

Mountain biking at Maston

BY MARK MORICAL • The Bulletin

ff Cline Falls Highway between Tumalo and Eagle Crest Resort, Maston offers some of the best late winter and early spring mountain biking in Central Oregon. The area is mostly flat, making the singletrack trails ideal for all skill levels. One trail skirts the edge of the Deschutes River canyon, offering nice views of the river far below. Two trailheads for Maston are accessible from Cline Falls Highway, including the south trailhead off Newcomb Road and the north trailhead, called Juniper.

Directions: From Tumalo, follow Cline Falls Highway north for 4.4 miles. Turn right on Newcomb Road. After about a half mile, turn left into the main Maston Trailhead.

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Randy Scagliotti, of Bend, rides his mountain bike on singletrack in the Maston area while his dog, Bella, tags along. Mark Morical/ Bulletin file photo



Mallard ducks and other waterfowl swim in Reynolds Pond.

It may seem odd to find a pond surrounded by willows and cattails among a forest of western juniper, basalt rock outcroppings and dusty trails, but this tiny oasis at the northern edge of the Oregon Badlands really does exist.

Reynolds Pond is a 12-acre pool that is teeming with life of both above and below the water's surface. This time of year you can find a variety of waterfowl swimming in its shallow water, and you can cast a line and hope to catch a sunfish, largemouth bass or brown bullhead. Built as a holding area for excess water from

the Central Oregon Irrigation Districts canals, it's now stocked regularly. A short, 3/4-mile dirt trail surrounds the lake, giving visitors a good stretch of the legs while the Badlands'Tumulus trail is also accessible from the area.

Getting there: From Bend, drive 14 miles east on Alfalfa Market Road and turn right on Walker Road. Continue down the road for about a mile and stay to the left when you reach the sharp right turn. Continue past the transfer sight along the dirt road toward Reynolds Pond.

- Makenzie Whittle, The Bulletin

