US Fish and Wildlife Service

Hiking & Biking Trails

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge



Year round hiking and biking is permitted only on the following trails and on roads open to motorized vehicles. No other Refuge lands are open to these activities.

Be prepared as you may encounter wet areas, thorny vegetation, mosquitoes, and rough ground.

Please stay on designated trails and roads. Please observe all rules and regulations.

The following activities are prohibited on the Refuge: camping, swimming, fires, collecting of plants, animals, minerals, artifacts and objects of antiquity.

Hiking Trails

Headquarters Overlook Trail

This very short hiking trail at Refuge Headquarters leads from the Visitor Center to an overlook below the historic fire tower. The overlook provides a view of Malheur and Harney Lakes. The Fire Tower is not open to the public. The trail is uphill, marked, and maintained.

Buena Vista Overlook Trail

This short hiking trail leads from the parking area by the restroom to an interpretive site overlooking the Diamond Valley and the Buena Vista Ponds. At the top, information panels provide information about the Refuge's wildlife management. The trail is uphill, marked, and maintained.

Krumbo Reservoir

Hiking is permitted around the banks of Krumbo Reservoir. The trial is not maintained or marked. You may encounter rough and rocky terrain.

Benson Pond Trail

This ½ mile trail leads from a small parking area on the CPR along the pond and into an area of cottonwood trees and willows. The pond and trees attract a variety of wildlife species.

Barnes Springs Footpath

This 1.8 mile (round trip) hiking trail leads to a former homestead site and travels along an old gravel road. The trail begins at a green gate on P Lane approximately 1/4 mile south of Frenchglen. The trail is maintained and marked.

Loop Trail
(improvements are in progress)

The loop trail is approximately 11 miles long and includes the River Trail and the East Canal Trail. This trail is in varying stages of development. Much of the trail is not marked and primitive. For more information, contact the Refuge.

The Desert Trail

The Desert trail, part of the National Scenic Desert Trail, enters the Refuge at Page Springs on Steens Mountain. The trail is for hiking only. For maps and further information, contact the Bureau of Land Management at 541/573-4400.

East Canal Trail

Hiking and biking is permitted on a dirt road that will take you along a vegetated canal. The trail begins at a green gate on P Lane across the Blitzen River and prior to Page Springs Campground. The trail is not marked, but maintained.

Biking Opportunities

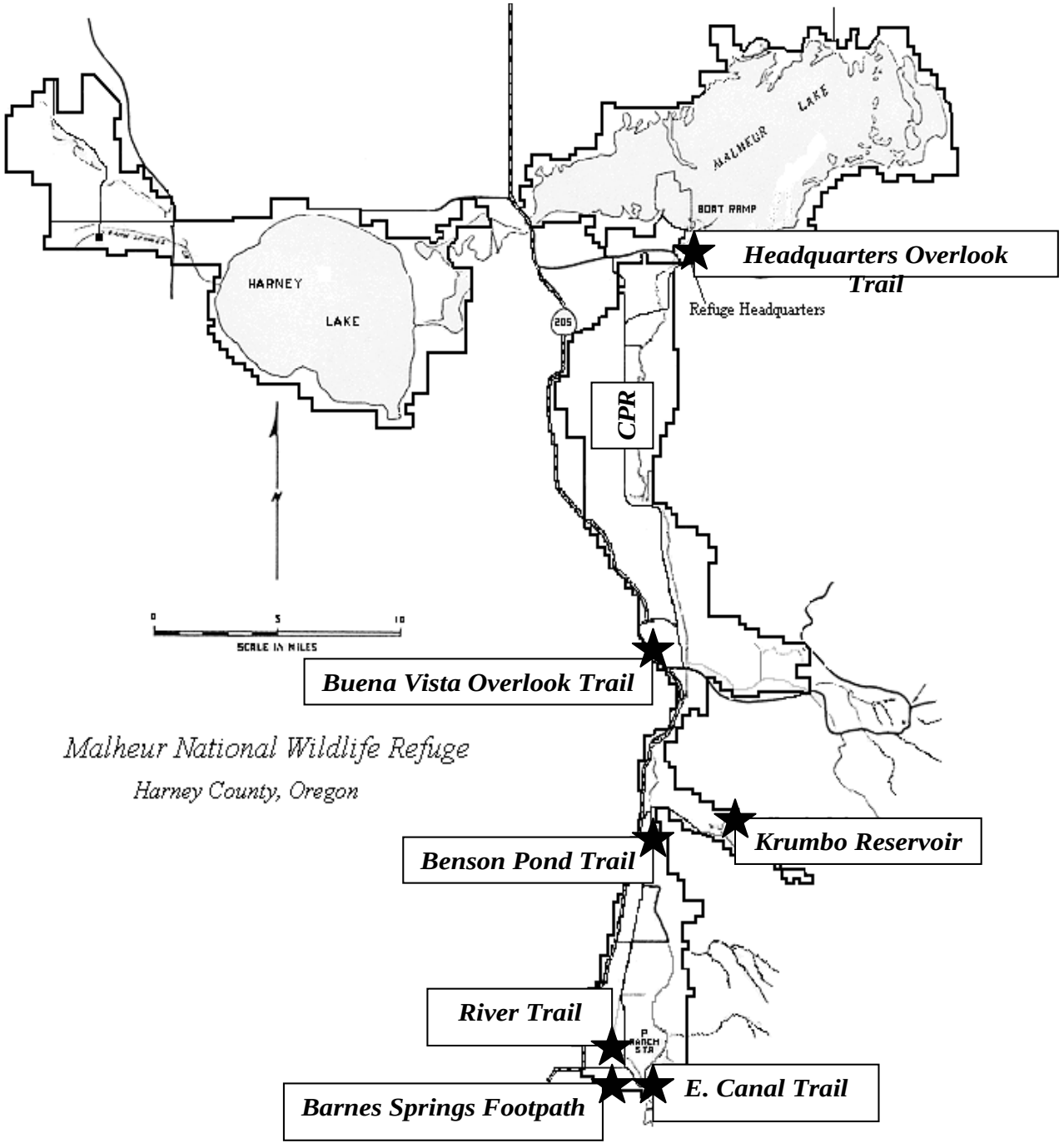
Center Patrol Road (CPR)

In addition to biking on the East Canal Trail, the CPR offers 35 miles of biking on a dirt/gravel road that will take you from sagebrush to lush scenery. The CPR is also open to motorized vehicles, so please be cautious.

East Canal Trail

Biking is permitted on this dirt road. See above for details.

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO



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