



# CONDITIONS REPORT

## Get out to areas east of Bend, sno-parks

If your personal snow quota was filled by last week's snow storms, head east for drier climates. While you may not see as much of the white stuff, the arid plains and valleys get frigid temperatures to remind you that it's still winter.

Between the room to roam, interesting geologic features and wide open skies, eastern Central Oregon is a wonderful place to explore any time of year.

But if snow and mountains are still your style, the Ochocos east of Prineville may have what you're looking for.

For a full list of conditions updated regularly, please visit [centraloregonexplore.com](http://centraloregonexplore.com).

### HIKING AND DAY USE SITES

*NOTE: Many of the trails along seasonally closed highways and forest service roads remain open, but can only be accessed by hike, snowshoe, cross country ski or snowmobile due to accumulating snowfall. See Forest websites for more details and restrictions.*

#### Deschutes National Forest

- Bessie Butte Trail: Open
- Boyd Cave Day Use Area: Open
- Horse Butte Trailhead: Open; mostly snow free and clear
- Pine Mountain: Open

#### Ochoco National Forest

- Baneberry Trailhead: Open
- Barnhouse Trailhead: Open
- Black Canyon East (Formerly South Fork) Trailhead: Open
- Black Canyon West (Formerly Dusty Camp) Trailhead: Open
- Boeing Field Trailhead: Open
- Coffeepot Trailhead: Open
- Cottonwood Trailhead: Open
- Cougar East Trailhead: Open
- Cougar West Trailhead: Open
- Fry Trailhead: Open
- Giddy-Up Go Trailhead: Open
- Green Mountain North Trailhead: Open
- Green Mountain South Trailhead: Open
- Hammer Creek Trailhead: Open
- Henderson Flat OHV Trail System: Open
- Henderson Flat Staging Area: Open
- Keeton Trailhead: Open
- Kelsey Trailhead: Open
- Line Butte East (Formerly Fawn Creek) Trailhead: Open
- Line Butte West Trailhead: Open
- Lookout Mountain Lower Trailhead: Open
- Lookout Mountain Upper Trailhead: Open
- Mascall Corral (Formerly Apple West) Trailhead: Open
- Mother Lode Mine Trailhead: Open
- Payten Trailhead: Open
- Potlid North Trailhead: Open
- Potlid South Trailhead: Open
- Rim (Formerly Apple Middle)

- Trailhead: Open
- Rock Creek Trailhead: Open
- Round Mountain North Trailhead: Open
- Round Mountain South Trailhead: Open
- Scotty Creek Trailhead: Open
- South Prong Trailhead: Open
- Steins Pillar Trailhead: Open
- Twin Pillars North Trailhead: Open
- Twin Pillars South Trailhead: Open
- Wildcat North Trailhead: Open
- Wildcat South Trailhead: Open

#### Bureau of Land Management

- Badlands Rock Trail: Open
- Black Hills ACEC: Open; climbing and geocaching are prohibited
- Chimney Rock Trail: Open
- Christmas Valley Sand Dunes: Open
- Crack-in-the-Ground: Open
- Derrick Cave: Open
- Flatiron Rock Trail: Open
- Fossil Lake ACEC: Open; motor vehicles and fossil collecting prohibited
- Green Mountain: Open
- Lost Forest: Open, vehicles restricted to designated roads only
- Lower Crooked River: Open
- North Fork: Open
- Oregon Badlands Wilderness Tumulus Trail: Open

### OREGON STATE PARKS

- Fort Rock State Natural Area: Open; day-use hours 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; rock scrambling closed in southeast area to protect nesting falcons
- Jasper Point: Open; boat ramp closed due to low water conditions; camping is closed for the season
- Prineville Reservoir State Park: Open; expect reduced services

### SKI AREAS AND SNOW PARKS

• Updated 8 a.m. Feb. 18



Makenzie Whittle/Bulletin file photo

**Crack in the Ground descends up to 70 feet below ground. The width of the crack varies wildly and can become quite tight in places. The temperature here remains about 20 degrees cooler than the surface, creating cool micro climates where moss, ferns and nettles can thrive.**

#### Smith Rock climbing closures

To protect nesting raptors, the following climbing routes are closed: Cajun Cliff, Victoria Tower, Little Three Fingered Jack, Puddy's Tower, The Monument, Anglin's Buttress and French Tent Rock. The Canyon Trail near the bald eagle nest is restricted to groups of four or less and noise must be kept to a minimum. See [smithrock.com](http://smithrock.com) for seasonal-closures for more information.

