



Oregon Natural Desert Association Members: a Voice for Conservation of Oregon's High Desert

When you support Oregon Natural Desert Association, you join thousands of members and supporters dedicated to conserving Oregon's native deserts. By sharing images in this calendar that feature Oregon's special desert places, we hope that you will be inspired to lend your voice to efforts to protect, defend and restore Oregon's wild desert lands.

Conserve Oregon's stunning desert landscapes today. Visit www.onda.org for opportunities.

Photos, clockwise from top left: Kirk Richardson and Ray Hartwell at Annual Meeting, © Helen Harbin. David Paulsmeyer crossing Whychus Creek, © Katya Spiecker. Doug Stidd and Ron Wright riparian planting, South Fork Crooked River, © Alexa Bontrager. John Katzenstein at Annual Meeting, © Gena Goodman-Campbell. Betsy Littlefield at Annual Meeting, © Bill Crowell. Steens Mountain Family Fence Pull, © Jefferson Jacobs.

Oregon's High Desert

It comes as a surprise to many that over half of Oregon is desert. These vast arid lands are vital for wildlife and boast legendary rivers and mountains. Oregon's wild desert landscape possesses a subtle beauty and is treasured by many. These natural lands are also threatened by development, overgrazing, and off-road vehicle use. Together with 4,000 members and supporters, Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) works to protect, defend, and restore our native deserts. ONDA is the only group working exclusively to conserve Oregon's High Desert.

Desert Conservation In Oregon

Oregon possesses more than 8 million acres of wilderness-quality public lands that are vulnerable to development and if left unprotected, could be lost forever. These lands represent some of the wildest and most scenic places in Oregon.

ONDA works with local communities, agencies, lawmakers and desert lovers to bring permanent protections that will ensure these special places remain intact for future generations to enjoy. In our 20-year history ONDA has successfully protected millions of acres of public land including Steens Mountain, the Badlands, Spring Basin, Hart Mountain and the Owyhee River.

Yet, Oregon has a wilderness deficit. This means Oregon has significantly less protected Wilderness, 4% of the state, than our neighbors. California has protected 15% of their state as Wilderness while Washington and Idaho have protected 9% and 8%, respectively.

Why You Should Support Wilderness

Wilderness adds tremendous value to the quality of life in Oregon. Wilderness safeguards our cultural history, protects some of Oregon's most critical watersheds, and promotes the recovery of our state's iconic fish species. It provides ideal habitat and migration corridors for threatened animals and birds. In our busy world, we can rely on wilderness for soothing scenery and solitude, education, and quiet recreation opportunities.

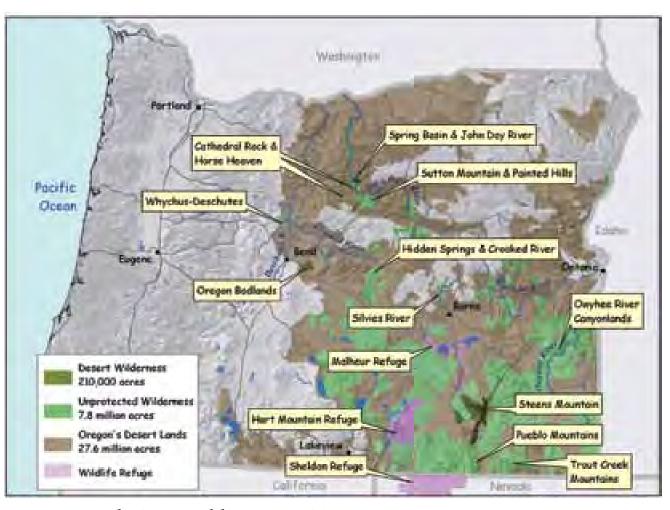
If you value Oregon's natural wonders, you must speak out in support of Wilderness. Your ONDA membership adds your voice to thousands of others advocating for con-

Take Action for Oregon's High Desert

You can protect Oregon's desert lands. Give, advocate and volunteer at www.onda.org

servation of Oregon's most special desert rivers and lands. Join today to support these current projects.

