



CONDITIONS REPORT

Hiking, camping, fishing north of Bend

The snow is continuing to melt across the region, meaning that more and more trails are becoming accessible. Be cautious though as many summer trails may have deadfall left over from winter storms, washout or other hazardous conditions.

For areas north of Bend, you have a choice of heading to the forest or to the high desert, both will make great destinations this weekend as the weather looks to be mild and relatively clear. But then again, this is Central Oregon, and that could change at any minute.

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

HIKING AND DAY USE SITES

Deschutes National Forest

- Canyon Creek Trailhead: Open
- Chush Falls: Open
- Head of the Metolius: Open
- Lake Creek Trail: Open
- Sisters Cow Camp: Open
- Suttle Lake Day Use: Open
- Tam McArthur Rim Trailhead: Open
- Whychus Creek Overlook Trailhead: Open
- Whychus Portal (Lower Whychus Trailhead): Open

Ochoco National Forest

- Alder Springs Trailhead: Open; access road open
- 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
- Cyrus Trailhead: Open
- Fry Trailhead: Open
- Gray Butte Trailhead: Open
- Green Mountain North Trailhead: Open
- Henderson Flat OHV Trail System: Closed
- Henderson Flat Staging Area: Closed
- 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
- Rimrock Springs Trailhead: Open
- Rock Creek Trailhead: Open
- Round Mountain North Trailhead: Open
- Round Mountain South Trailhead: Open
- Scales Corral Trailhead: Open
- Scotty Creek Trailhead: Open
- Skull Hollow Trailhead: Open
- South Prong Trailhead: Open
- Steins Pillar Trailhead: Open
- Tam-A-Lau Trailhead: Open
- Trail Crossing Corals Trailhead: Open
- Twin Pillars North Trailhead: Open

- Twin Pillars South Trailhead: Open
- Wildcat North Trailhead: Open
- Wildcat South Trailhead: Open

Willamette National Forest — Three Sisters Wilderness Area

- McKenzie River Trail: Partially open
- Tamolitch Blue Pool: Open

Bureau of Land Management

- Cline Buttes Recreation Area: Portions of Deep Canyon, Fryrear, Maston and Jaguar Road are closed through Aug. 31
- Huntington Wagon Road: Open
- Redmond Caves Recreation Site: Open
- Scout Camp Trail: Open
- Steelhead Falls Trail: Open
- Trout Creek Trail: South side of trail, including Trout Creek climbing walls is closed through Aug. 31

OREGON STATE PARKS

- Cline Falls State Scenic Viewpoint: Open; expect reduced services; restrooms are closed, portable toilet is on site; maintain social distancing and wear a mask
- Cove Palisades State Park: Open for day-use and lake access; Crooked River Campground (E Loop) is open, Deschutes Campground and moorage slips will open May 14.
- Peter Skene Ogden State Scenic Viewpoint: Open
- Smith Rock State Park: Open — limited services; no camping; climbing closures to protect nesting raptors in place until

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



Central Oregon reservoir levels
See B9

Makenzie Whittle/Bulletin file photos
A view of Steelhead Falls near Crooked River Ranch. The Deschutes River cuts through the canyon, creating the 20-foot waterfall.

Fire restrictions

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

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

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 for more information.

- August; park-wide drone ban is in effect.
- Tumalo State Park: Open; expect reduced services

CAMPING

Deschutes National Forest

- Allen Springs Campground: Open
- Camp Sherman Campground: Open
- Lower Bridge Campground: Open
- Pine Rest Campground: Open
- Sisters Cow Camp Horse Camp: Open

Ochoco National Forest

- Allen Creek Horse Camp: Open
- Barnhouse Campground: Closed for the season
- 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: Campground: Open
- Frazier Campground: Open
- Haystack Reservoir Campground and Day Use Area: Open
- Haystack Reservoir Group Site: Open
- Haystack West Shore Campground and Day Use Area: Open
- Mud Springs Horse Camp: Open; no campfires
- Ochoco Divide Group Site: Open
- Salters Cabin Horse Camp: Open
- Scotts Campground: Open
- Skull Hollow Campground: Open
- Whistler Campground: Open; no campfires
- White Rock Campground: Open; no campfires
- Wildwood Campground: Open
- Wiley Flat Campground: Open

- Wolf Creek Campground: Open
- Wolf Creek Industrial Campground: Open

BLM — Prineville District

- Barr Road North Staging Area: Open
- Buckhorn Staging Area: Open
- Macks Canyon Recreation Site: Open
- Steelhead Falls: Open; no potable water

CYCLING

Prineville and Ochoco trails

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

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 it's western terminus at the junction with Pine Drops
- Upper Whoops
- Lower Whoops
- Skyliners

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 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 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

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 or 541-350-4635.

