

OUTDOORS



Fishing
Henry Miller
Guest columnist

Retirement 2.0

This time, I'm leaving the notebook at home

As they used to say at the circus, it's time to clean out the cages and roll up the tents. ● Consider this retirement column 2.0. ● Memorial Day is my birthday, and a chance to reflect on the fact that it's a few months shy of spending half of my life at the Statesman Journal. ● Not my working life in newspapering; that would add another decade and change. No, it's been half of my entire life. ● My decision to walk away from writing a regular weekly column for the SJ is something of a selfish decision. ● It means I can go fishing, camping, hiking and backpacking without having to lug the Nikon, my digital recorder, a notebook and a mechanical pencil. ● Note to aspiring outdoor scribblers: Pens run when it's wet. **See MILLER, Page 2B**



▲The camera, notepad, mechanical pencil and digital recorder will be home, but the adventures continue. ◀It's been a sweet ride for more than three decades for this outdoor columnist. PHOTOS BY HENRY MILLER / SPECIAL TO THE STATESMAN JOURNAL

Oregon campground reservations canceled by snow

Zach Urness
Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Late-season snow has delayed the opening of numerous campgrounds across Oregon's mountains, leading to the cancelation of reservations for hundreds of Oregonians this Memorial Day Weekend.

At least 24 campgrounds — and likely more — had to delay openings and cancel reservations from Central Oregon to Mount Hood, officials said.

Many campers reported getting an alert from the website Recreation.gov that their reservation had been canceled due to "weather." But most also reported getting a full refund.

The largest spate of cancelations was in Central Oregon's Deschutes National Forest, where 21 campgrounds from Crescent Lake to Three Creek Meadow saw delayed openings.

In addition, three campgrounds near Mount Hood — Trillium Lake, Still Creek and Frog Lake — also were delayed until

roughly June 10.

(See full list of known delayed campgrounds below)

The snow has stopped campground managers from conducting work such as safety inspections, maintenance and repairs, and hazard tree removal within campgrounds, officials said.

Thanks to a cool and wet April and May, Oregon's snowpack is well above average. Oregon's northern Cascade Range has a snowpack that is 151 to 266 percent of normal.

"In many cases, access roads to campgrounds remain impassable and campgrounds themselves are still under snow. While some areas have very recently melted out, the short timeframe has not provided enough time for critical safety work to be completed ahead of the Memorial Day weekend," said Jean Nelson-Dean, spokeswoman for Deschutes National Forest.

Most lower elevation campgrounds — such as those in the Cascade Foot-

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The entrance to Frog Lake Campground in Mount Hood National Forest remains impassable due to late season snow. USFS