Enjoy the stunning photographs in this calendar. Visit these special places and experience them firsthand. Join ONDA today and preserve Oregon's wild deserts.



ONDA's Ambitious Wilderness Initiatives

Cathedral Rock and Horse Heaven -

This area encompasses 17,000 acres of dramatic basalt cliffs along the John Day River. In addition to amazing river recreation opportunities, protections will help threatened steelhead recover and provide refuge for deer, elk and other species. May features this special area.

Hidden Springs – In the remote high desert of Central Oregon, a deep river canyon cuts through a vast country of rolling grasslands, rugged buttes, coldwater springs, and dense groves of oldgrowth juniper. Here there is potential to conserve 120,000 acres of wild desert. This unbroken landscape provides

crucial habitat for elk, deer, antelope, bobcats and cougar. March features this special area.

Sutton Mountain – This unique conservation opportunity will create a 60,000 acre backcountry experience surrounding the Painted Hills Unit of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument near the John Day River. With stunning geologic features, this area provides incredible opportunities for solitude and recreation. November features this special area.

Whychus-Deschutes – In a deep, rugged canyon, Whychus Creek and the Deschutes River converge. These waterways

contain world-class trout fisheries and provide crucial spawning habitat for returning steelhead salmon. Recreation and cultural history are abundant in the 19,000 acres of potential wilderness. February features this special area.

Owyhee Canyonlands – This boundless landscape of 1.9 million acres, equivalent to the size of Yellowstone National Park, has been described as Oregon's Grand Canyon. Rafters and recreationists target this area for backcountry adventures. Antelope, elk, deer and North America's largest herd of bighorn sheep call this place home. June, August, and October feature this special area.



JANUARY

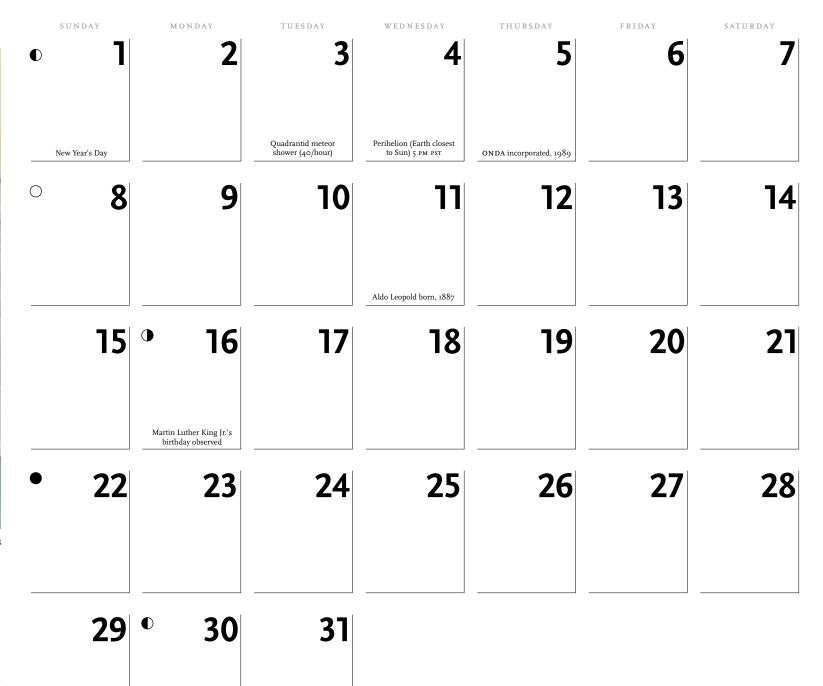


Willow Creek Wilderness Study Area. © Jim Davis

"In quiet moments of contemplation, you can sense an inscrutable quality of the land; a timeless backwash where there's almost the whisper of wind across Ice Age waters."

