



# CONDITIONS REPORT

## Areas in, around Bend plus sno-parks

Get ready for a warm weekend and head out to some of Bend's parks, trails and waterways for fun in the sun!

Many trails at higher elevations are seeing muddier conditions due to melting snow, so stay in town and enjoy the Central Oregon outdoors right outside your door.

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

### HIKING AND DAY USE SITES

#### Deschutes National Forest

- **Aspen Day Use:** Open
- **Benham East Trailhead:** Open
- **Benham West Trailhead:** Open
- **Bessie Butte Trail:** Open
- **Big Eddy Day Use:** Open
- **Dillon Day Use:** Open
- **Dutchman Trailhead:** Open
- **Edison Trailhead:** Open
- **Horse Butte Trailhead:** Open; mostly snow free and clear
- **Lava Island Day Use:** Open
- **Meadow Picnic:** Open
- **Phil's Trailhead:** Partially open; closed Mondays through 3 p.m. Fridays
- **Rimrock Trailhead:** Open
- **Skyliners Trailhead:** Open
- **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

#### 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

#### 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)

- **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

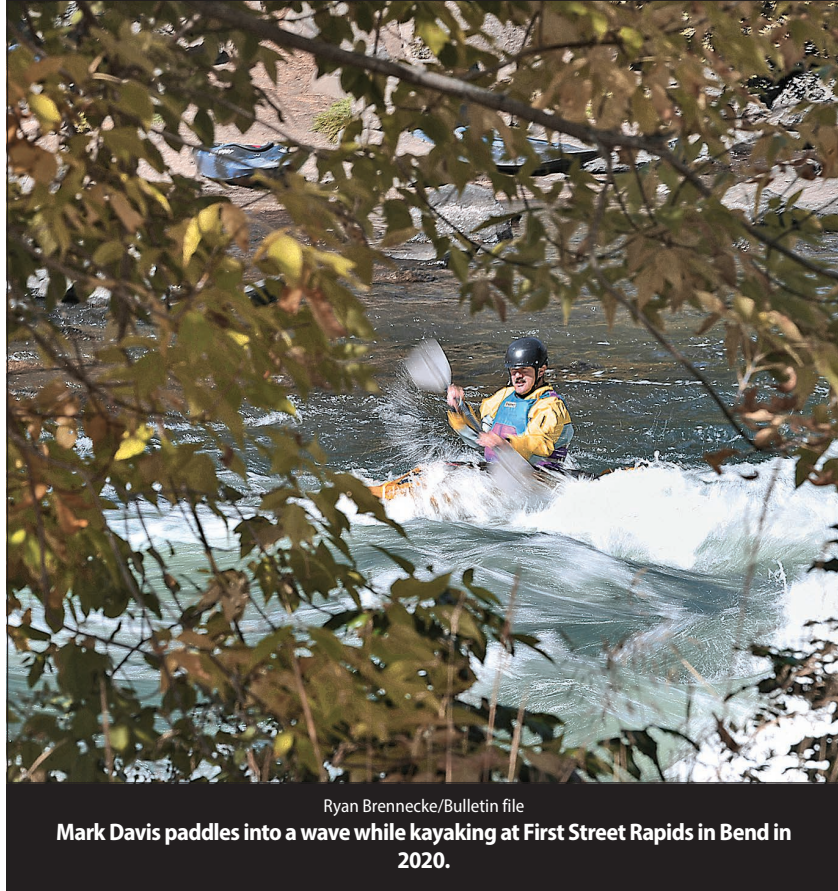
- **Pilot Butte State Scenic Viewpoint:** Open for limited daytime use; summit road open; east parking lot open 8 a.m.-6 p.m., restrooms open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
- **Tumalo State Park:** Open; expect reduced services; group facilities are closed; reservations for yurts required

### SKI AREAS AND SNOW PARKS

- *Updated 8 a.m. April 15*
- **Hoodoo:** Open; 86 inch base; Autobahn Tubing Park are closed; closed Monday through Wednesday; last day of season is Sunday, April 18
- **Mt. Bachelor:** Open; 88 inch base; First Rays and Red Chair are closed; Northwest is closed, Outback is being used as a backup
- **Willamette Pass:** closed for the season

#### Deschutes National Forest

- *Exact snow levels are no longer available*
- **Crescent Lake Sno-park:** Open; poor conditions with low snow, not recommended
- **Crescent Junction:** Open; poor conditions with low snow, not recommended
- **Dutchman Sno-park:** Open; 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; marginal conditions
- **Kapka Butte Sno-park:** Open; marginal conditions
- **Meissner Sno-park:** Open;



Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin file  
Mark Davis paddles into a wave while kayaking at First Street Rapids in Bend in 2020.

