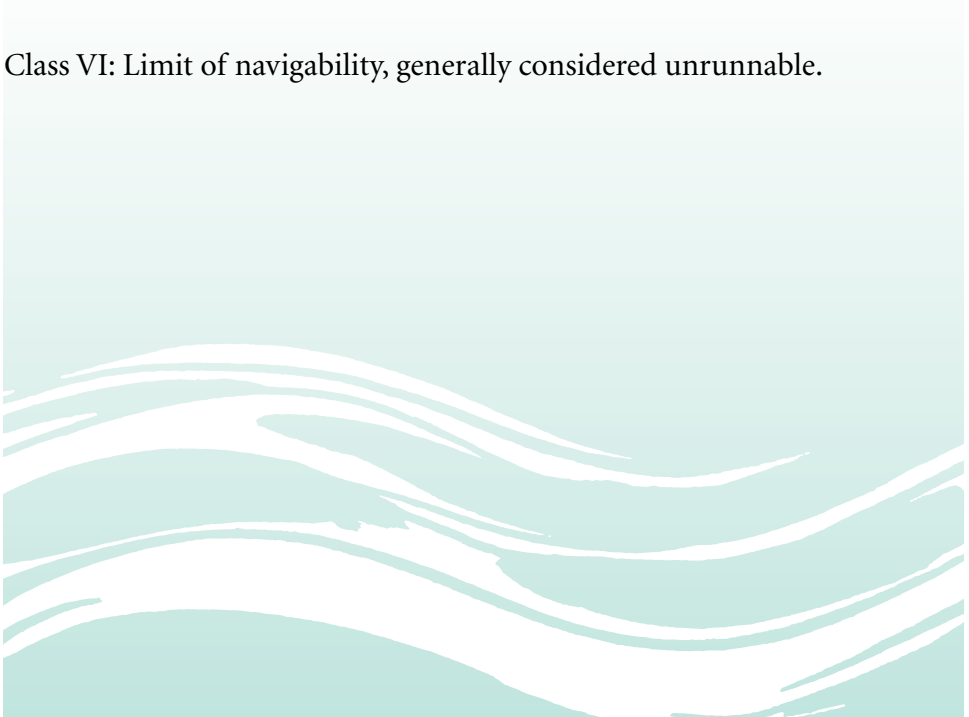
Class II: Medium-sized, regular waves; passages clear, some maneuvering may be required.

Class III: Waves are numerous, high and irregular; rocks, eddies, narrow passages; scouting usually required.

Class IV: Powerful, irregular waves; boiling eddies; dangerous rocks; congested passages; precise maneuvering required; scouting mandatory.

Class V: Exceedingly difficult; violent rapids often following each other without interruption; big drops, violent current, scouting mandatory, but often difficult.

Class VI: Limit of navigability, generally considered unrunnable.



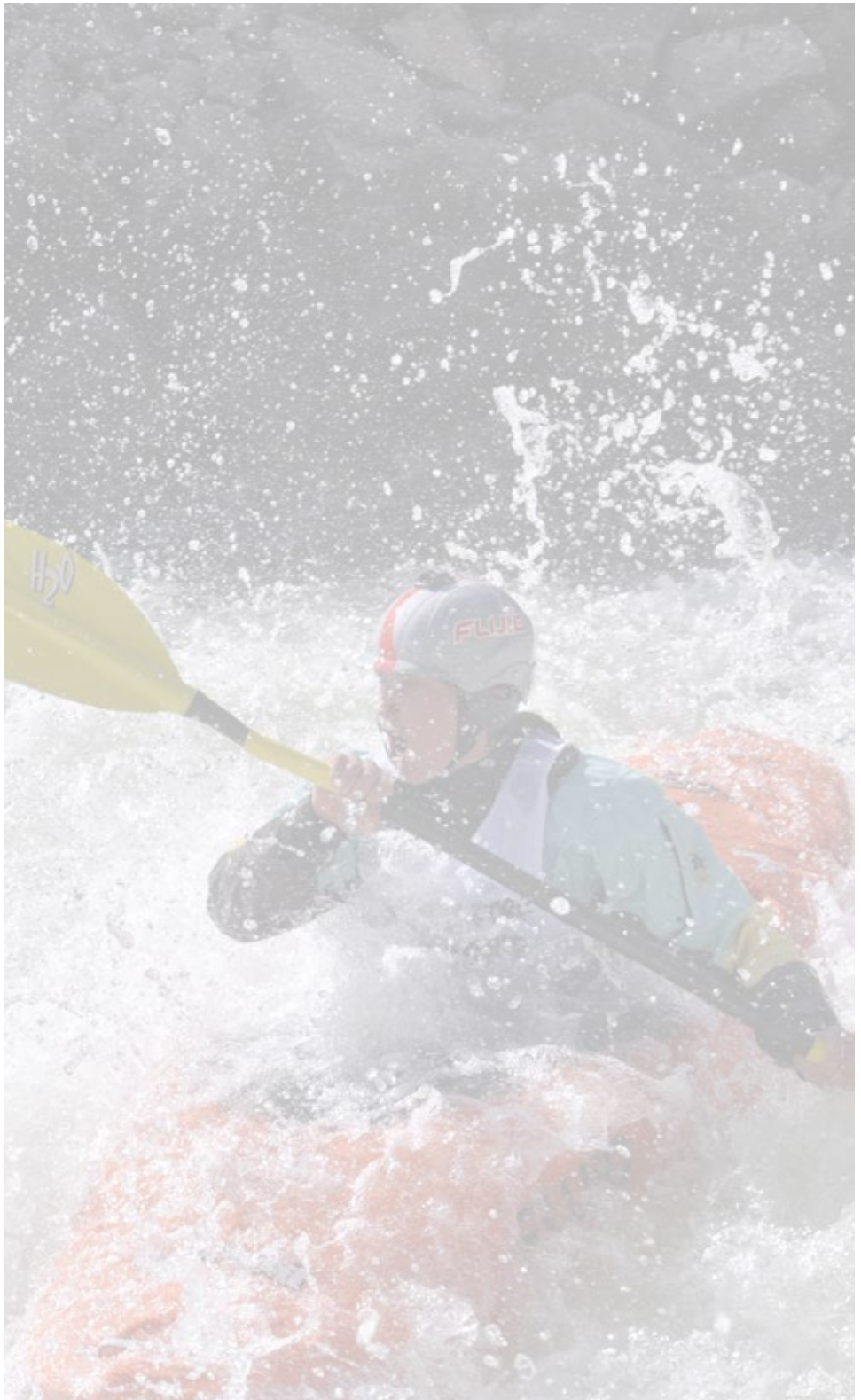




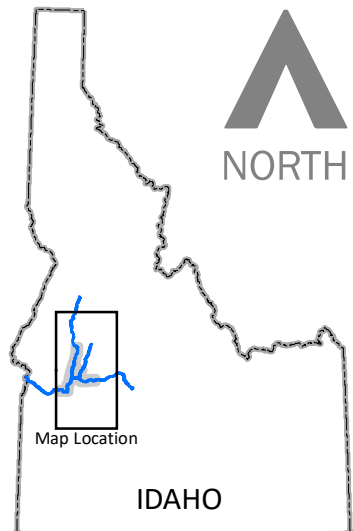
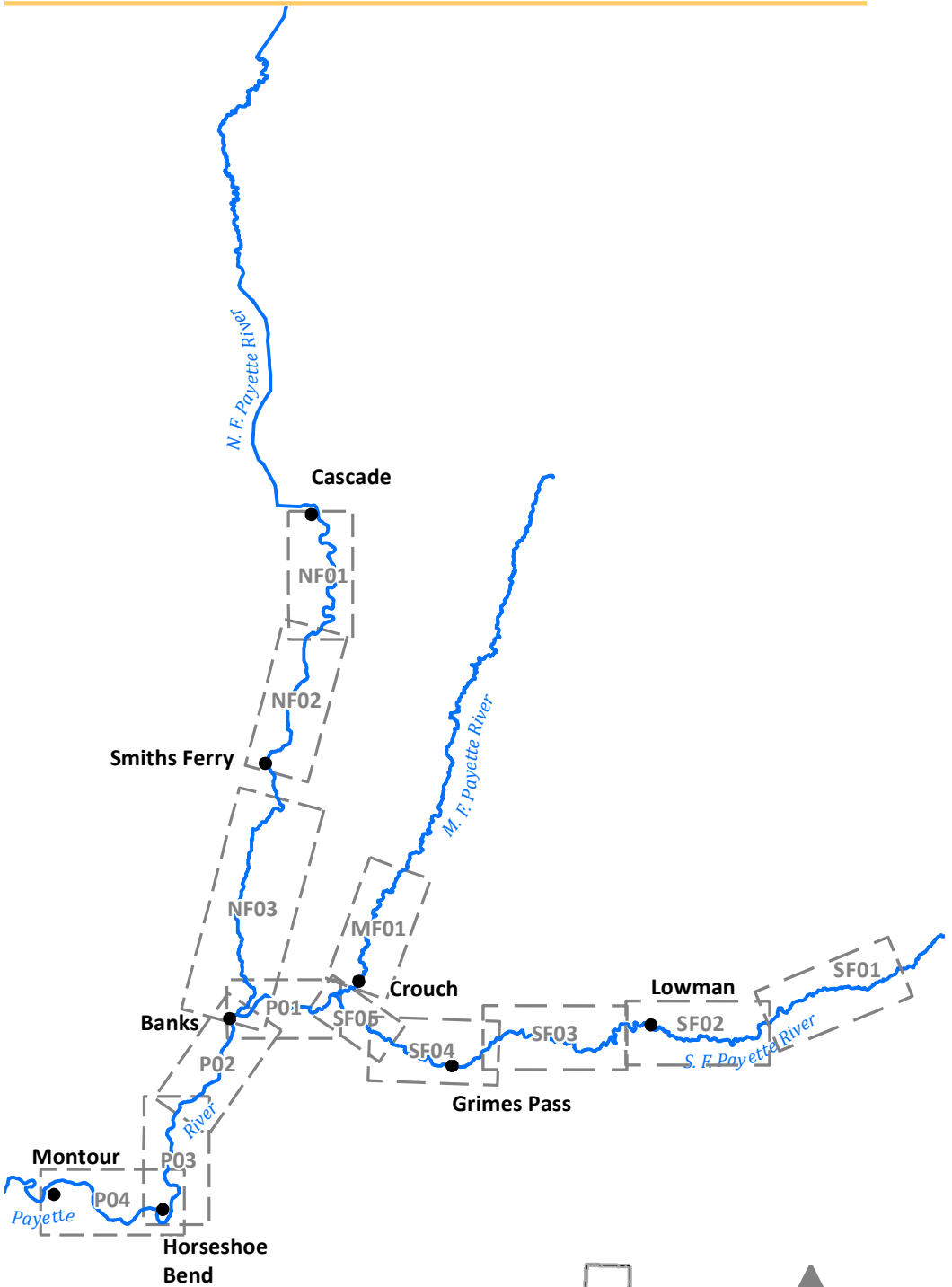
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# MAP INDEX





