

# Little Sioux River Accesses

*This river is easily floatable, but with occasional tree snags that users need to be aware of.*

## Burned Out Bridge

Located in O'Brien County, this access has a cement boat ramp north of the Prairie Heritage Center. Visit their website <https://prairieheritagecenter.org/> or call them at 712-295-7200 for their center hours.

## Soo Access

Owned by the Iowa DNR, much of the property has eroded away into the river. This is NOT an accessible area even though it shows up on many paddling maps.

## Nelson Access

This area has a small parking lot with a narrow walking path to access the river. Depending on river level, it can be muddy or rocky.

## Martins Access

Use the north access into the park from Martins Access Road to find a parking area for canoe access. The walk out to the river consists of rocks and occasionally mud depending on river levels. As the river erodes into the opposite bank, a large sand bar tends to develop in front of the access. Cabins, modern camping, and showers are accessible from the south entrance off of Martins Access Road.

## Barnes Access

Since the north and south borders of the park have been armored, there are several access points to the river. Many people walk the dirt path from the parking lot to the east for access from a sand bar, others use the rock slope from the parking lot to the south.

## Sue Jordahl Canoe Access

Although this county area borders the Little Sioux River, it is landlocked and not accessible by vehicle. This is NOT an accessible area even though it shows up on many paddling maps.

## Wescott Park

The cement boat ramp is a well maintained area for paddling access. Spring Lake Park is across the road to the west, which has more amenities. Located within city limits, eateries and stores are located within blocks of this park. Owned and maintained by the city of Cherokee.

## Spring Lake Park

The river is accessible through the campground located on the north side of the park near the bathrooms. With Wescott Park across from Spring Lake Park to the east, Wescott has better access compared to the mud/sand/rock access of this park. Located within city limits, eateries and stores are located within blocks of this park. Owned and maintained by the city of Cherokee.

## Redtail Ridge

Access to the river is a narrow path down to some rocks along the bridge on the southeast side. The parking lot is further to the east of the access point with a picnic table nearby.

## Silver Sioux

This cement boat ramp is an easy place to access the river. The main campground is across the road with camp sites, bathrooms, and showers. It also has an overnight rental facility.

## Pearse Access

Located just off a paved roadway, access to the river is a rocky walk out into the river.

## Stieneke Access

A large sandbar creates a nice area to drop in or get out of the river. From the parking area, there is a bit of a walk along the sandy/mowed path to the river from the campground.

## Ritts Access

Although this county area borders the Little Sioux River, the river is not easily accessible. The river is moving away from the park, creating a large sandbar filled with cottonwoods and willows. There is no walking or mowed path to the river. This is NOT recommended as an accessible area even though it shows up on many paddling maps.

## Ranney Knob Area

Due to the river eroding into this county park, the river is not easily accessible. This is NOT recommended as an accessible area even though it shows up on many paddling maps. There is a campground, pit toilet, garbage can, and group shelter on site.

## Washta Access

Located inside Ida County, this access contains a cement boat ramp and parking lot. It is close to Correctionville, which has a gas station and other amenities.

# Mill Creek Accesses

*Dotted with rapids created with glacial rocks, floats on this creek can be challenging.*


## 450th to High Country Road


These four accesses are on road right-of-ways, so there is road parking only unless you have permission from a neighboring property owner to park on their land. The best access points are located next to the road bridges and are not mowed or maintained.

## Mill Creek Bridge Access

A small parking area and historic bridge are located at this access. A gravel path provides access to the creek.