Friday 5/7

- **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/767662-2 or 541-728-7878.

Saturday 5/8

- **Borden Beck Wildlife Preserve Hike:** A Saturday morning birding adventure along the Middle Deschutes River at Borden Beck Wildlife Preserve; 8-11 a.m.; registration required; Borden Beck Wildlife Preserve, Lower Bridge Way at Lower Bridge, Terrebonne; eventbrite.com
- **Mama + Baby Birds:** Mary Yanalcanlin of the East Cascades Audubon Society will lead a bird walk for kids and their grown-up exploring the world of mama and baby birds. Outing subject to be canceled due to COVID condition; 9-11 a.m.; registration required; Camp Polk Meadow Preserve, Cemetery Road, Sisters; go.evnt.com/777632-1 or 541-330-0017.
- **CORK Saturday Long Run:** A weekly group run for all paces. Social distancing observed at all times. Limited to 25 runners; 9-11 a.m.; Thump Roastery, 549 NW York Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/774934-0
- **Jumping Clinic:** The clinic will work on the proper understanding of how to take off, stay balanced in air and land the bike safely; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; \$75; Seventh Mountain Resort, 18575 SW Century Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/766508-2 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/767666-2 or 541-728-7878.

Sunday 5/9

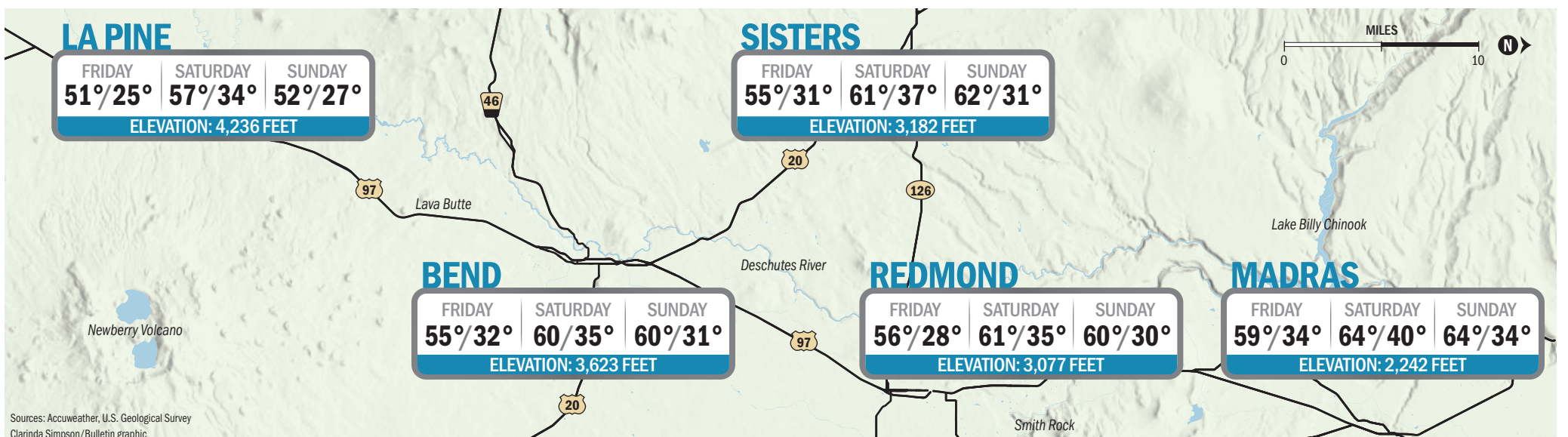
- **Skills and Ride Clinic:** The clinic will start with basic dialing in the bikes and working on body position before progressing through several more skills and then hopping on a nearby trail to test out the newly learned skill; 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; \$99; Seventh Mountain Resort, 18575 SW Century Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/767667-2 or 541-728-7878.

Wednesday 5/12

- **CLBC Bend Brewpub Run:** A 3-5 mile group run will start and end at the brewpub, each runner will receive a half-off voucher for a pint; 5:45-8 p.m.; Cascade Lakes Brewpub, 1441 SW Chandler Ave., Bend; go.evnt.com/773527-0 or 541-388-4998.

Thursday 5/13

- **CORK Thursday Run:** A 3-5 mile weekly run along the river trail will take place. Social distancing must be observed at all times. Limited to 25 runners; 6-8 p.m.; Zpizza Tap Room, 1082 SW Yates Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/774931-0
- **Writers Writing — Introduction to Nature Journals:** This is a virtual, interactive workshop. Registered participants will receive a Zoom link the day before. Explore new techniques and opportunities for incorporating the natural world into journals; 6:30-8 p.m.; registration required; online; go.evnt.com/773457-1 or 541-312-1063.



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