



# CONDITIONS REPORT

## Areas in, around Bend and sno-parks



Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin file photo  
A pair of geese feed in a small area of open water as sheets of ice cover the Deschutes River near the Old Mill District following the frigid winter storm in February.

Central Oregon reservoir levels

See B10

We may have been teased this week with spring-like conditions, but this weekend, things start to cool down again to more seasonable temperatures.

This is a great time to check out trails and parks in and around Bend. Trips to some of the city's outdoor spots are great for days when the weather can change quickly or if you simply need a few minutes outside. Plus, if you get hungry, you're never too far from a food cart or local restaurant.

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

- Aspen Day Use: Open
- Benham East Trailhead: Open
- Benham West Trailhead: Open
- Bessie Butte Trail: Open
- Besson Day Use: Open
- Big Eddy Day Use: Open
- Boyd Cave Day Use Area: Open
- Dillon Day Use: Open
- Dutchman Trailhead: Open
- Edison Trailhead: Open
- Horse Butte Trailhead: Open; mostly snow-free and clear
- Meadow Picnic: Open
- Meissner Trailhead: Open
- Phil's Trailhead: Partially open; closed Mondays through 3 p.m. Fridays
- Rimrock Trailhead: Open
- Skyliners Trailhead: Partially open; closed Mondays through 3 p.m. Fridays
- Slough Day Use: Open
- Tumalo Falls Trailhead: Open; Tumalo Falls Road is closed at the gate, visitors must hike, walk or

- snowshoe in
- Tumalo Mountain: Open
- Wanoga Trailhead: Open

#### Bend Park & Recreation Trails

- Alpine Trail: Open
- Big Sky Park: Open
- Cascade Highlands Trail: Open
- Central Oregon Historic Canal Trail: Open
- Coyner Trail: Open
- Deschutes River Trail — Awbrey Reach: Open
- Deschutes River Trail — Old Mill Reach: Open
- Deschutes River Trail — Pioneer Reach: Open
- Deschutes River Trail — River Run Reach: Open
- Deschutes River Trail — South Canyon Reach: Open; one way trail, closed to bikes, keep dogs leashed
- Discovery Trail: Open
- Haul Road Trail: Open
- Larkspur Trail: Open
- Pine Nursery Park Trail: Open
- Riley Ranch Nature Reserve Trails: Open
- Rockridge Park Trail: Open
- Sawyer Park Trails: Open
- Shevlin Park Trails: Open
- Stone Creek Park Trail: Open
- West Bend Trail: Open

#### Bureau of Land Management

- Badlands Rock Trail: Open
- Flatiron Rock Trail: Open
- Huntington Wagon Road:

- Open
- Oregon Badlands Wilderness Tumulus Trail: Open

### OREGON STATE PARKS

- Pilot Butte State Scenic Viewpoint: Open for limited daytime use; summit road is closed for the winter; east parking lot open 8 a.m.-6 p.m., restrooms open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Tumalo State Park: Open; expect reduced services; group facilities are closed; reservations for yurts required

### SKI AREAS AND SNOW PARKS

- Updated 8 a.m. March 4
- Hoodoo: Open; 95.5-inch base; Hodag lift and Autobahn Tubing Park are closed
- Mt. Bachelor: Open; 112-inch base; First Rays lift is closed
- Willamette Pass: 75 inches at lodge; rentals and tickets must be reserved online in advance

#### Deschutes National Forest

- Crescent Lake Sno-park: Open; 10-12 inches; fair conditions with low snow
- Crescent Junction: Open; 10-12 inches; fair conditions with low snow
- Dutchman Sno-park: Open; 72-100 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; 42-60 inches; good conditions; area roads closed to highway vehicles through March 31, 2021
- Kapka Butte Sno-park: Open; 54-78 inches; good conditions; area roads closed to highway vehicles through March 31, 2021
- Meissner Sno-park: Open; 36-48 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; 54-78 inches; good conditions; no dogs; area roads closed through March 31, 2021
- Vista Butte Sno-park: Open; 54-78 inches; good conditions; area north of parking area closed to snowmobiles, use Kapka Butte or Wanoga
- Wanoga Snow Play: Open; 48-60 inches; good conditions; expect heavy use; pack out broken sleds and all trash; shelter is closed
- Wanoga Snowmobile: Open;