- Hoodoo: Open; 88.2 inch base; Autobahn Tubing Park are closed
- Mt. Bachelor: Open; 109 inch base; First Rays lift is closed, Summit lift closed during winter storm cycle
- Willamette Pass: 70 inches at lodge; rentals and tickets must be reserved online in advance

#### Deschutes National Forest

- Snow levels updated Feb. 12
- Crescent Lake Sno-park: Open; 12-16 inches; good conditions
- Crescent Junction: Open; 12-16 inches; good conditions
- Dutchman Sno-park: Open; 48-72 inches; good conditions, limited parking and no overnight camping; 40-foot max length limit for vehicle/trailer combination; expect heavy use
- Edison Butte Sno-park: Open; 24-36 inches; good conditions; area roads closed to highway vehicles through March 31, 2021
- Kapka Butte Sno-park: Open; 42-54 inches; good conditions; area roads closed to highway vehicles through March 31, 2021

- Meissner Sno-park: Open; 24-36 inches; good conditions; area roads closed through April 1, 2021; no dogs; lodge currently closed
- Skyliner Sno-park: Open; unknown snow depth, access road closed for the season, road is now a ski/snowshoe trail
- Swampy Sno-park: Open; 36-48 inches; good conditions; no dogs; area roads closed through March 31, 2021
- Vista Butte Sno-park: Open; 42-58 inches; good conditions; area north of parking area closed to snowmobiles, use Kapka Butte or Wanoga
- Wanoga Snow Play: Open; 30-42 inches; good conditions; expect heavy use; pack out broken sleds and all trash; shelter is closed
- Wanoga Snowmobile: Open; 30-42 inches; good conditions; area roads closed to highway vehicles through March 31, 2021; shelter is closed
- Newberry (Six Mile Sno-park): Open; 6-10 inches; marginal conditions due to low snow
- Newberry (10 Mile Sno-park): Open; 12-24 inches; good conditions; road beyond park closed to vehicles for the season
- Three Creek Sno-park (Lower): Open; 6-10 inches; marginal conditions due to low snow
- Three Creek Sno-park (Upper): Open; 12-14 inches; good conditions; Forest Service Road 16 may not be plowed immediately after a storm
- Walt Haring Sno-park: 6-10 inches; good conditions

#### Ochoco National Forest:

- Bandit Springs Sno-park: Open
- Mark's Creek Sno-park: Open
- Ochoco Divide Sno-park: Open
- Walton Sno-park: Open

#### Willamette National Forest

- Gold Lake Sno-park: Open

- Ikenick Sno-park: Open
- Little Nash Sno-park: Open
- Maxwell Sno-park: Open; Mountain View and South Maxwell shelters are closed
- Potato Hill Sno-park: Open
- Ray Benson Sno-park: Open
- Salt Creek Sno-park: Open
- Santiam Sno-park: Open
- Waldo Lake Sno-park: Open

### CAMPING

#### Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland

- Mud Springs Horse Camp: Open; no campfires
- Whistler Campground: Open; no campfires
- White Rock Campground: Open; no campfires
- BLM – Prineville District
- Big Bend Campground: Open
- Castle Rock Campground: Open
- Chimney Rock Campground: Open
- Cobble Rock Campground: Open
- Lone Pine Campground: Open
- Palisades Campground: Open
- Post Pile Campground: Open
- Stillwater Campground: Open

### CYCLING

#### East of Bend trails

- Dry River Canyon: Closed through Aug. 31
- Arnold Ice Cave, Coyote Loop, Swamp Wells: Muddy
- Horse Butte Loop: Deep snow
- All other trails riding well

#### Prineville and Ochoco trails

- Independent Mine, Lookout Mountain, Round Mountain: Deep snow; deadfall reported
- New reports needed for other trails