Al St. John Oregon's Dry Side

Edward Abbey born, 1927



Cows removed from Blitzen

Wild & Scenic River, 1997



FEBRUARY



Wolf Lichen. © Tyler Roemer

"There is something more than association at the bottom of the excitement which the roar of a cataract produces. It is allied to the circulation in our veins. We have a waterfall which corresponds even to Niagara somewhere within us."

Henry David Thoreau

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY 2	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5	6	° 7	8	Groundhog Day	10	11
12	13	• 14	15	16	17	18
19	20	St. Valentine's Day	22	23	24	25
26	Presidents' Day	28	Ash Wednesday 29			Howard Zahniser, father of 1964 Wilderness Act, born, 1906
		First Gray Wolf in 37 years enters Oregon, 1999				



FRIDAY

SATURDAY

THURSDAY

MARCH



Wild Iris. © Tyler Roemer

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

"... this, an ocean of sagebrush. The long view. Steady, calm. I have come to believe we are led to the landscape that can teach us what we need to know. ... I have been slow to learn from this patient, stare-down place where land meets sky halfway. But I am getting there."

> Ellen Waterston Where the Crooked River Rises

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 0	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Daylight Saving Time begins, 2 AM						St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21 • John	22	Nine Pacific Northwest salmon species listed	24
25	26	27	28	29	as endangered, 1999	31
					Oregon Badlands and Spring Basin Wilderness Areas designated, 2009	

WEDNESDAY

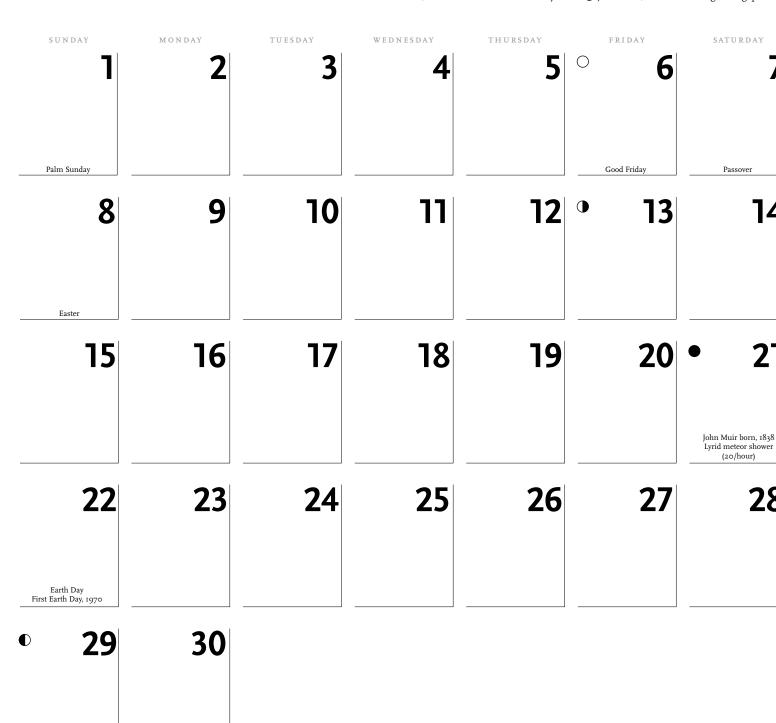


APRIL



Stone Bridge pictograph. © Melvin Adams

"There are voices and signs in the desert: some carved by time and wind, some by the shamans, the ancient astronomers. The original inhabitants ... were conscious of the force of life all around them in everything, and they sought to draw the power into themselves. There are stories in the desert, on the rocks..."



Melvin Adams Netting the Sun 28



M A Y



Western Fence Lizard. © Marylynne Diggs

"The proposed Cathedral Rock and Horse Heaven Wilderness Areas ... encompass dramatic basalt cliffs along the John Day River and ... key habitat for mid-Columbia summer steelhead, pygmy rabbit, Ferruginous Hawk, and is ... home to 36 sensitive plant and animal species."

