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THE OUTDOORS

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Mountain biking on Horse Ridge

BY MARK MORICAL

The Bulletin

Wide-open vistas, Cascade mountain views, long climbs and thrilling descents can all be found on the nearly 30 miles of singletrack on Horse Ridge. Located about 15 miles southeast of Bend in a seemingly desolate area where the terrain offers a stark contrast to the trails

west of Bend, Horse Ridge is a favorite of local mountain bikers in the winter. Sometimes, the trails remain rideable all through the winter. Current conditions are variable as recent snow continues to melt. The trails are fairly technically challenging, with loads of lava rock that dot the trail on certain stretches.

Getting there: From Bend, drive east on U.S. Highway 20 for about 15 miles to Horse Ridge Frontage Road and turn right. Proceed about 0.7 miles to the BLM Trailhead on the left side of the road.

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Bulletin file

Horse Ridge offers mountain bikers challenging rides with sweeping views of the High Desert.

Outdoor pick of the week: Dry Canyon in Redmond

BY MAKENZIE WHITTLE

The Bulletin

I don't get out to Redmond as often as I could, but last weekend I decided to check out the Dry Canyon Trail that stretches 3.7 miles through the heart of city.

The wide canyon is made from Deschutes Formation basalts and topped with rimrock that now hosts houses on either side. At the bottom of this canyon is relatively flat land spotted with sagebrush and juniper. During the spring, desert wildflowers join in bringing pops of color along the trail. The trail itself is paved, but there

are at least two other official off pavement trails on either side of the canyon that offer dirt and rock terrain to hikers. If you do stick to the paved trail, expect to other visitors every day of the week, most offering up a smile, "hello" or simple nod as they pass.

The walk isn't the only thing Dry Canyon has going for it either. Rock climbers can dangle underneath the Maple Avenue Bridge on the climbing area created there, a disc golf course takes up a good section of the middle of the canyon, a decent-sized dog park with two separate areas — one for small dogs and one for larger ones — as well as pickleball and tennis

courts, a playground, picnic tables and plenty of space to spread out and enjoy the day.

The trail also has several access points along the route including through Kiwanis Field, American Legion Park, Bowlby Park and more.

Getting there:

Southernmost access point: SW Quartz Avenue between SW 20th Street and SW Canyon Drive

Northernmost access point: NW 19th Street near the Redmond Wastewater Treatment Plant

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Makenzie Whittle/The Bulletin

The Dry Canyon Trail in Redmond passes under the Maple Avenue Bridge.