

JOURNEY

THROUGH GRANT COUNTY AND BEYOND
JULY 2022



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle

The relatively easy hike to Strawberry Lake offers a spectacular introduction to the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness.

CROWD PLEASER

Strawberry Lake showcases the best of the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness

By STEVEN MITCHELL
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY — For those strapped for time, a quick hike to Strawberry Lake is a great way to take in the snow-capped peaks, alpine lakes and waterfalls that highlight the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness.

The mountain and nearby Strawberry Creek were named by homesteader Nathan Willis Fisk "because there were abundant wild strawberries."

The mountain was initially named "Strawberry Butte," but everyday use changed it to Strawberry Mountain, which now appears on official maps.

In 1984, the Oregon Wilderness Act more than doubled the original area of the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness to its current total of 68,700 acres, according to the U.S. Forest Service

Strawberry Lake formed during the ice age, when massive landslides dammed the gorge. A thousand years ago a glacier filled the valley from both sides until the ice melted and the unsupported cliffs on both sides collapsed.



Bennett Hall/Blue Mountain Eagle

A bridge crosses a small creek at the head of Strawberry Lake.

GETTING THERE

To reach the Strawberry Basin Trail, take Highway 26 to Prairie City. Turn south onto South Main Street, crossing the John Day River and passing the Sumpter Valley Railway Depot and Dewitt Museum on the left.

Turn left on Southwest Bridge Street, and, after a short distance, turn right on South Bridge Street at a sign for Strawberry Campground, 11 miles away. Continue south on County Road 60, which turns to gravel after a few miles. The road is well-maintained for all but the last mile or so, when it becomes steeper and rougher. The road ends at Strawberry Camp, the trailhead for Strawberry Basin Trail. There is no parking fee, and no permits are required for hiking in the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness.

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— Depot RV Park —

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Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights
GRANT COUNTY FAIR AUG 10-13

Jessie Leigh
LIVE IN CONCERT
Friday, August 12
Eddie Montgomery of Montgomery Gentry 8:30
opening act & after concert
Jessie Leigh 7:00

Eddie Montgomery of MONTGOMERY GENTRY

BRIAN LEDBETTER
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3 SHOWS DAILY
AUG 10-13

FLIPPENOUT'S Extreme Trampoline
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James Gang
Aug 10, 8:00 – Main Stage

The Boondock Boys
Aug 11, 8:30 – Main Stage

Kristi Kinsey & the Whiskey Bandits
Aug 13, 9:30 – Center Stage

2022 COURT
Riley, Raney & Macy

2022 GRAND MARSHALS
Cibb Gregg & Gary Gregg

HAMSHER FIGHTING BULLS
Sat AUG 13, 8:00pm

Family Fun Center
\$10 for the week

FAIR PARADE
Sat AUG 13, 11am

BALLOON ARTIST
• DAILY 2PM TO 8PM

Fair Gate Admission
Wed: **FREE**
Thurs-Sat: **\$6/day**
Seniors: **\$3/day**
6yrs to 12 yrs: **\$3/day**
5 and Under: **FREE**
Parking Pass: **\$3/day \$10/week**
4-H & FFA Exhibitors & Leaders are **FREE**.
Pass must be picked up at the extension office by Aug 11.

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