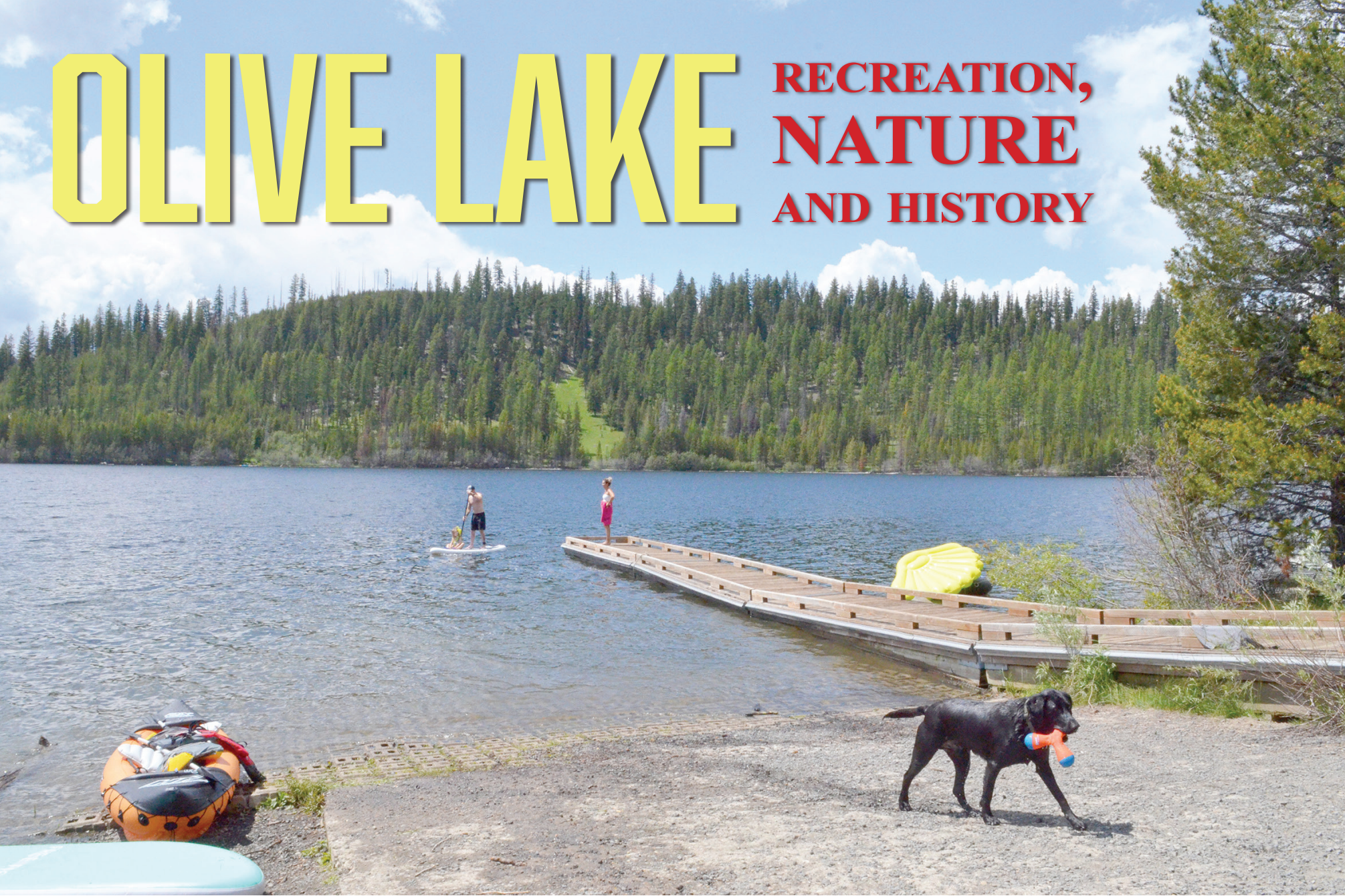




Olive Lake's 160 acres of deep water offer a wide range of boating and fishing opportunities.