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## SAFETY TIPS

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### DRESS FOR THE SWIM, RIG FOR THE FLIP

The weather may be warm and sunny but a swim in cold water will drain your energy very fast. Dressing for the water temperature is a must. Wet suits, splash gear, or dry suits are required for coldwater boating. Helmets should be worn to prevent head injury from rocks and boat frames. Clothing should be all synthetic and NOT COTTON. Shoes should have straps to keep them on your feet.

Everything in your boat should be secured to prevent loss in case of a flip. Oars should have tethers and all coolers and dry bags should be strapped down. All boats should carry a rescue throw bag.

### RIVER BOATING IS INHERENTLY DANGEROUS AND THE RISK FOR INJURY OR DEATH IS REAL.

You must personally assume responsibility for the decision to float a river. Wear proper safety equipment, avoid alcohol use and be aware that emergencies do happen. Your group leader should conduct a safety talk before you launch. If you are dressed like the poorly-equipped paddler, stay on shore and come back another day!

Thank you.

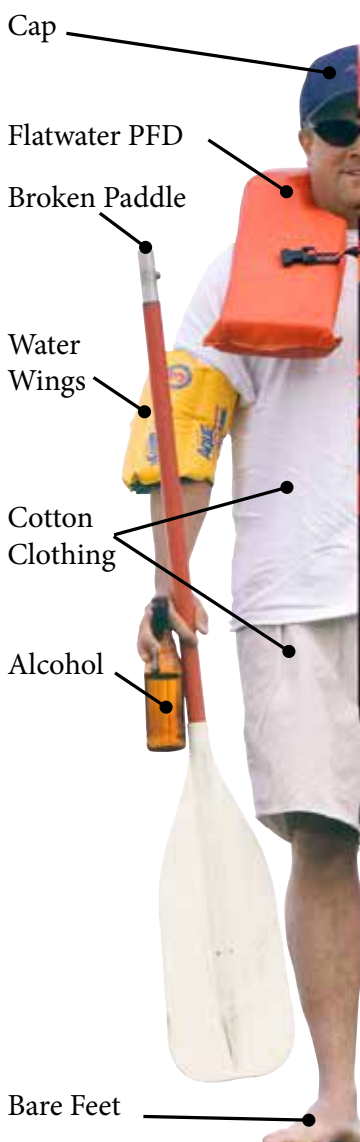
### KNOW BEFORE YOU ROW

Don't float a section of river without knowing what is downstream. Many guidebooks are available with information about the Payette River system. Scout all the major rapids before you float and go with an experienced river boater until you have the experience needed to safely float whitewater rivers.

### SELF RESCUE

Swim aggressively to safety. Getting back in the boat, if possible, is your best option. Swim to shore or toward calm water. Avoid undercut banks and swift current in rocks. If you must swim a shallow, rocky, rapid keep your feet up and downstream. Do not attempt to stand up in moving water! Use your arms to maneuver around obstacles. Kick off rocks with your feet.

### POORLY-EQUIPPED PADDLER



This safety information is courtesy of Idaho Whitewater Association.

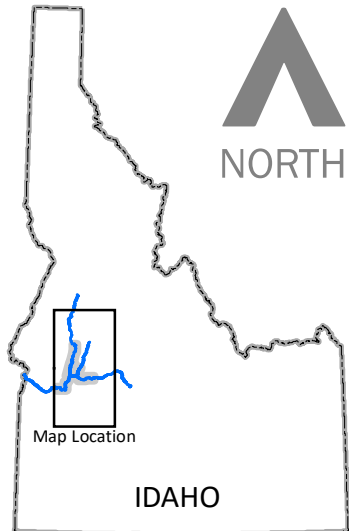
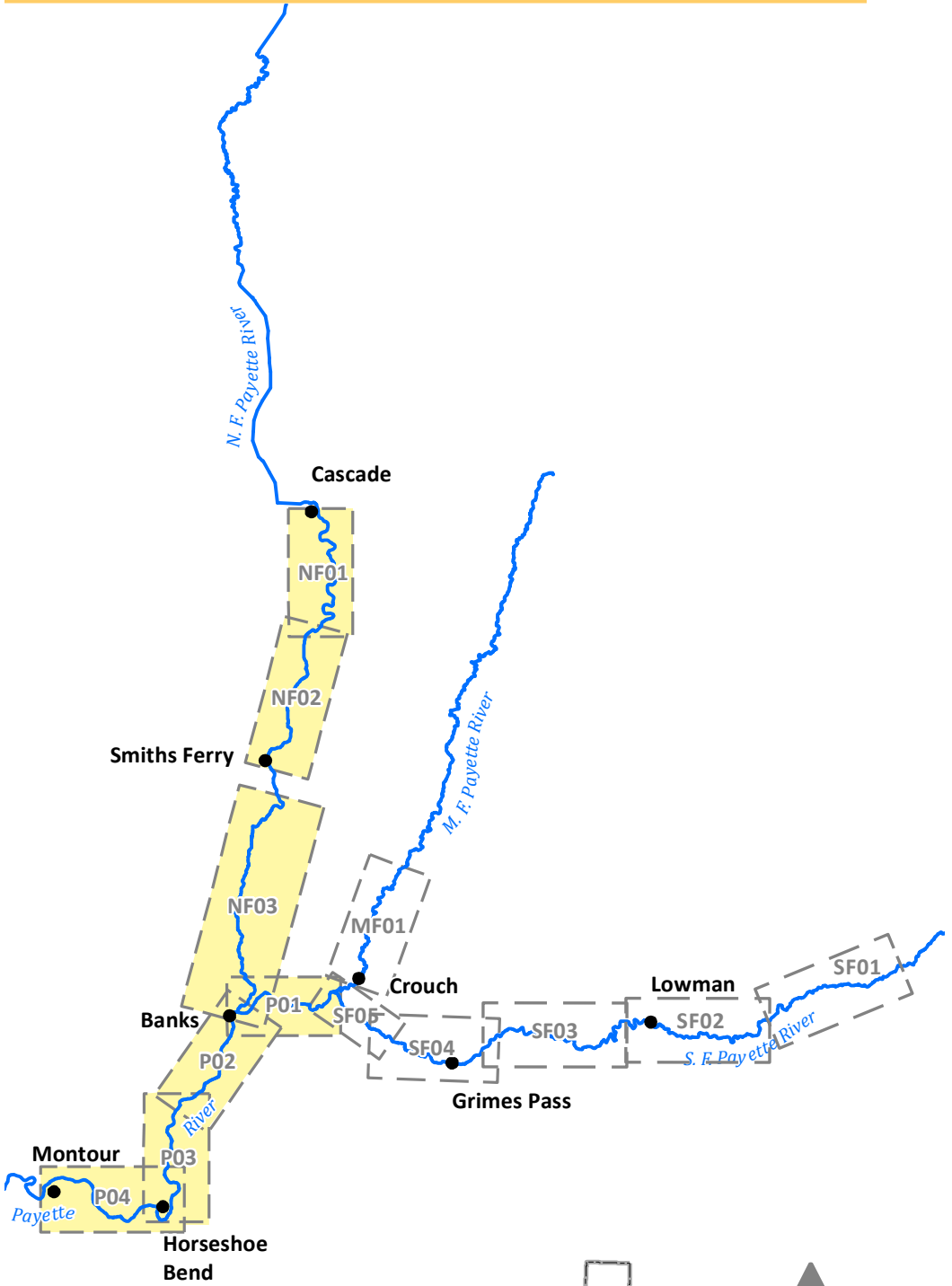
**WELL-EQUIPPED  
PADDLER**

**WELL-EQUIPPED  
KAYAKER**






























# MAP INDEX—NORTH FORK AND MAIN PAYETTE






## Land Status

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Bureau of Reclamation
-  Forest Service
-  Private
-  State
-  National Forest Boundary

## Map Features

-  Ranger Station
-  Launch / Take-Out Site
-  Boat Launch
-  Camping
-  Fee Camping
-  Fishing
-  Fee Parking
-  Restroom
-  Rental Cabin
-  River Mileage
-  Spring
-  Rapid Class II
-  Rapid Class III
-  Rapid Class IV
-  Rapid Class V
-  Rapid Class VI
-  State Highway
-  Road
-  River
-  Stream
-  Contour Line
-  Lake

## Site Administrator

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Forest Service
-  Idaho Fish and Game

Coordinate System: Projection - Idaho Transverse Mercator, Datum NAD 1983, units in meters

Source Information: Land Status, hydrology, and transportation data compiled from Bureau of Land Management (BLM) resource base data at a scale of 1:24,000. Contours derived from U.S. Geological Survey 10 meter national elevation dataset. The official land records should be checked for up-to-date status on any specific tract of land.