48-60 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; 24-48 inches; good conditions; road beyond park closed to vehicles for the season
- Three Creek Sno-park (Lower): Open; 12 inches; marginal conditions due to low snow
- Three Creek Sno-park (Upper): Open; 18-24 inches; good conditions; Forest Service Road 16 may not be plowed immediately after a storm
- Walt Haring Sno-park: 8-10 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; 70-75 inches; good conditions, expect heavy use
- Salt Creek Sno-park: Open
- Santiam Sno-park: Open
- Waldo Lake Sno-park: Open

### CYCLING

#### Fatbike and winter trails:

- Ben's-MTB-Kent's, Cline Buttes, Horse Butte Loop, Horse Ridge Area: Muddy
- Wanoga — 3 PSI, Wanoga — Outer Loop: Rideable snow
- Madras East Hills, Maston, The Radlands: Riding well

#### East of Bend trails

- Dry River Canyon: Closed through Aug. 31
- Crazyhorse, Crooked Arm, Holy Loop, Mad Max Drive: Riding Well
- All other trails reporting muddy conditions

#### Phil's Trail Complex

- Some trails are closed weekdays until 3 p.m. Friday, see note.
- C.O.D. Rockstaker, Slalom Play Loop, The Lair: Muddy
- Marvin's Garden, Voodoo: Rideable snow; deadfall reported
- Ben's, E.L.V. Kent's: Ice
- Phil's, Ticket to Ride (North and South), Voodoo Child: Rideable snow
- All other trails reporting a

#### 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

#### 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)

#### Wanoga Trail Complex

- Deschutes River: Riding well
- Funner: Winter mix
- Catch and Release: Rideable snow
- All other trails reporting deep snow

#### North of Skyliner trails

- Shevlin Park: Riding well
- All other trails reporting deep snow

#### Swampy Lakes trails

- Middle Flagline: Closed through Aug. 15
- Swampy Dutchman: Deep snow; deadfall reported
- Tumalo Creek: Rideable snow
- All other trails reporting deep snow

### FISHING

- Updated at 8 a.m. March 4
- Middle Deschutes (Benham Falls to Lake Billy Chinook): 3,960 cfs; brown trout, rainbow trout; water is higher and clarity is good with decent trout fishing; open year-round for trout, artificial flies and lures only; no limit on brown trout
- Upper Deschutes at Benham Falls: 490 cfs; section is closed for the season to anglers.
- Tumalo Creek: 0.49 cfs; rainbow trout

### 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/713722-0](http://go.evnt.com/713722-0) 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, \$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; [seventhmountainresort.com/ice-skating](http://seventhmountainresort.com/ice-skating) or 877-765-1501.
- Sunriver Village: Reservations required for all skaters. Open skating sessions run two hours long every 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; [sunriverice-skating.com](http://sunriverice-skating.com) or 541-593-5948.

#### Friday 3/5

- Mountainfilm on Tour: The program of outdoor adventure films will be available to watch from the comfort of your own home; streaming through March 8; \$20; online; [go.evnt.com/742459-2](http://go.evnt.com/742459-2) or 541-385-6908.

