



CONDITIONS REPORT

Areas east of Bend and regional sno-parks

Go east this weekend for spring-like weather and plenty of room to socially distance on most trails and fishing spots.

With temperatures more seasonable, bugs are beginning to hatch meaning the fish are more likely to bite in the warmer parts of the day along open sections of Central Oregon rivers and lakes.

Fire crews have also been out performing prescribed burns near Pine Mountain and Crescent this week, so check centraloregonfire.org before you venture out to those areas.

For a full list of conditions updated regularly, please visit centraloregonexplore.com.



Central Oregon reservoir levels
See B10

Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin file photos
An angler wets his line along a section of the Crooked River in 2018.

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 snow levels. 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; prescribed burns in the area through Friday

Ochoco National Forest

- **Baneberry Trailhead:** Open
- **Barnhouse Trailhead:** Open
- **Black Canyon Fork (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
- **Hammer Creek Trailhead:** 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

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

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. April 1*
- **Hoodoo:** Open; 96.9-inch base; Hodag lift and Autobahn Tubing Park are closed
- **Mt. Bachelor:** Open; 107-inch base; First Rays lift is closed, Red Chair and Outback are closed for the season but will be used as backup if needed
- **Willamette Pass:** 45 inches at lodge; open weekends only

Deschutes National Forest

- **Crescent Lake Sno-park:** Open; 2-8 inches; poor conditions with low snow
- **Crescent Junction:** Open; 2-8 inches; poor conditions with low snow
- **Dutchman Sno-park:** Open; 60-90 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; 12-36 inches; marginal conditions
- **Kapka Butte Sno-park:** Open; 36-60 inches; fair conditions
- **Meissner Sno-park:** Open; 8-30 inches; marginal conditions; no more grooming this season; lodge currently closed
- **Skyliner Sno-park:** Open; unknown snow depth, access road closed for the season, road is now a ski/snowshoe trail

Fire restrictions

Fire danger is currently listed as Moderate in the Deschutes National Forest. Fire danger is listed as Low in the Ochoco and Willamette National Forests.

Industrial Fire Precaution Level is currently at Level 1 for the Deschutes and Ochoco national forests and the Prineville District — Bureau of Land Management.

- **Swampy Sno-park:** Open; 30-48 inches; fair conditions; no dogs
- **Vista Butte Sno-park:** Open; 36-54 inches; fair conditions; area north of parking area closed to snowmobiles, use Kapka Butte or Wanoga
- **Wanoga Snow Play:** Open; 20-36 inches; marginal conditions; expect heavy use; pack out broken sleds and all trash; shelter is closed
- **Wanoga Snowmobile:** Open; 20-36 inches; marginal conditions; shelter is closed
- **Newberry (Six Mile Sno-park):** Open; 0-6 inches; poor conditions due to low snow
- **Newberry (10 Mile Sno-park):** Open; 9-24 inches; fair conditions, low snow around sno-park; road beyond park closed to vehicles for the season
- **Three Creek Sno-park (Lower):** Open; 0-6 inches; poor conditions due to low snow
- **Three Creek Sno-park (Upper):** Open; 0-14 inches; marginal conditions; bare pavement on Trail 8 above park, not recommended
- **Walt Haring Sno-park:** Open; 0-4 inches; poor conditions with low snow

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; 54-66 inches; fair conditions, expect heavy use
- **Salt Creek Sno-park:** Open
- **Santiam Sno-park:** Open
- **Waldo Lake Sno-park:** Open

CAMPING

Deschutes National Forest

- **Pine Mountain Campground:** Open; no campfires

Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland

- **Allen Creek Horse Camp:** Open
- **Big Spring Campground:** Open
- **Biggs Springs Campground:** Open
- **Bingham Springs Campground:** Open
- **Cottonwood Campground:** Open
- **Cottonwood Pit Campground:** Open
- **Cyrus Horse Camp:** Open
- **Elkhorn Campground:** Open
- **Frazier Campground:** Open
- **Mud Springs Horse Camp:** Open; no campfires
- **Salters Cabin Horse Camp:** Open
- **Scotts Campground:** Open
- **Whistler Campground:** Open; no campfires
- **White Rock Campground:** Open; no campfires
- **Wolf Creek Campground:** Open
- **Wolf Creek Industrial Campground:** Open

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

Fatbike and winter trails

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

East of Bend trails

- **Dry River Canyon:** Closed through Aug. 31
- **Coyote Loop, Swamp Wells:** Muddy
- **All other trails riding well**

Prineville and Ochoco trails

- **66 Trails:** Muddy
- **Cougar Creek, Independent Mine, Lookout Mountain, Round Mountain, Scotty Creek:** Deep snow; deadfall reported
- **Prineville Bike Park:** Riding Well