Eagle photos/Richard Hanners

160 ACRES, 100 FEET DEEP AT 6,200 FEET IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

By Richard Hanners
Blue Mountain Eagle

Olive Lake is unique in offering visitors a trifecta of recreation, nature watching and history all in one package.

The 160-acre, 100-foot deep lake sits at 6,200 feet elevation in the Blue Mountains about 12 miles west of the historic mining town of Granite. Legend says the lake was named for the wife of a miner or dam caretaker. Remnants of a cabin can be found in the Forest Service campground.

The campground features 28 campsites and seven accessible toilet facilities. A 2.5-mile trail circles



Olive Lake features 28 campsites, and many were well stocked with firewood after a hazard tree mitigation project ended.

the lake, providing access to wilderness and scenic trails, a boat ramp and two docks. No potable water or garbage service is available.

Visitors to Olive Lake will find fishing, boating, swimming, hiking, hunting and photography opportunities. Gas and electric trolling boat motors are allowed but no wakes, water skiing or personal watercraft.

Nesting osprey, swimming otters and abundant

wildflowers can be seen at the lake. Anglers will find redband rainbow and brook trout up to 15 inches, the occasional Lahontan cutthroat trout and kokanee salmon up to 12 inches.

The log crib and rock dam was originally built in 1908 to increase water stor-

age for the Fremont Powerhouse about 8 miles away. A redwood pipe at the base of the dam once brought water to the powerhouse.

The Forest Service is working on plans to fix a discharge gate in the man-made dam that stopped working properly in 2016. Half an acre around the 30-foot dam is closed to hikers and a string of buoys mark a 200-foot portion of the lake that is closed to swimmers and boaters.

The Olive Lake Campground is available on a first-come, first-served basis with fees at \$12 per night for single campsites, with \$5 per additional vehicle, and \$25 per night for group campsites.

From John Day, drive east on Highway 26 to Austin Junction, follow State Route 7 for 25 miles, turn left on State Route 410, drive about 20 miles to Granite, turn left on County Road 24, after 3.6 miles bear right on Forest Service Road 10 and drive 7.5 miles to the lake.

For more information, call the North Fork John Day Ranger Station at 541-427-3231 or visit fs.usda.gov/umatilla.

Complete Auto Body & Paint
Windshield Repair

Welcomes you to Grant County

Owner
Jeb Bowling

700 S. Canyon Blvd. • John Day 541-575-1786 or 541-575-1785

128887

a unique boutique
featuring local artisans
from Grant County

etc

133 W. Main
John Day, OR
(541) 620-2638

facebook: [etc.auniqueboutique](https://www.facebook.com/etc.auniqueboutique)
email: etc.handmade@yahoo.com

128466

You're Invited!

AIRPLANE
RIDES

Grant County
Regional Airport

FLY-IN

COME JOIN
THE FUN
AND SOAR WITH US!
Breathtaking views
Exciting rides
Catered breakfast

Saturday,
September 14th,
7am - 11:30am

FREE RIDES
for children 1st
to 12th grade
only

Grant County
Regional Airport
John Day, Oregon
541-575-1151

Airplane Rides Provided by
Grant County Air Search

127790

FRONTIER EQUIPMENT REPAIR

24hr SERVICE

ADOES OUTVTS

AUTO REPAIR & 24 HOUR TOWING
541-932-4777 • 250 E Main St. • Mt. Vernon

Located
downtown,
steps away
from
restaurants,
shops &
antiques.

• Charming Affordable Rooms • Free Secure Wi-Fi • Cable TV
• A/C • Beer and Wine Bar • Tesla and Universal Charging Stations

HOTEL PRAIRIE

112 Front St., Prairie City ☎ 541-820-4800
www.hotelprairie.com ☎ hotelprairie@ortelco.net

130425



A dam built in 1908 raised the level of Olive Lake to increase water storage for the Fremont Power Station.



Kayaking, paddleboarding and canoeing are popular pasttimes on Olive Lake.