#### Saturday 3/6

- Spey Casting: An on-water spey casting workshop will be held. Bring your own rod or use a demo. Boots and waders suggested, coffee provided; 8-9:30 a.m.; Farewell Bend Park, 1000 SW Reed Market Road, Bend; [go.evnt.com/723261-0](http://go.evnt.com/723261-0) or 541-678-5633.
- CORK Saturday Long Run: A 5- to 8-mile group run will take place. Runners must maintain social distancing while running and masks must be worn inside any building. Limited to 25 participants; 9-11 a.m.; Thump Roastery, 549 NW York Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/746344-0](http://go.evnt.com/746344-0)

#### Sunday 3/7

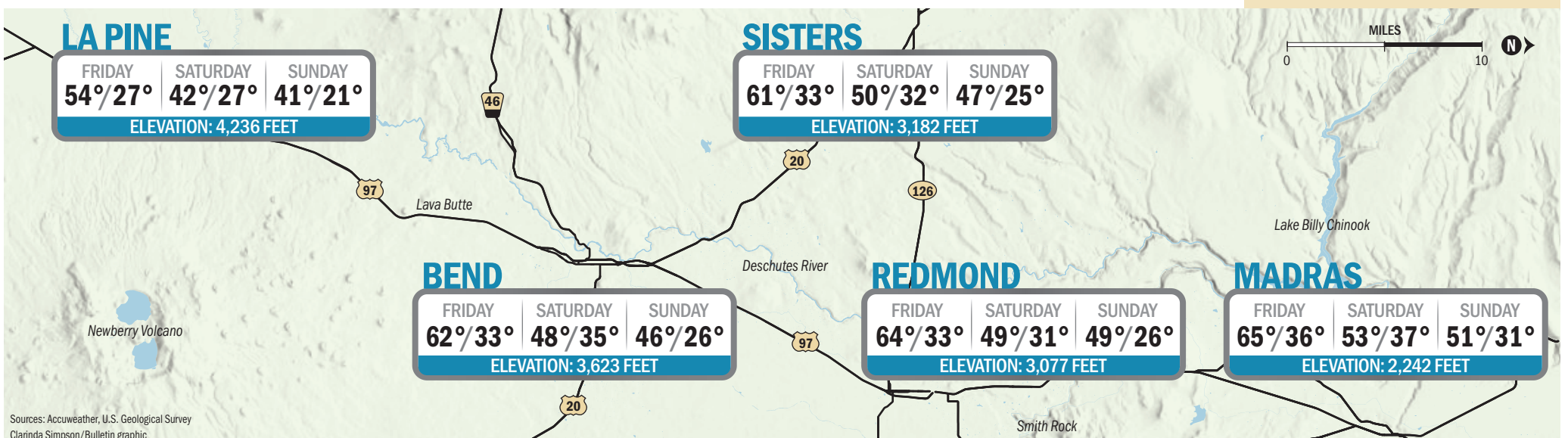
- Mastondon 10ish Mile Trail Run: The annual run through the Maston trail system will take place with runners starting the race every 15 seconds to ensure distance. Masks are required; 9 a.m.-noon; \$50; Maston Trail System, 20275 Newcomb Road, Bend; [go.evnt.com/745607-1](http://go.evnt.com/745607-1) or 541-359-4199.

#### Tuesday 3/9

- Know Wild — Wolves in the West: Learn about the wolf's natural history, biology, and society and its history of eradication up to today's current management programs; 6-7 p.m.; registration required; Deschutes Public Library, online; [go.evnt.com/745501-1](http://go.evnt.com/745501-1) or 541-312-1029.

#### Thursday 3/11

- CORK Thursday Run: The weekly 3- to 5-mile run will take place. Runners must maintain social distance on the route and wear masks when entering any indoor space. Limited to 25 participants; 6-8 p.m.; Crosscut - Warning Hut No.5 Tap House, 566 SW Mill View Way, Bend; [go.evnt.com/747359-0](http://go.evnt.com/747359-0)
- Know Wild — Wildflowers of Oregon: Take a wildflower journey across Oregon with author Damian Fagan; 6-7 p.m.; Deschutes Public Library, online; [go.evnt.com/745522-0](http://go.evnt.com/745522-0) or 541-312-1032.



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