Aaron Killgore, ONDA John Day Coordinator,

Desert Ramblings, Winter, 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	wednesday 2	THURSDAY 3	FRIDAY 4	o Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	17	Cinco de Mayo Eta Aquarid meteor shower (ro/hour) 12
				. •	•	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
• 20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



FRIDAY

7

SATURDAY

THURSDAY

JUNE



Lupine. © Tyler Roemer

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

"The Owyhee Canyonlands is a region of superlatives and contradictions. Exquisitely beautiful, in places it is heartbreakingly damaged. Unfathomably vast when viewed from the uplands, it is unexpectedly intimate when admired from ... the bottom of a side canyon."

Gilly Lyons
ONDA Board of Directors

					1	2
3	° 4	5	6	7	8	9
10	• 11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	• 19	20	Lyrid meteor shower (10/hour)	22	23
Father's Day	25	° 26	Solstice, 4:09 PM PDT 27	28	29	30
		Oregon Wilderness Act passed, 1984	Taylor Grazing Act passed, 1934			

WEDNESDAY



JULY



Hedgehog Cactus. © Tyson Fisher

"Steens Mountain is a place that no words can adequately describe, no picture can truly capture and no man could ever replace. It is a place that will be left whole for future generations only because of the humility and passion of current generations."

Brent Fenty, Executive Director, ONDA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	0 3	4	5	6	7
8	9	• 10	Independence Day Aphelion (Earth farthest from Sun) 9 PM PDT	12	13	14
J			••	Henry David Thoreau		17
15	16	17	• 18	born, 1817	20	21
22	23	24	25	0 26	27	28
						Delta Aquarid meteor shower (20/hour)
29	30	31				
Capricornid meteor shower (15/hour)	Spotted owl listed as endangered species, 1990					



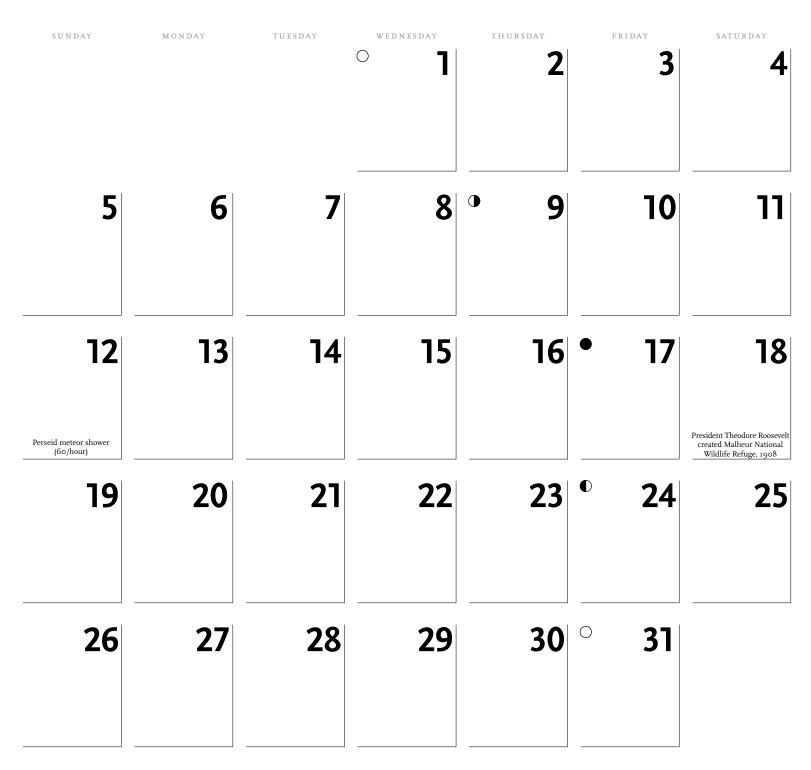
August



West Little Owyhee. © Jim Davis

"Even boulders and rocks seem to speak their own uncanny languages of gesture and shadow, inviting the body and its bones into silent communication."

