

The Bulletin • B SECTION • FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2021



**THE REGION'S HUB FOR OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

Each week in this section, you will find the area's most complete guide of what's open and closed; outdoor activities and events; top picks of places to explore; conditions of hiking and biking trails, fishing holes, water flows, camping spots, parks and more — as well as features from outdoor writers and field experts.



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If you're looking for a variety of adventure in Central Oregon, East Lake and the surrounding Newberry Rim offer plenty.  
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LEFT: Hikers enjoy the view from atop Paulina Peak on Sunday.



# East Lake is a one-stop shop for adventures

BY MARK MORICAL • The Bulletin

**I**t was not the best timing. I secured a campsite reservation at East Lake's Cinder Hill Campground last week, and then two days later the campfire ban in Oregon east of Interstate 5 went into effect.

Located at 6,400 feet in the Newberry National Volcanic Monument southeast of Bend, East Lake can get bitterly cold at night,

even in the middle of summer. But I checked the forecast, and the low temperatures would remain in the 50s this past weekend at East Lake, so we would be just fine for tent camping as long we brought warm clothes.

My 13-year-old son Mason and I arrived at our campsite on the lake and noted the small red flag in the fire ring that read “No fires!”

See **East Lake** / B9



ABOVE: Bend's Mason Morical, 13, hikes along the summit of Paulina Peak on Sunday. BELOW: A campsite at Cinder Hill Campground at East Lake. The small red flag in the fire ring reads “No fires!” Mark Morical/Bulletin photos



## A hike up Overturf Butte affords a view of Bend life

BY DAVID JASPER  
The Bulletin

Earlier this month, on a hot July Saturday morning, my daughter, Lilly, and I parked at Overturf Park, located off 17th Street just south of Galveston Avenue, walked purposefully past a toddler enjoying the playground, the child's presumed parents enjoying a spot of shade, mom plucking a soothing tune on acoustic

guitar.

Lilly and I were on our way to the Cascade Highlands Trail, which starts at the back of the park.

It leads to Overturf Butte Trail and the top of Overturf Butte, where we got a glimpse of our old life in this west-side neighborhood, which we moved from when we bought a home on the east side 16 years ago.

**Pre-development views**

Back when we lived here, the houses that cover the west face of the butte — the ones seen above when driving on Mt. Washington Drive between Simpson Avenue and

Skyliners Road — were mostly a gleam in developers' eyes. A longtime local once told me how, before the building started, he used to hear the nighttime yipping of coyotes from the butte.

Fortunately, the city of Bend's Overturf Butte Reservoir is located up top, and only so much development has occurred here.

When we reached the paved service road, we hung a left and continued up until we reached the Overturf Butte Trail, which has sections on either side of the water towers. Lilly stopped to use a DIY swing dangling from a juniper branch. Other

signs of use include a wooden bench, a little box for sharing wishes and tchotchke affixed to another tree and a smattering of graffiti here and there.

Once we reached the rocky peak (elevation: 3,904 feet), we stood on the concrete slabs that once served as the foundation of a fire lookout here and gawked at the world below.

See **Overturf** / B10

**OUTDOOR PICK OF THE WEEK**