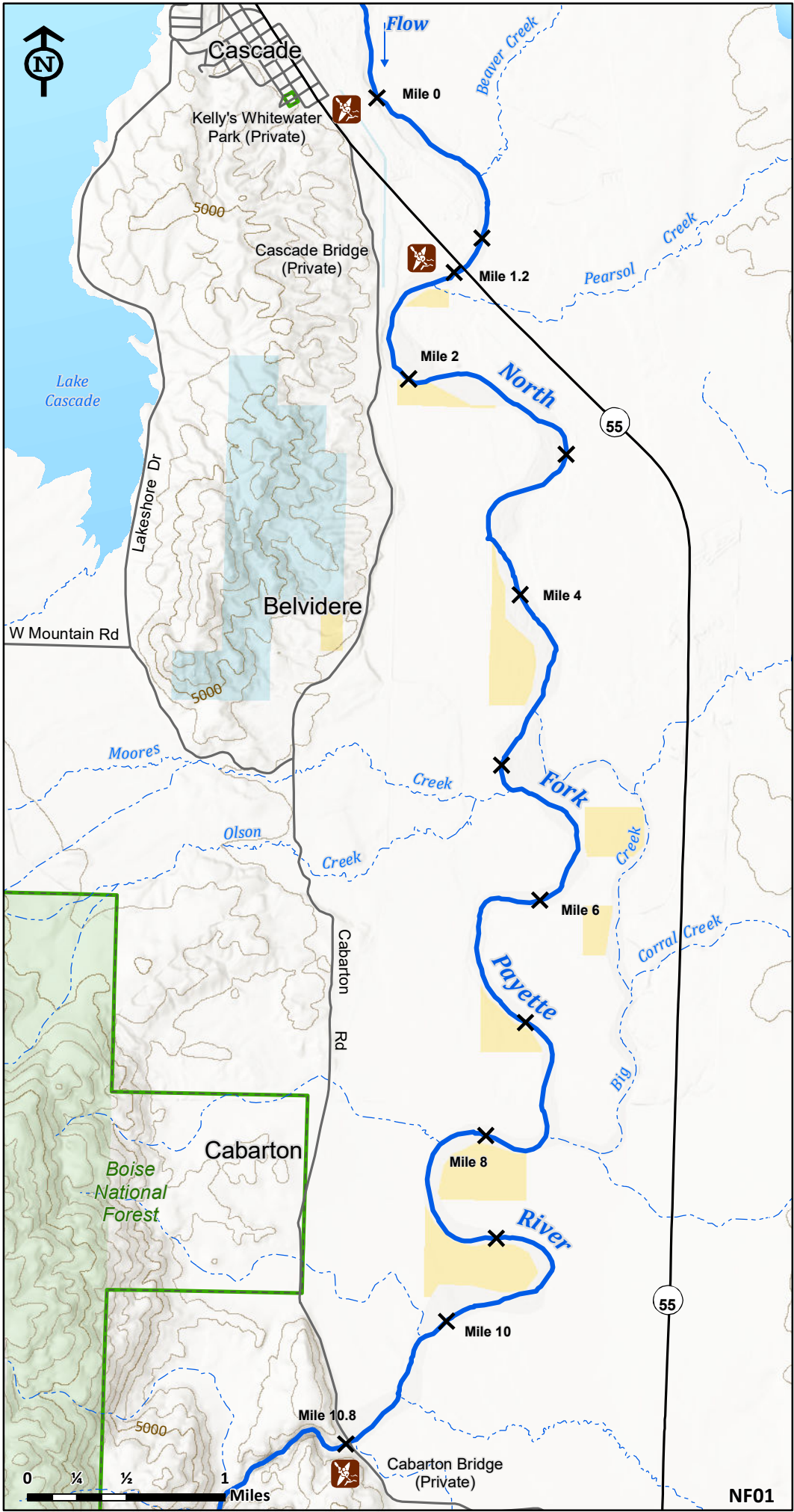
Even though every effort is made to depict the road network, features and descriptions accurately, BLM cannot guarantee road classification and/or positional accuracy of roads and other features in all cases. No warranty is made by the BLM for use of this data for purposes not intended by BLM.

River access sites with the Fee Parking symbol are part of the Payette River Pass System. Day use is \$3.00 or \$20.00 for an annual pass.

Map scale varies from map to map. See individual map pages for a scale bar in miles.

Contour interval = 200 feet

NOTE: Fee Parking Areas on maps (\$): Banks, Banks Beach, Chief Parrish, Beehive Bend, Deadwood Campground, Danskin, and Confluence.



Cascade

Kelly's Whitewater Park (Private)

Cascade Bridge (Private)

Lake Cascade

Lakeshore Dr

W Mountain Rd

Belvidere

Moores Creek

Olson Creek

Creek

Cabarton Rd

Cabarton

Boise National Forest

5000

Mile 10.8

Cabarton Bridge (Private)