#### 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, French Tent Rock, First Kiss Area north of Monkey Face and Smith Rock Group NE Face (both towers, above 100 feet).  
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/seasonal-closures](http://smithrock.com/seasonal-closures) for more information.

#### Trail closures west of Bend

Beginning Jan. 28, the following trails are closed from Mondays to 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 its western terminus at the junction with Pine Drops
- Upper Whoops
- Lower Whoops
- Skyliners

marginal conditions; no more grooming this season; lodge currently closed

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

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

### CYCLING

#### East of Bend trails

- **Dry River Canyon:** Closed through Aug. 31
- **Crooked Arm, Holy Loop, Sand Canyon:** Sandy and loose

#### All other trails riding well

#### Phil's Trail Complex

- **Some trails are closed weekdays until 3 p.m. Friday, see note.**
- **Skiyler:** Winter mix
- **Upper Storm King, Upper Whoops:** Deep snow
- **All other trails riding well**

#### Wanoga Trail Complex

- **Deschutes River:** Winter mix, deadfall reported
- **Funner, Lower Storm King:** Winter mix
- **Catch and Release:** Riding well
- **All other trails reporting deep snow**

#### North of Skyliner trails

- **Lower Mrazek, 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. April 1*
- **Middle Deschutes (Benham Falls to Lake Billy Chinook):** 3,960 cfs; brown trout, rainbow trout; water is high but clarity is good, hatches coming out on warmest part of the day; open year-round for trout, artificial flies and lures only; no limit on brown trout; fishing has been fair for browns and rainbows on rapals and spinners
- **Upper Deschutes at Benham Falls:** 776 cfs; section is closed for the season to anglers until May 22.
- **Tumalo Creek:** 0.72 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; [wanderlusttours.com](http://wanderlusttours.com) or 541-389-8359.
- **Daily Snowshoe Tours:** A naturalist-guided tour through areas around Mount 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://wanderlusttours.com) or 541-389-8359

#### Ongoing

- **Big Butte Challenge:** Hikers and runners will summit five buttes in Central Oregon, going at their own pace whenever their schedule allows using a GPS-enabled activity tracker to submit efforts before the deadline; through May 31; \$60; throughout Central Oregon; [go.evnt.com/752281-1](http://go.evnt.com/752281-1) or 541-350-4635.

#### Friday 4/16

- **LandWatch Legislative Update:** It's time for a legislative update with Central Oregon LandWatch on policies affecting our lands, water, wildlife, and urban communities; noon-1 p.m.; registration required; online; [go.evnt.com/754954-2](http://go.evnt.com/754954-2)
- **Happy Hour Trail Ride 'n Skills:** The weekly clinic will work on specific skills needed for different biking trails including jumps and corners, technical climbs and descents and more; 4-6 p.m.; \$75; new trail each week, around Bend; [go.evnt.com/766487-1](http://go.evnt.com/766487-1) or 541-728-7878.

#### Saturday 4/17

- **Bird Walk at Sunriver Nature Center:** Take a walk with local expert birder Tom Lawler and discover the rich bird habitats in Sunriver; 9 a.m.-noon; Sunriver Nature Center & Observatory, 57245 River Road, Sunriver; [go.evnt.com/766833-0](http://go.evnt.com/766833-0)
- **Big Wave Challenge:** Skiers and snowboarders can ride the special "wave" course on Midway Run with no formal judged event this year. Fundraiser for Pat Malendoski will be held with an auction and Aloha Bags for sale; through May 25; Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, 13000 SW. Century Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/766427-0](http://go.evnt.com/766427-0) or 541-382-1709.
- **CORK Saturday Long Run:** A group 5-8 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/763810-0](http://go.evnt.com/763810-0)
- **Cornering and Switchbacks Clinic:** The clinic will work on dialing in body position on the bike and understanding how to handle different types of corners; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; \$75; Seventh Mountain Resort, 18575 SW Century Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/766494-1](http://go.evnt.com/766494-1) or 541-728-7878.
- **Beginner/Intermediate Skills Bike Clinic:** The clinic will work on bike set up and body position then skills in the afternoon including braking, shifting cornering, switchbacks, wheel lifts and more; 1:30-3:30 p.m.; \$75; Seventh Mountain Resort, 18575 SW Century Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/766490-1](http://go.evnt.com/766490-1) or 541-728-7878.
- **Cascade Bull Bash:** The bull riding event will benefit a local family who lost their father; 5:30-10:30 p.m.; \$20; Crook County Fairgrounds, 1280 Main St., Prineville; [go.evnt.com/766545-1](http://go.evnt.com/766545-1) or 541-405-8577.