### FISHING

- Updated at 8 a.m. Feb. 18
- Crooked River (below Opal Springs): 1,330 cfs; rainbow trout and mountain whitefish; only fish downstream of Bowman Dam to Lake Billy Chinook; whitefish should be spawning and anglers have good success fishing egg patterns; bull trout must be released unharmed and reported to the USFW at [crookedbulltrout@fws.gov](mailto:crookedbulltrout@fws.gov)
- Prineville Reservoir: 35% full; rainbow trout, small and largemouth bass, catfish, crappie, crayfish; trout fishing has been fair, good for warm weather species
- Ochoco Reservoir: 16% full; rainbow trout, black crappie, smallmouth bass; trout fishing should start increasing with lower temperatures; ramp still likely unusable due to low water levels

### EVENTS

#### Daily tours

- Lava Cave Tours: A guided tour of a local lava tube exploring the geologic and human history as well as the ecology of the cave; 9 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.; \$65 to \$90; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; [go.evnt.com/713740-0](http://go.evnt.com/713740-0) or 541-389-8359.
- Daily Snowshoe Tours: A naturalist-guided tour through areas around Mt. Bachelor. Snowshoes and hot cocoa provided; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1:30-5:30 p.m.; \$65 to \$90; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; [go.evnt.com/713722-0](http://go.evnt.com/713722-0) or 541-389-8359.
- Shoes, Brews & Views Snowshoe Tour: Snowshoe to a spot in the Deschutes National Forest and sip some locally crafted beers or root beer for those under 21; 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.; \$65 to \$95; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; [go.evnt.com/713728-1](http://go.evnt.com/713728-1) or 541-389-8359.
- Bonfire Snowshoe Tours: A naturalist-guided tour near Mount Bachelor out to a small bonfire where snowshoes will be treated to hot libations and a dessert; 7-11 p.m.; \$110; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; [go.evnt.com/713736-0](http://go.evnt.com/713736-0) or 541-389-8359.
- Moonlight & Starlight Snowshoes Tours: A guided tour on snowshoes in the Cascade Lakes area under the stars; 7-11 p.m.; \$95; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; [go.evnt.com/713732-0](http://go.evnt.com/713732-0) or 541-389-8359.

#### Ice Skating Rink Hours

- The Pavilion: Public skating by reservation only. Open skating session times vary, see website for details; \$12 adults, \$11 older adults (60-79) and students, \$10 youth and honored citizens (80 plus), children under 3 with a paying adult are free, \$3 discount if you bring your own skates, \$6 per person for special sessions; 1001 SW Bradbury Drive, Bend; [bendparksandrec.org/facility/the-pavilion](http://bendparksandrec.org/facility/the-pavilion) or 541-389-7588.
- Seventh Mountain Resort: Reservations required. Open skating sessions run 1 hour and 20 minutes every two hours 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; \$15 adults, \$12 children 7 to 18, \$5 children 6 and under, \$5 discount for bringing your own skates; Seventh Mountain Resort Ice Rink, 18575 SW Century Drive, Bend; [seventhmountainriverco.com/ice-skating](http://seventhmountainriverco.com/ice-skating) or 877-765-1501.
- Sunriver Village: Reservations required for all skaters. Open skating sessions run 2 hours three hours noon-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. Sunday; \$15 adults, \$11 children 5 to 12, \$3 discount if you have your own skates; Sunriver Village Ice Rink, 57100 Beaver Drive, Sunriver; [sunriverillagefun.com/sunriver-ice-skating](http://sunriverillagefun.com/sunriver-ice-skating) or 541-593-5948.

#### Saturday 2/20

- Backcountry Film Festival: The annual celebration of snow sports will be screened virtually. Proceeds go to Discover Your Forest and to public lands; stream through March 13; \$20 to \$60; Discover Your Forest, online; [go.evnt.com/740493-1](http://go.evnt.com/740493-1) or 541-383-5530.
- Peace Park Season Opening Celebration: The mountain's new park located off Skyliner loft will open and feature music, giveaways and more. Lift ticket and parking pass required; 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mount Bachelor, 13000 SW Century Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/740476-0](http://go.evnt.com/740476-0) or 541-382-1709.

#### Sunday 2/21 and Tuesday 2/23

- Orangetheory Fitness Run Club: A guided 3- to 5-mile hike with body weight workouts mixed in will be held every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Free for members and nonmembers; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Orangetheory Fitness, 320 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/738081-0](http://go.evnt.com/738081-0) or 541-904-5123.