David Abram
The Spell of the Sensuous





FRIDAY

SATURDAY

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER



Pronghorn. © Greg Burke

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

"One value of the desert is that we need an empty space in which to stretch our arms and take a deep breath, a place where the lack of things in the middle ground allows the muscles in our eyes to relax, thus inculcating a meditative state. ... Desert reminds us of our place."

6 President Franklin Roosevelt designated Hart Mountain Labor Day as National Antelope Federal Wilderness Act Refuge, 1935 passed, 1964 9 10 12 13 16 18 17 19 20 Equinox, 7:49 AM PDT Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt designated Klamath River a Wild & Rosh Hashanah Scenic River, 1994 23/30 **26** 24 **25** 28 Yom Kippur

WEDNESDAY

William L. Fox The Void, the Grid, & the Sign



OCTOBER



West Little Owyhee. © Jim Davis

"Such is the Great Basin, heretofore characterized as a desert, and in some respects meriting that appellation, but already demanding the qualification of great exceptions, and deserving the full examination of a thorough exploration."

John C. Fremont Geographical Memoir, 1848

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY 2	wednesday 3	THURSDAY	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6
		Federal Wild & Scenic Rivers Act passed, 1968	Congress passed Steens Mountain Cooperative Management & Protection Act, 2000			
7	• 8	9	10	11	12	13
	Columbus Day observed Draconid meteor shower (10/hour)					
14	• 15	16	17	18	19	20
• 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Orionid meteor shower (20/hour)					John Day Fossil Beds National Monument founded, 1974	
28	° 29	30	31			
Congress passed Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, 1988			Halloween			



NOVEMBER



Bighorn Sheep. © Greg Burke

"Rock has no tongue to speak or voice to sing, Mute, heavy matter. Yet as I lift up this Dull desert stone, the weight of it is full Of slower, longer thoughts than mind can have."

 $\label{eq:Ursula K. LeGuin} \text{ from "A Meditation in the Desert" in Out Here}$

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	President Reagan signed Omnibus Oregon Wild & Scenics Act, 1988 Oregon citizens vote to create state Scenic
						Waterways System, 1970
4	5	• 6	7	8	9	10
Daylight Saving Time ends, 2 AM						
enus, 2 AM	12	• 13	14	15	16	17
						Leonid meteor shower
Veterans Day						(40/hour)
18	19	• 20	21	22	23	24
Cows removed from Owyhee						
Wild & Scenic River, 1999				Thanksgiving		
25	26	27	° 28	29	30	



THURSDAY

SATURDAY

FRIDAY

DECEMBER



Petroglyph Lake. © Sean Bagshaw

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

"But can't you hear the Wild? – it's calling you. Let us probe the silent places, let us seek what luck betide us;

Let us journey to a lonely land I know.

There's a whisper on the night-wind, ...

And the Wild is calling, calling...let us go"

Robert Service from The Call of the Wild

2	3	4	5	• 6	7	8
						First Day of Chanukkah
9	10	11	12	• 13	14	15
				Geminid meteor shower (6o/hour)		
16	17	18	° 19	20	21	22
Last Day of Chanukkah					Solstice, 3:30 am pst	
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	° 28	29
		Christmas				

WEDNESDAY

The Oregon Natural Desert Association is working to protect Oregon's desert jewels: Steens Mountain; Owyhee River Canyonlands; Hart Mountain and Oregon's Outback; the Central Oregon Desert, and the John Day River Basin. We are lucky to have these gems in our backyard. You can help preserve these incomparable places by becoming a member of ONDA.



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JANUARY MICKEY HOT SPRINGS



FEBRUARY STEELHEAD FALLS



MARCH HAMPTON BUTTE



APRIL LAKE ABERT



MAY CATHEDRAL ROCK



JUNE OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



JULY STEENS MOUNTAIN



AUGUST OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



SEPTEMBER ALVORD DESERT



OCTOBER OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



NOVEMBER SUTTON MOUNTAIN



DECEMBER HART MOUNTAIN

Wild Desert Calendar

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