#### Sunday 4/18

- **Bend Marathon:** The annual marathon, half marathon, 10K and 5K will be completely virtual this year with participants running the full distance between now and May 25 on their own time and on their own course; through May 25; \$55; online; [go.evnt.com/766403-1](http://go.evnt.com/766403-1)

#### Tuesday 4/20

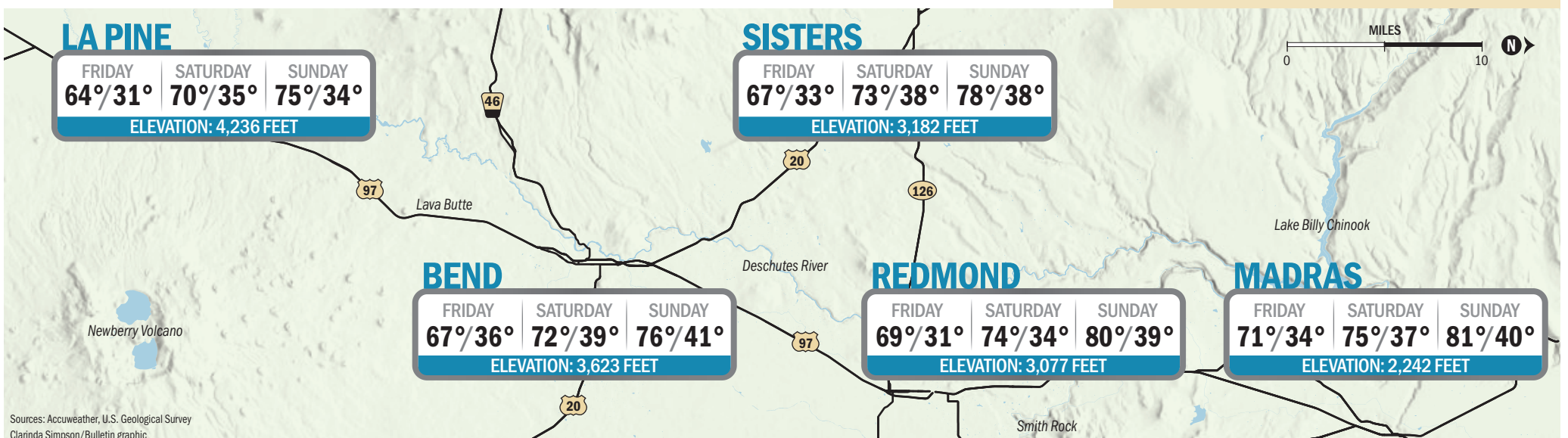
- **Big Falls Ridge Hike:** The guided, moderate, 4-mile hike will include the chance to practice navigation skills on the trail-less terrain; 8 a.m.-noon; registration required; Big Falls Ridge, Lower Bridge Way, Terrebonne; [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)
- **High Desert Speaker Series — Stories from the Sagebrush Sea:** Join Oregon Natural Desert Association and Ed Jahn, Executive Producer of "Oregon Field Guide" for a behind-the-scenes tour of the captivating high desert stories Ed's crew has captured over the years; 5:30-7 p.m.; registration required; online; [go.evnt.com/757385-1](http://go.evnt.com/757385-1)

#### Wednesday 4/21

- **Women's Foundational Skills Bike Clinic:** Women new to mountain biking can learn fundamental skills to feel more confident setting up the bike, shifting, braking and navigating small trail obstacles; 5:30-7:30 p.m.; \$75; Seventh Mountain Resort, 18575 SW. Century Drive, Bend; [go.evnt.com/766484-1](http://go.evnt.com/766484-1) or 541-728-7878.

#### Thursday 4/22

- **Earth Day Cleanup on Rim of Wild & Scenic Middle Deschutes River:** Celebrate Earth Day with Friends and Neighbors of the Deschutes Canyon Area as we clean up the rim of Wild & Scenic Middle Deschutes River; 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; registration required; Rim of Wild & Scenic Middle Deschutes River, Milepost 5, Lower Bridge Road, Terrebonne; [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)
- **The (Mostly) Normal COWs Kickoff:** Join us for a Zoom Webinar to learn about the Central Oregon Wheelers recreational bike club.; 6-7 p.m.; registration required; online; [go.evnt.com/761776-1](http://go.evnt.com/761776-1) or 541-633-0422.



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