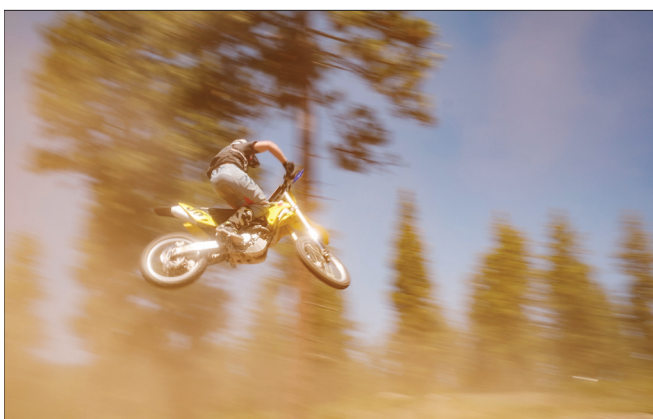




Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Nicholas Fairbanks takes off down a wooden ramp on MERA's Dirt Circus mountain bike trail during the annual Blue Mountain Singletrack Trails Club Shuttle Day on Saturday, June 26, 2021.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Talyn Bolin, 14, whips his dirt bike through a cloud of dust as he launches from the Tabletop jump at Mount Emily Recreation Area outside La Grande on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Legacy Powersports of Island City held "Demo with the Pros," an event that let residents borrow dirt bikes and helmets.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Jesse Cimon, left, and Valerie and Tyson Murphy prepare to ride down one of Mount Emily Recreation Area's numerous singletrack bike trails during the Blue Mountain Singletrack Club's annual shuttle run on Saturday, June 26, 2021.



Dick Mason/The Observer
Children take part in a Short Track Race Series held at the Owsley Trailhead at the Mount Emily Recreation Area, near La Grande, on Monday, June 21, 2021. Several dozen kids took part in the event hosted by Blue Mountain Singletrack Trail Club, whose volunteers maintain the mountain bike trails at MERA. The event is held every Monday at 6 p.m., with free bikes for children who need them.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Don Lowry and his dog, Bear, race down the Slammer mountain bike trail Saturday, June 26, 2021, at the Mount Emily Recreation Area, La Grande.

Fun at Mount Emily



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Cole Hauter floats through the air on his dirt bike as he launches from one of the jumps at Mount Emily Recreation Area on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Legacy Powersports of Island City held "Demo with the Pros," lending participants dirt bikes and helmets to explore MERA's offerings.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Eli Bolin hits the dirt path with determination on an electric trail bike Sunday, June 27, 2021, at the Mount Emily Recreation Area, north of La Grande. He joined dozens of motocross enthusiasts who turned out despite the warm weather for "Demo with the Pros," an event sponsored by Legacy Powersports of Island City that provided dirt bikes and helmets for participants to borrow.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Cole Hauter races along a dirt bike track at the Mount Emily Recreation Area, La Grande, on Sunday, June 27, 2021 during Legacy Powersports of Island City's "Demo with the Pros." Despite the summer heat, the event attracted dozens of motocross enthusiasts.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Devin Frye launches from a jump at the Mount Emily Recreation Area's dirt bike trails on Sunday, June 27, 2021, during "Demo with the Pros," an event put on by Legacy Powersports of Island City. Participants could borrow dirt bikes and helmets to try out the trails during the event at the recreation area north of La Grande that drew a crowd willing to brave the summer heat.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer
Jesse Cimon looks out over the Grande Ronde Valley from the top of Mount Emily on Saturday, June 26, 2021. Cimon, along with dozens of other Blue Mountain Singletrack Club members, met at Owsley Trailhead for the annual club meetup.