 **Easy Water Access** = Cement boat ramp

 **Moderate Water Access** = Mowed path or rock access

 **Unmaintained Water Access** = Narrow path or no obvious path to water body

 **Parking Lot**

 **Restroom(s)**

 **Campground(s)**

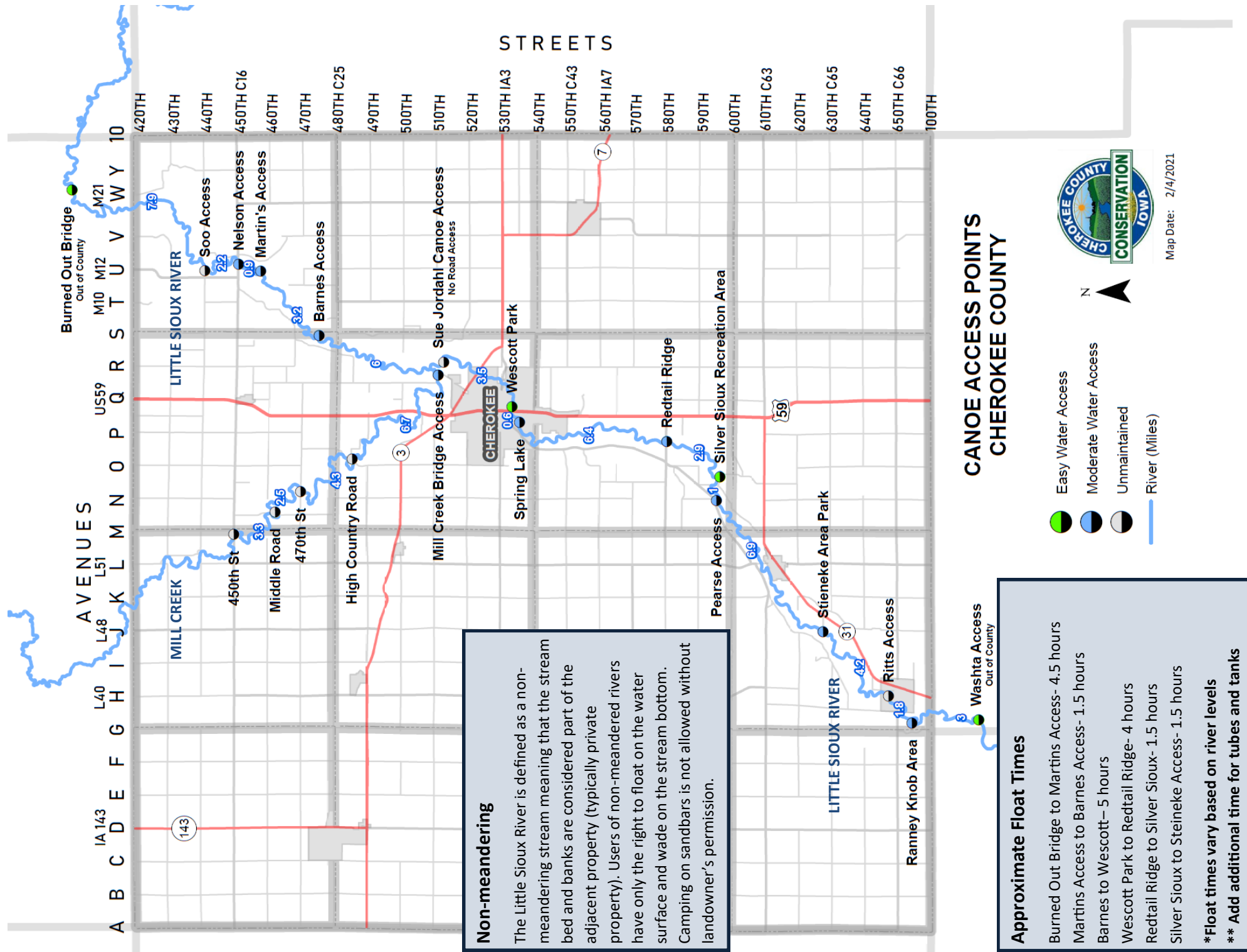


Iowa DNR Paddle Map



River Level in Cherokee

Visit [www.cherokeecountyparks.com](http://www.cherokeecountyparks.com) for more information on most campgrounds.



# A Paddler's Guide to Cherokee County



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