#### Wednesday 2/24

- Beginning Fly Tying Class: Novice anglers can learn the basics of tying flies in this 2-hour class. Register at the fly shop; 6-8 p.m.; \$80; Confluence Fly Shop, 375 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/740470-0](http://go.evnt.com/740470-0) or 541-678-5633.
- Craig Romano, Bart Smith and William Sullivan: The hiking guidebook authors will discuss their book "Hiking Trails of the Pacific Northwest"; 6:30-8 p.m.; registration required; Paulina Springs Books, online; [go.evnt.com/740485-1](http://go.evnt.com/740485-1) or 541-549-0866.

#### Thursday 2/25

- Orangetheory Fitness Run Club: A guided 3- to 5-mile hike with body weight workouts mixed in will be held every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Free for members and nonmembers; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Orangetheory Fitness, 320 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/738084-0](http://go.evnt.com/738084-0) or 541-904-5123.
- Intermediate Fly Tying Class: Take your fly-tying knowledge further with this intermediate skilled class. All materials provided. Register at the fly shop; 6-8 p.m.; \$80; Confluence Fly Shop, 375 SW Powerhouse Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/740471-0](http://go.evnt.com/740471-0) or 541-678-5633.

#### Bureau of Land Management seasonal trail closures

The following Bureau of Land Management trails are now closed through Aug. 31 to protect nesting raptors:

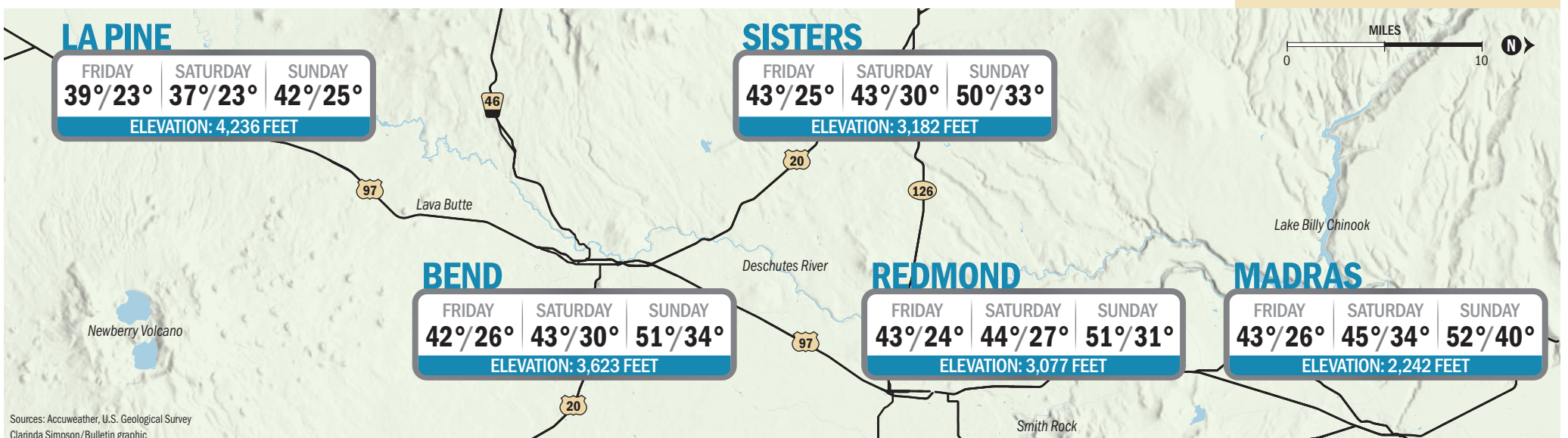
- Millican Plateau OHV Trail System (Route 95 only)
- South side of Trout Creek Trail including climbing walls
- Cline Buttes Recreation Area (portions of Deep Canyon, Fryrear, Maston, Jaguar Road)
- Horny Hollow Trail
- Dry River Canyon

For more information, visit [blm.gov](http://blm.gov)

#### Trail closures west of Bend

Beginning Jan. 28, the following trails are closed from 12:01 a.m. Mondays and 3 p.m. Fridays (except for federal holidays) due to timber harvesting and forest restoration work:

- Lower Whoops
- Pine Drops
- EXT
- Storm King from the junction with Forest Road 4615 and the junction with Phil's Trail
- Phil's Trail between the junction with EXT and it's western terminus at the junction with Pine Drops
- Upper Whoops
- Lower Whoops
- Skyliners



Sources: Accuweather, U.S. Geological Survey  
Clarinda Simpson/Bulletin graphic