Flow

Beaver Creek

Pearsol Creek

Mile 2

North

55

Mile 4

Fork

Mile 6

Corral Creek

Big

Payette

River

Mile 8

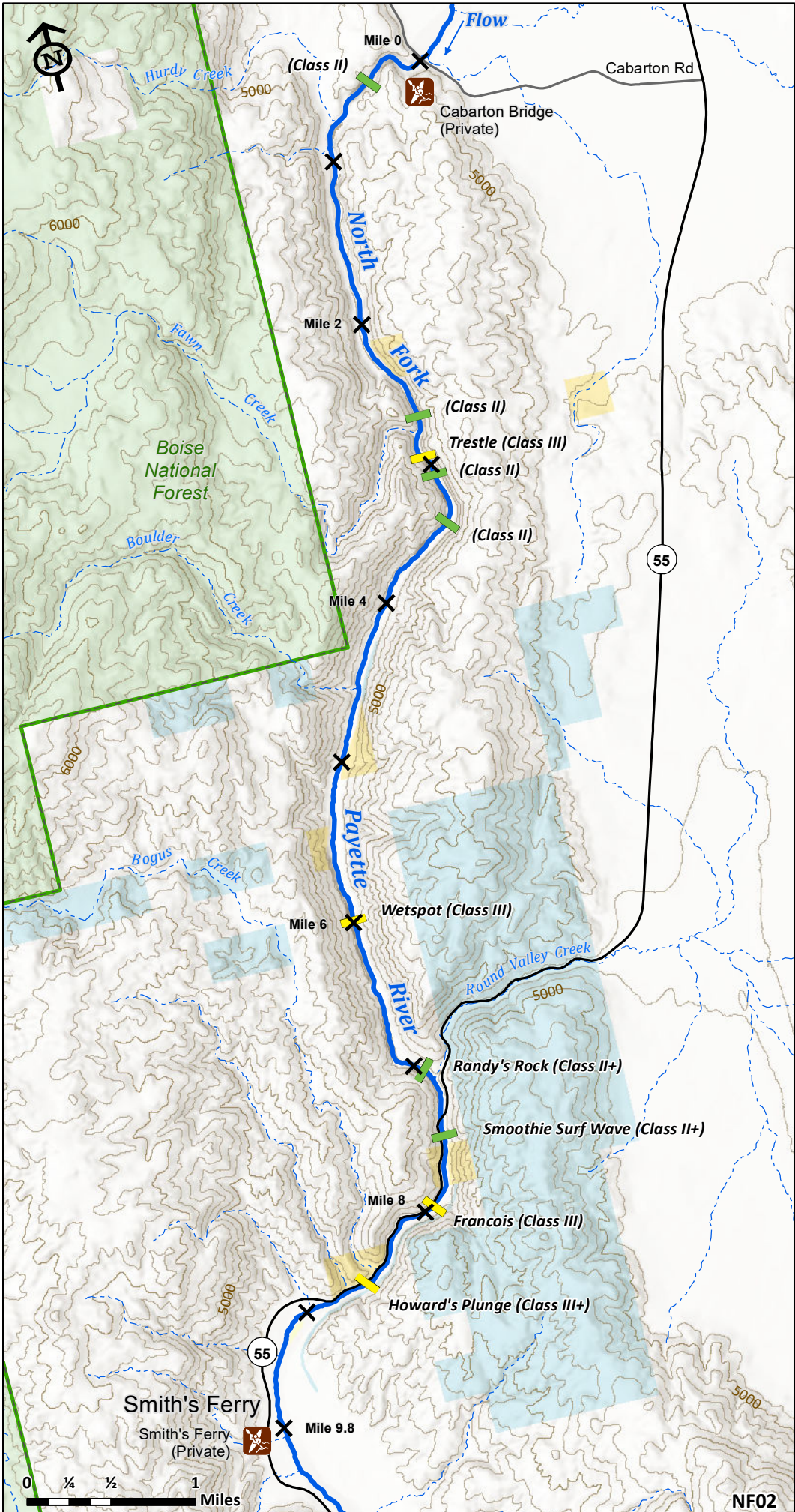
Mile 10

55

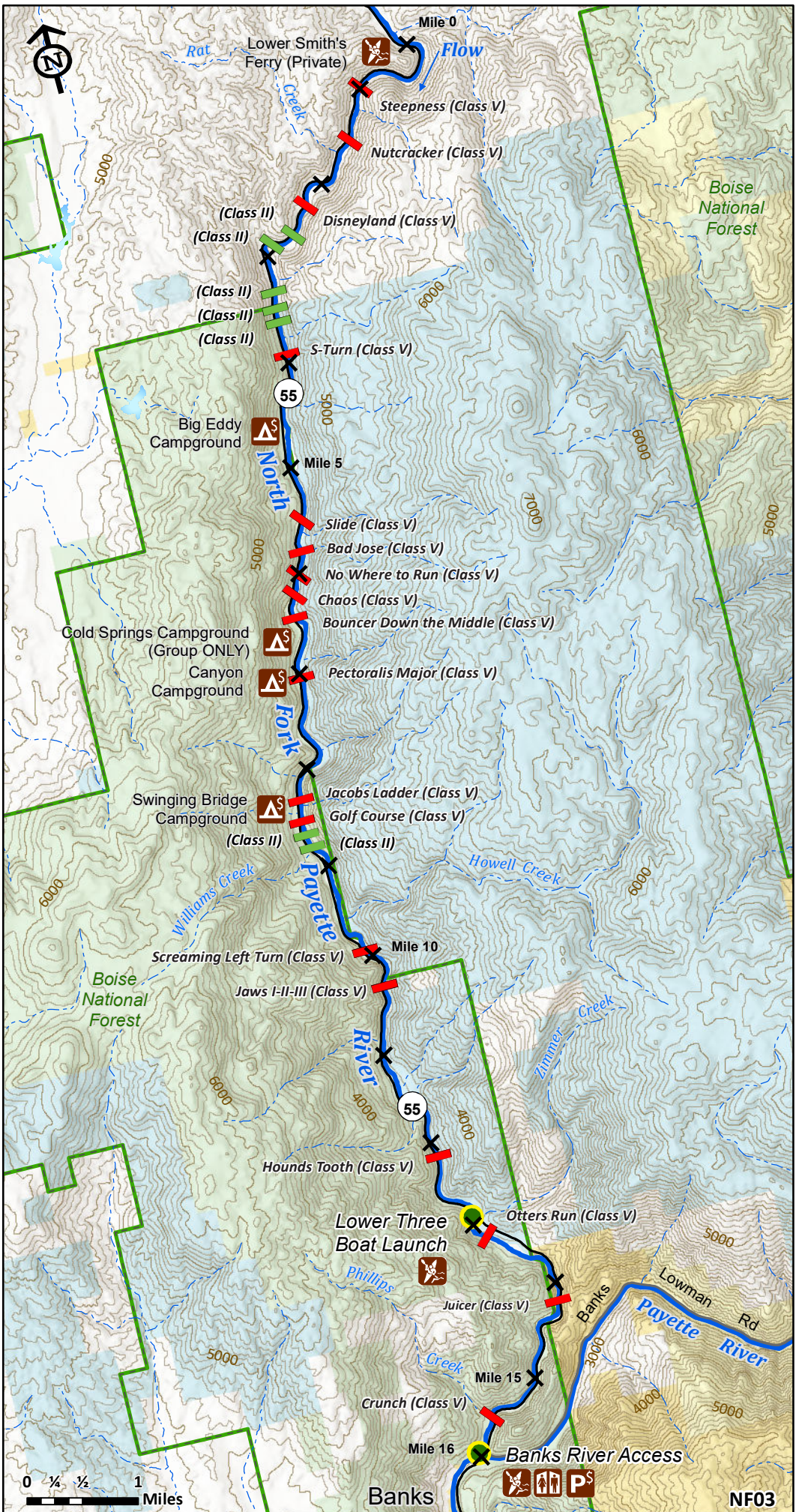
0 1/4 1/2 1 Miles

NF01