FISHING

Updated at 8 a.m. April 1

- **Crooked River (below Opal Springs):** 1,248 cfs; rainbow trout and mountain whitefish; only fish downstream of Bowman Dam to Lake Billy Chinook; fishing has been good but water remains low; any trout over 20 inches are considered steelhead and must be released, bull trout must be released unharmed and reported to the USFW at crookedbulltrout@fws.gov
- **Prineville Reservoir:** 51% full; rainbow trout, small and largemouth bass, catfish, crappie, crayfish; trout fishing has been fair, good for warm weather species
- **Ochoco Reservoir:** 23% 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; wanderlusttours.com 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; wanderlusttours.com 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; wanderlusttours.com 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; wanderlusttours.com 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; wanderlusttours.com or 541-389-8359.
- **Brews & Views Kayak Tour:** A naturalist-guided tour paddling on a calm section of the Deschutes River with a local microbrew or root beer to enjoy afterwards; 1:30-5:30 p.m.; \$65 to \$95; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; wanderlusttours.com or 541-389-8359.
- **Deschutes River Kayak Tour:** Paddle along a tranquil stretch of the river guided by a naturalist; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1:30-5:30 p.m.; \$70 to \$95; Wanderlust Tours, 61535 S. Highway 97, Bend; wanderlusttours.com or 541-389-8359.
- **Sunriver Village Ice Skating:** 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.-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.com or 541-593-5948.

Saturday 4/3

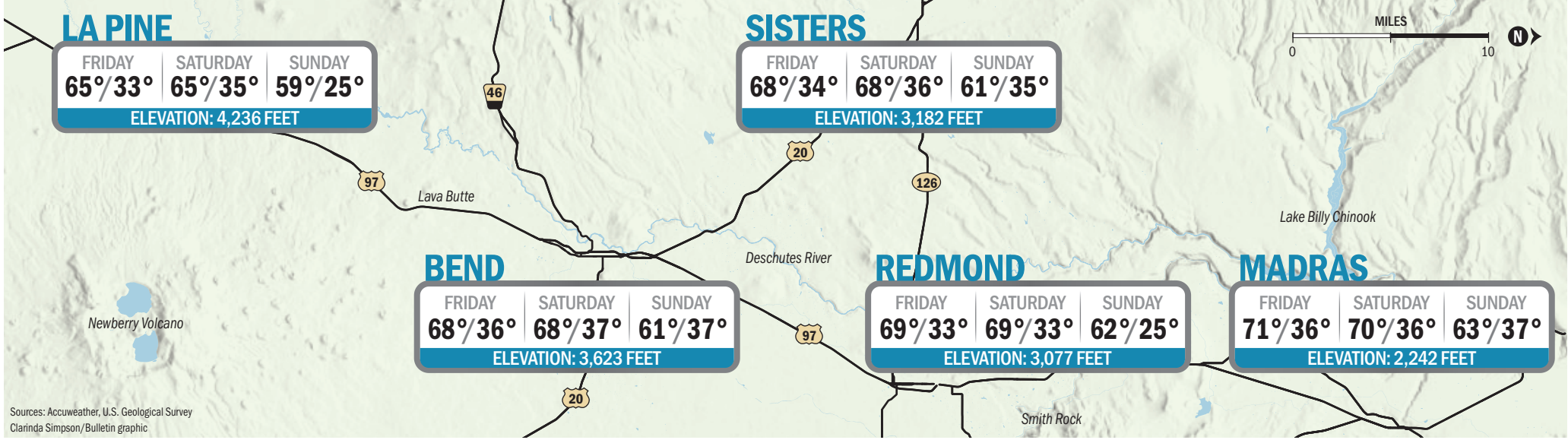
- **Horse Butte 10 Miller:** The annual 10-mile race at the butte east of Bend will take place with a special category for those who dress in western-inspired attire or denim; 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; \$50; Horse Butte Trailhead, Bend; go.evnt.com/759671-1 or 541-359-4199.
- **CORK Saturday Long Run:** A group 5- to 8-mile run will take place, limited to 25 participants to ensure social distancing; 9-11 a.m.; Thump Roastery, 549 NW York Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/756128-0
- **MountainStar's Bunny Bun Run:** Bust out your best bunny costumes and join MountainStar and friends for a virtual family fun run. All proceeds benefit MountainStar Madras child abuse prevention mission; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. April 4; \$20; online; go.evnt.com/753704-1 or 541-410-4032.

Monday 4/5

- **Virtual Natural History Pub — Still Waters Run Deep, What Mountain Lakes Reveal:** The sediment at the bottom of mountain lakes can hold clues about life thousands of years ago; 6-7 p.m.; registration required; online; go.evnt.com/739155-1
- **Joshua Tree National Park Ranger Talk:** Learn about this unique desert ecosystem with National Park Service Rangers; 6:30-7:30 p.m.; registration required; online; go.evnt.com/758665-1 or 541-312-1029.

Tuesday 4/6

- **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 Warming Hut No. 5 Tap House, 566 SW Mill View Way, Bend; go.evnt.com/759635-0



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