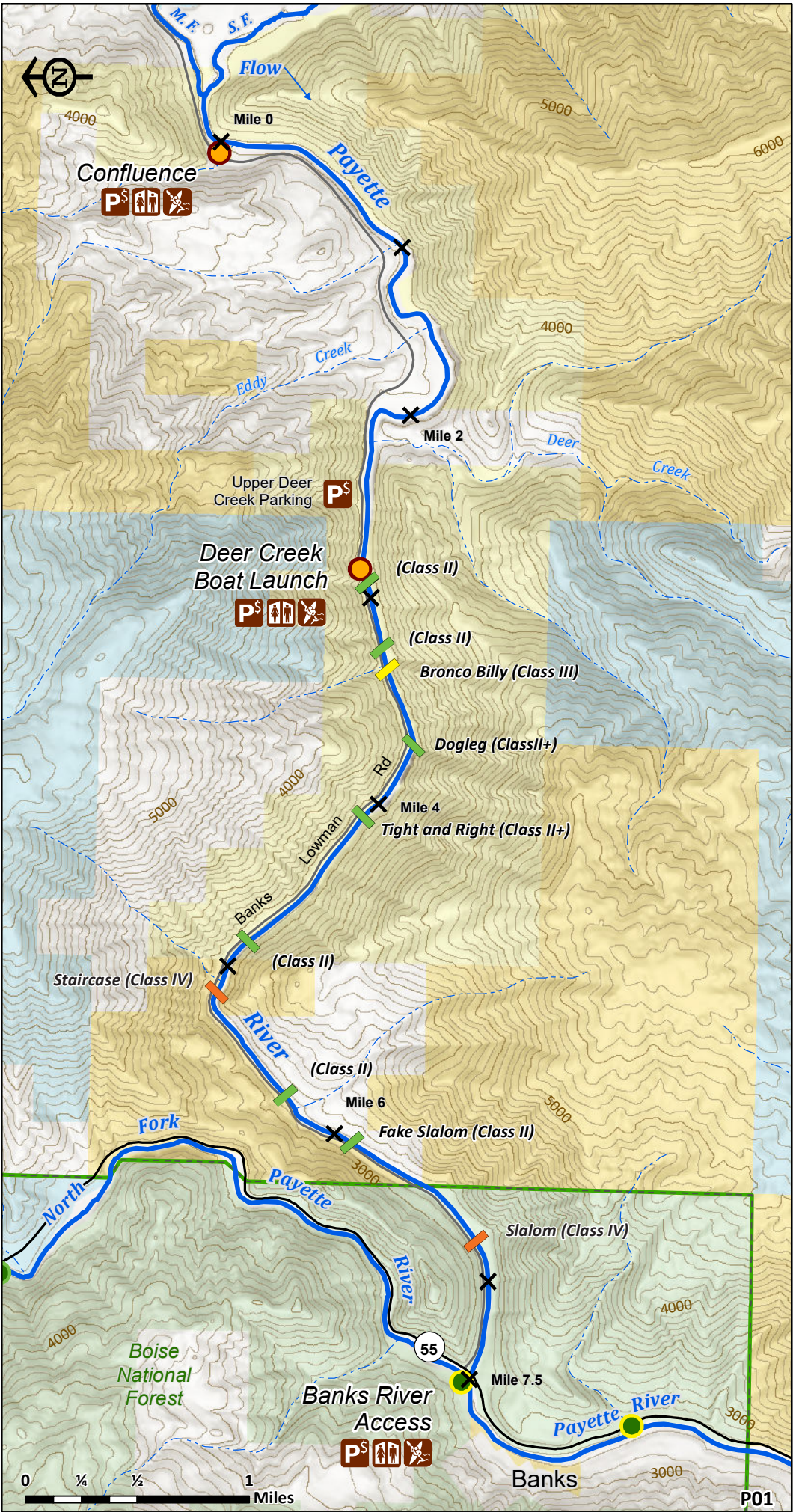




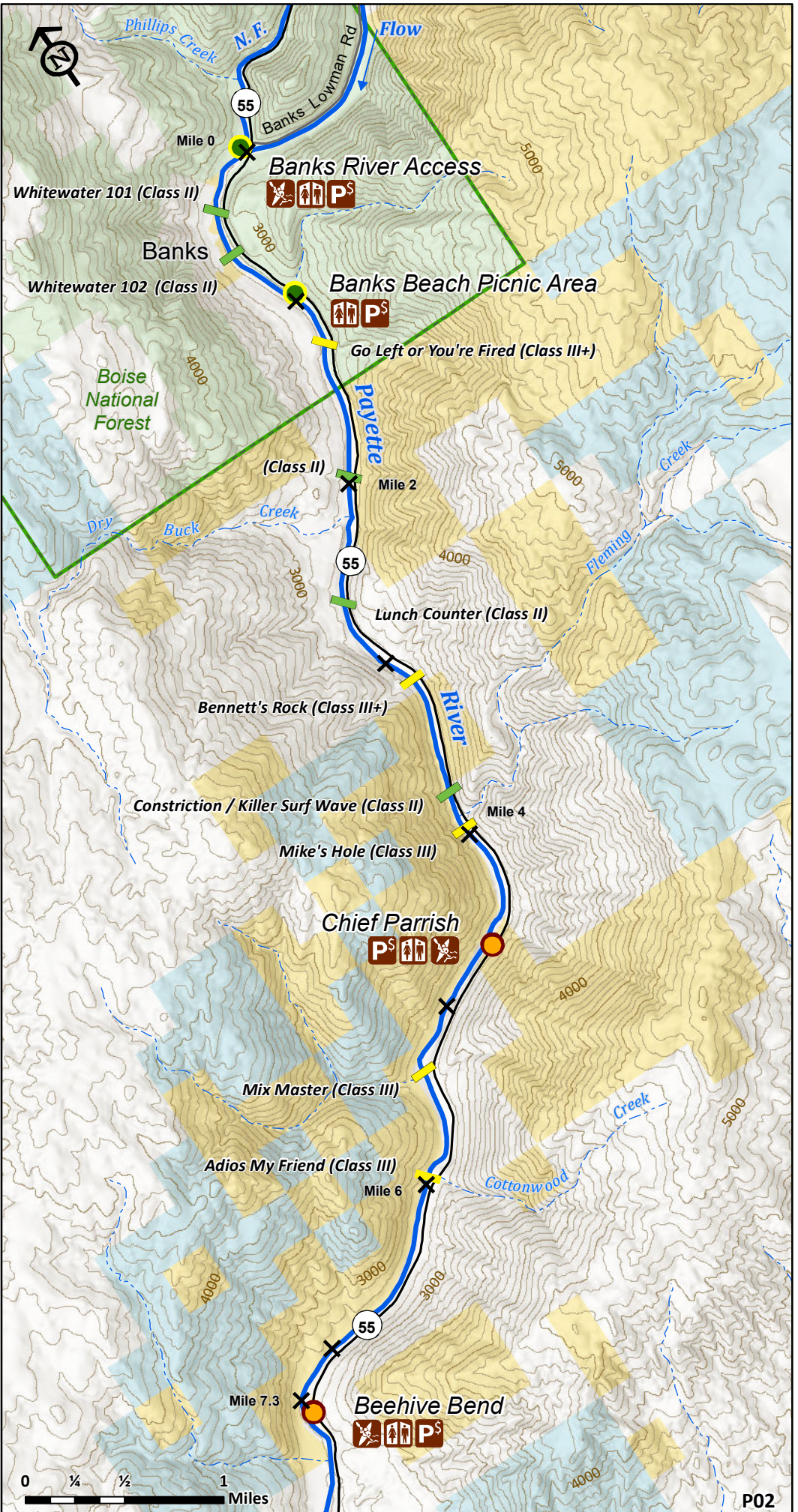




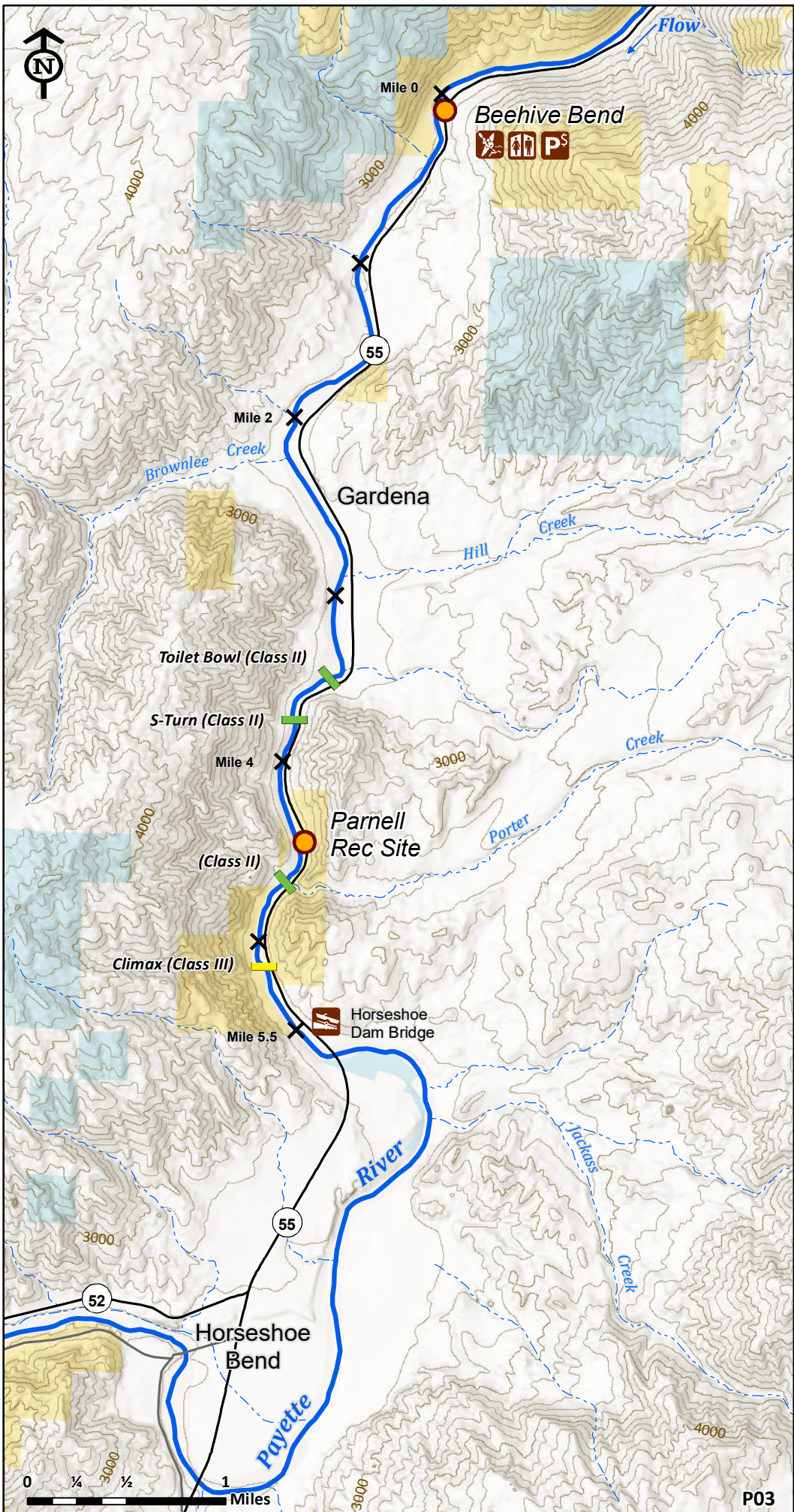




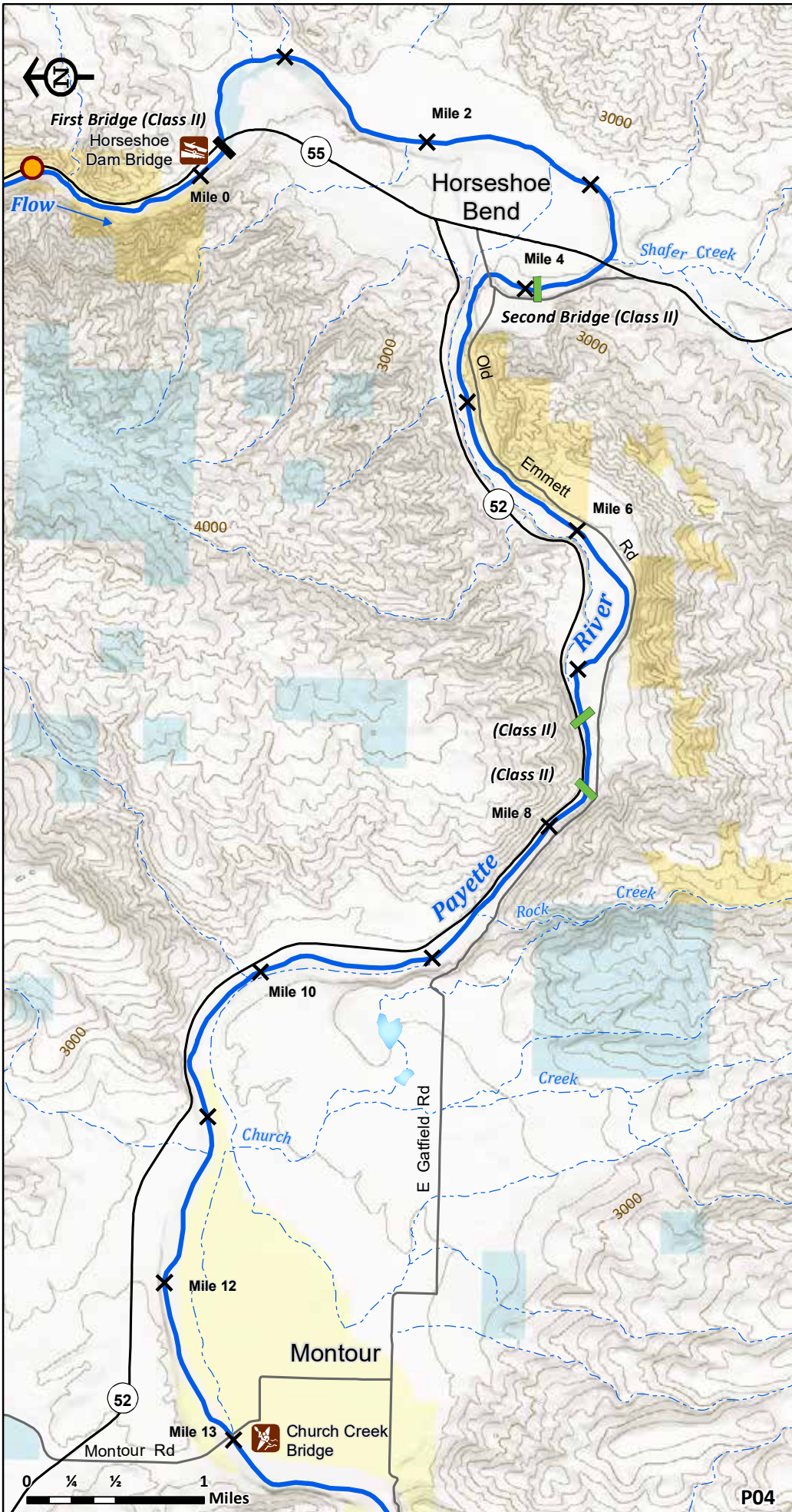




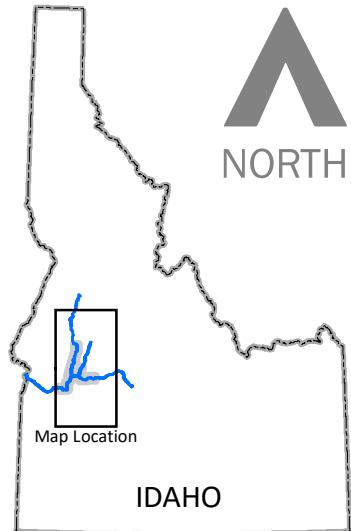
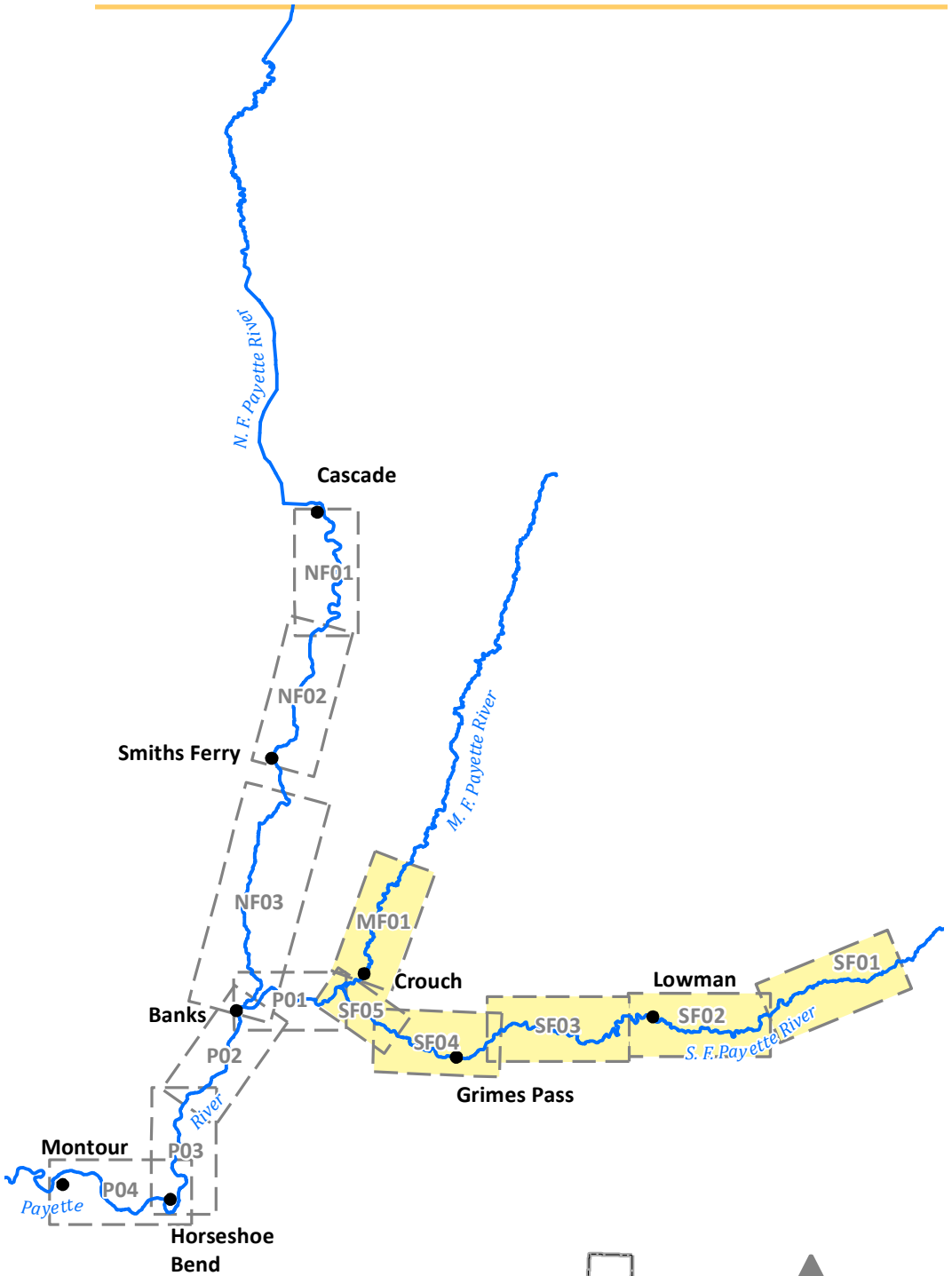








# MAP INDEX—SOUTH FORK AND MIDDLE FORK








IDAHO

























# LEGEND

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-  Forest Service
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-  State
-  National Forest Boundary

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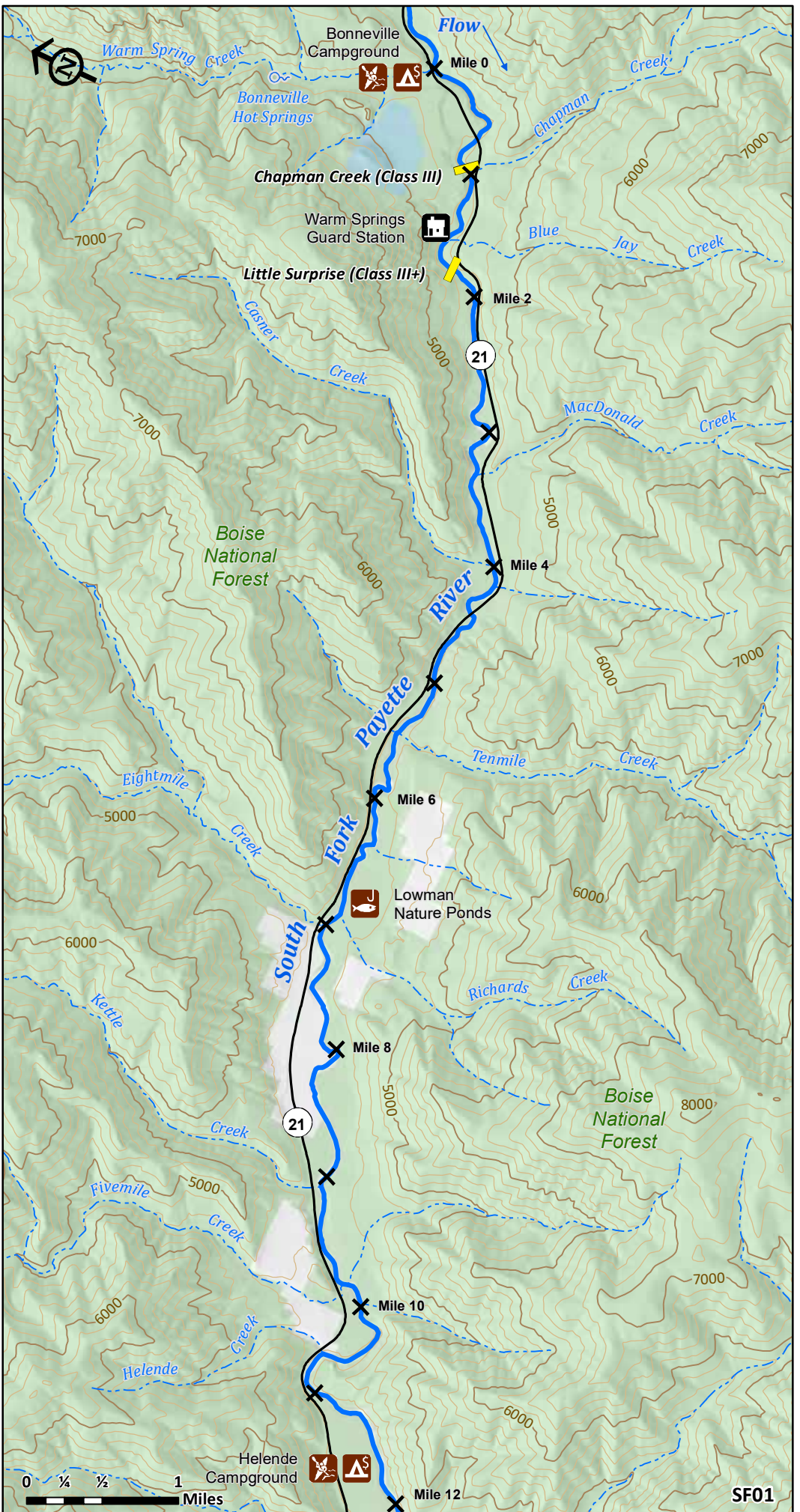
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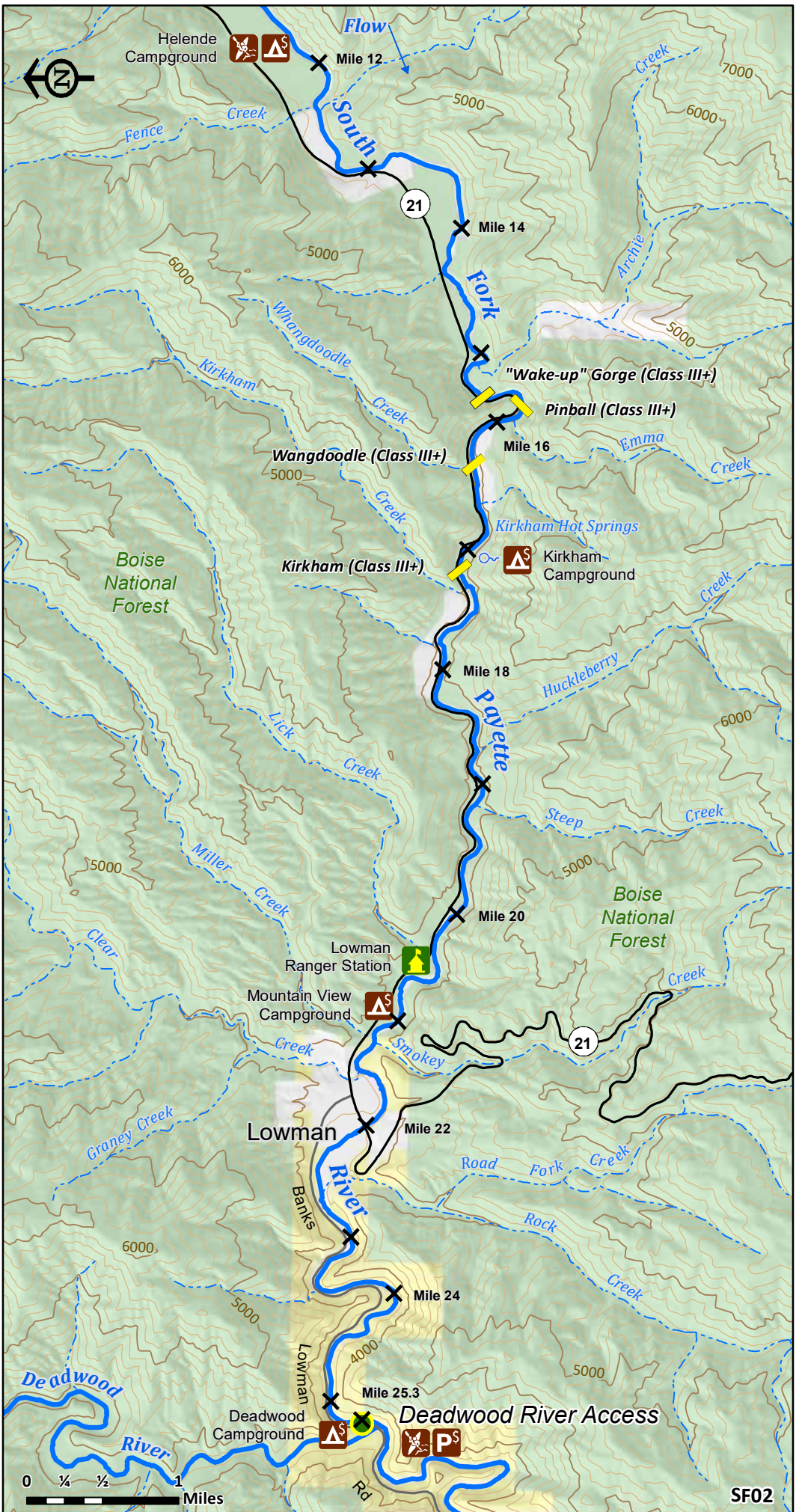
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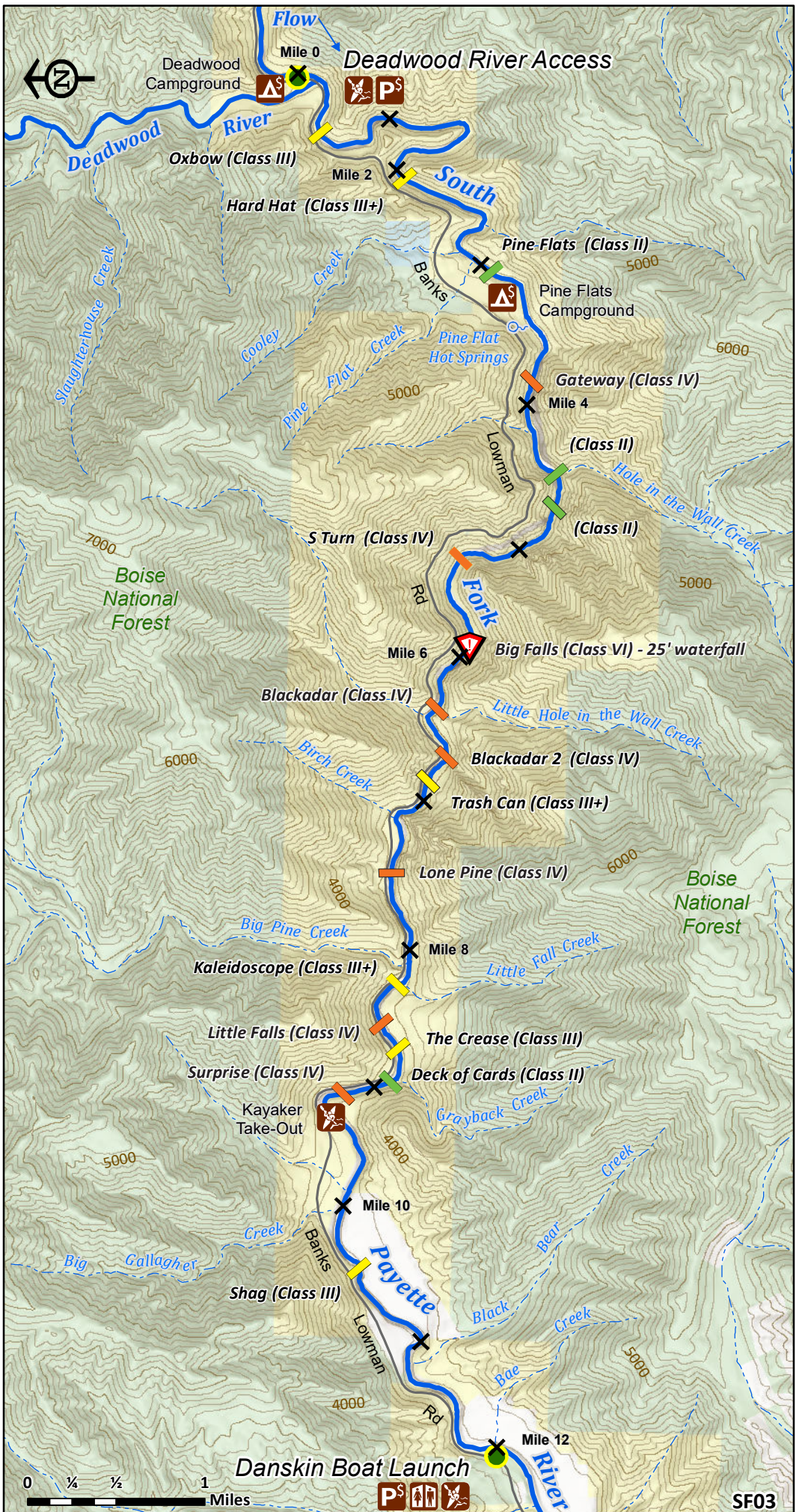
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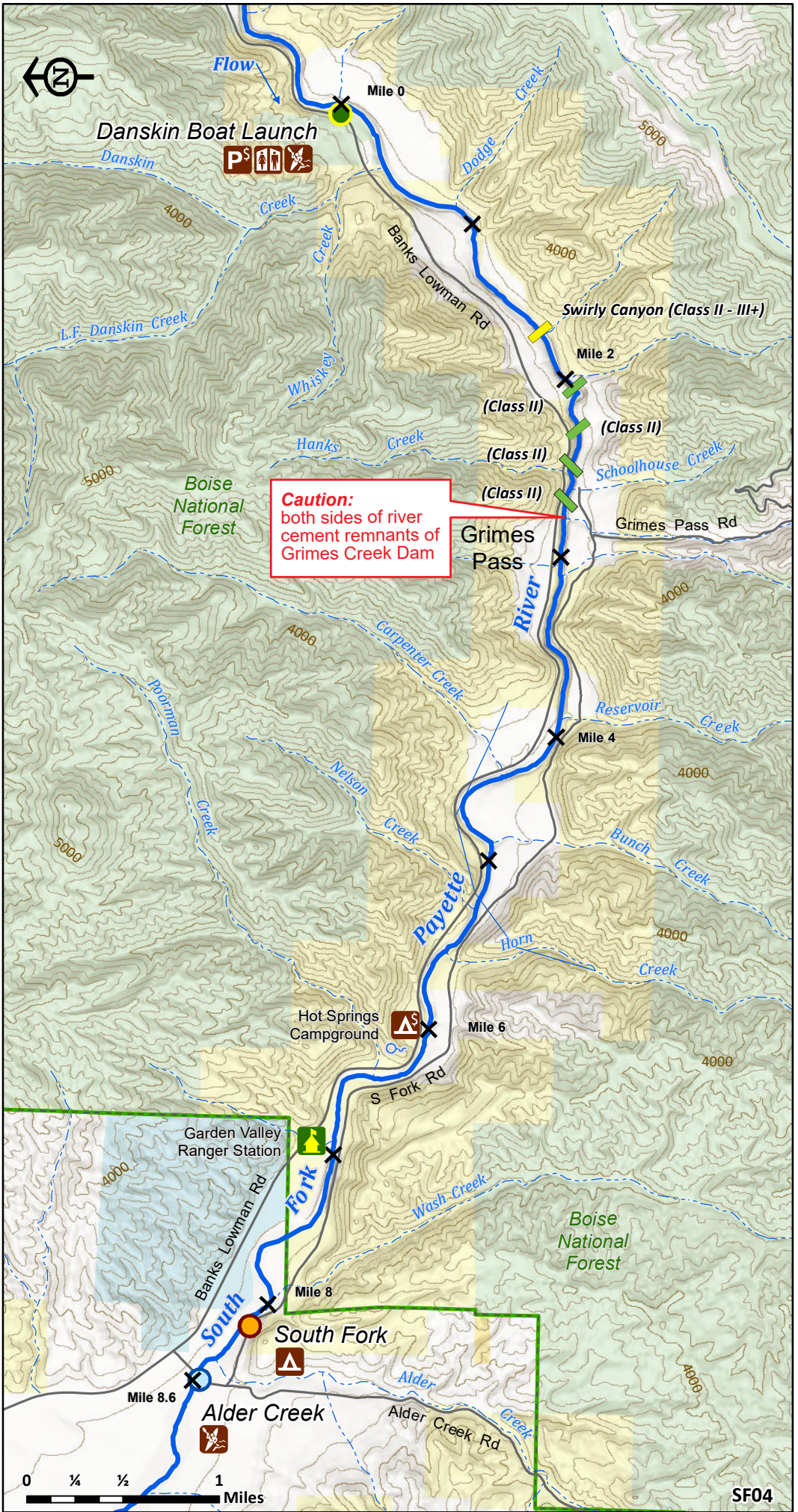












Flow

Mile 0

Danskin Boat Launch



Swirly Canyon (Class II - III+)

Mile 2

(Class II)

(Class II)

(Class II)

Grimes Pass

Grimes Pass Rd

**Caution:**  
both sides of river  
cement remnants of  
Grimes Creek Dam

Mile 4

Mile 6

Hot Springs  
Campground



Garden Valley  
Ranger Station



Mile 8

South Fork



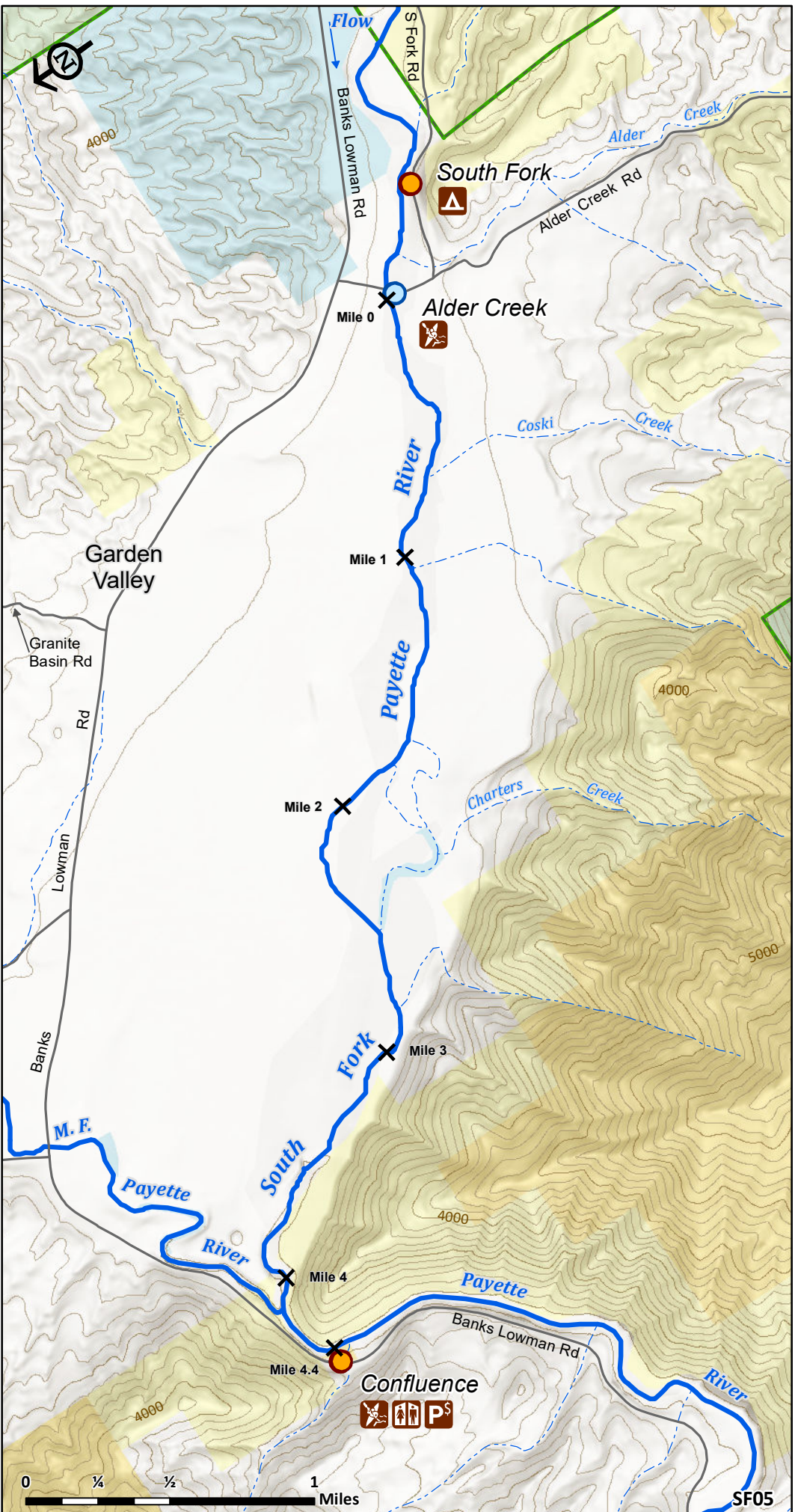
Mile 8.6

Alder Creek

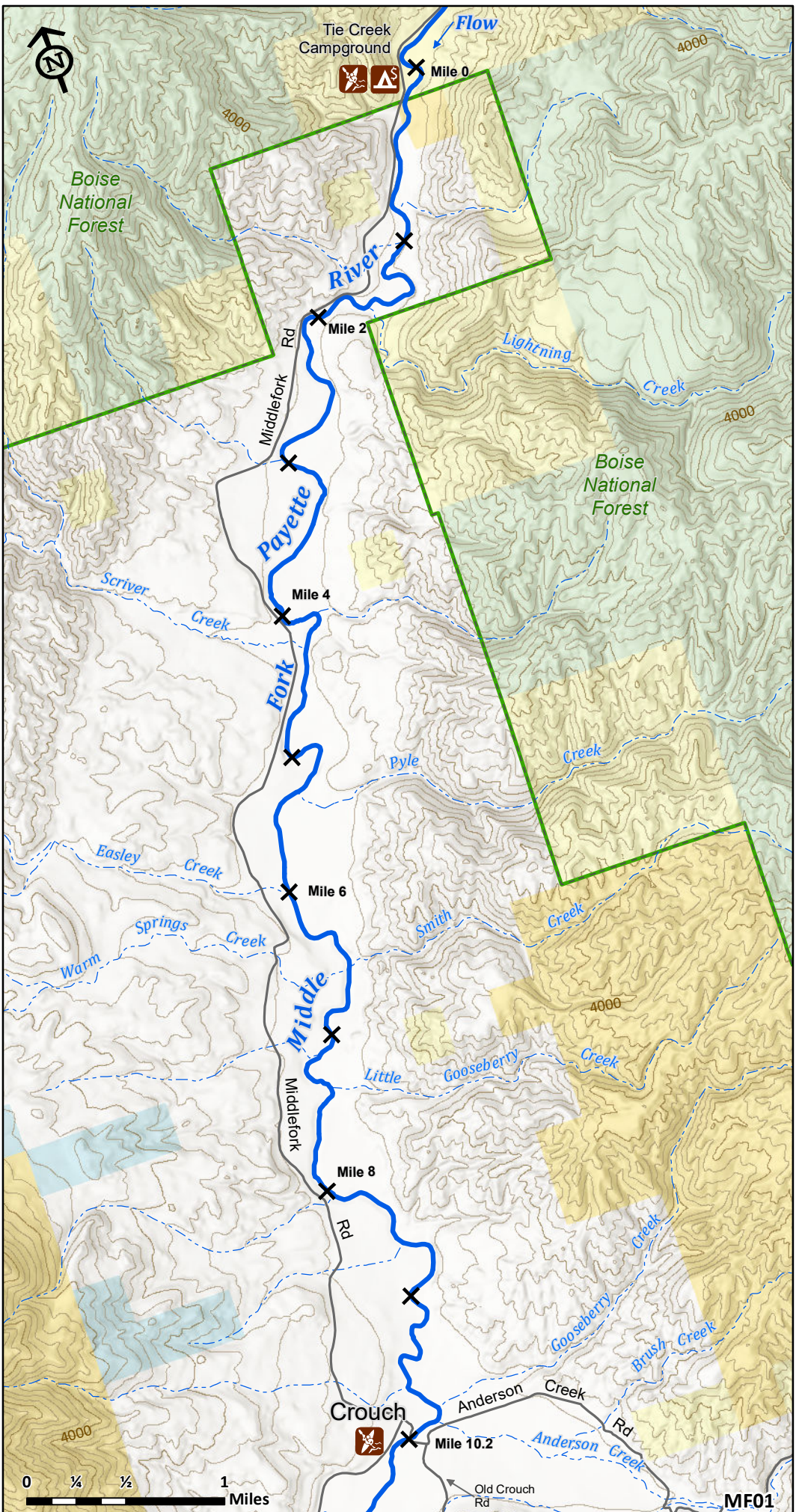


SF04









## RESPECT OTHERS AND PUBLIC LAND

- Be considerate of all wildlife, animals, and other people.
- Pack your trash out of the river corridor to your own trash barrel.
- If a boat ramp is busy, be patient and wait your turn. When it comes, use the ramp only for loading and unloading your vehicle and trailer. Allow others to go before you if all they have to do is put a loaded raft in the water and take off. Rig and de-rig your boat off of the boat ramp.
- If you bring a dog along, keep it under control and bag its feces. Dogs must be on leash at developed recreation sites such as boat ramps and campgrounds.
- Know seasonal fire restrictions prohibiting campfires.
- Fireworks are prohibited on public land and in national forests.
- Check your chains on your trailer before you go. One spark from a dragging chain can start multiple roadside fires.
- Digging, damming, or otherwise altering the natural flow or appearance of hot springs is prohibited by Idaho Code 42-351.

## RESPECT PRIVATE LAND

Many parcels of private land (white on map) are located along the Payette River. Avoid trespassing on private property by having the right maps. Know your location on the map.

## CONTACTS

Emergency Dispatch Number 911

Boise Interagency Fire Dispatch (208)384-3400

Idaho EMS Communication Center, Boise (877)554-3367

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Bureau of Land Management, Boise District Office

Four Rivers Field Office (208)384-3300

Forest Service, Boise National Forest

Emmett Ranger District (208)365-7000

Lowman Ranger District (208)259-3361





Publication and Maps: Bureau of Land Management, Idaho State Office 2020

