

2014

Wild Desert Calendar

Oregon Natural Desert Association





Oregon Natural Desert Association: Keeping Oregon's Desert Wild

ONDA's strength stems from its community: thousands of hard-working volunteers, dedicated donors and passionate advocates. Whether to pull abandoned fence or push for wilderness legislation, they have continually come together throughout ONDA's 25-year history over their shared devotion to Oregon's high desert.

That's because to know Oregon's desert is to love it.

So enjoy these stunning images as we celebrate the Wild Desert Calendar's 10th year of connecting people to these wild and special places. We hope you'll visit and experience them firsthand – then join us in helping conserve Oregon's stunning rivers and landscapes.

Visit www.ONDA.org/get-involved



TOP ROW: Sage Clegg on the first ever, end-to-end hike of the Oregon Desert Trail © Sage Clegg; Sutton Mountain bloom © Jim Davis; Annual General Membership Meeting © Allison Crotty.

SECOND ROW: Owyhee inventory © Chris Hansen; Annual General Membership Meeting © Allison Crotty; Honeycombs weekend © Chris Hansen.

THIRD ROW: Owyhee inventory © Jim Davis; Honeycombs © Chris Hansen; Pine Mountain camp © ONDA.

BOTTOM ROW: Burrowing owl, © Nick Dobric; Owyhee River © Chris Hansen; Annual General Membership Meeting © Allison Crotty.

Oregon's Wild Desert: 8 million acres to explore

Not far from Oregon's signature moss-dripped forests lies a high desert wildland that stretches across half the state. Out here, gnarled juniper trees, sheer canyons, craggy peaks and quiet expanses provide a vast haven for wildlife, as well as a wonderland for outdoor adventures.

This is the awe-inspiring place that the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) presents to you in its 2014 Wild Desert Calendar. With these images of existing and proposed wilderness, we invite you to join ONDA's more than 4,500 members and supporters in celebrating the wonder of Oregon's high desert.

ONDA has worked for more than 25 years to protect, defend and restore this landscape for future generations. While roughly 8 million acres of potential wilderness exists in Oregon's high desert, only 1 percent of this land is permanently protected.

When our favorite places are protected as wilderness, we take comfort in knowing that we can return year after year, season after season, to landscapes changed only by the elements. By partnering with landowners, government agencies, elected officials and individuals like you, ONDA provides a strong voice for Oregon's high desert.

The special places where we work

Owyhee Canyonlands: At more than 2 million acres, Oregon's Owyhee Canyonlands region is the largest expanse of undeveloped, unprotected wildlands in the lower 48 states. Its canyons, pinnacles and rivers prompt wonderment that such a landscape exists in Oregon. Protection of the Owyhee is one of ONDA's top priorities for the coming year.

Central Oregon Backcountry: With its rolling sagebrush plains, dramatic

river canyons and dense forests of old-growth juniper, the gateway to Oregon's dry side is a desert wonderland unto itself. In addition to providing world-class recreation right outside city limits – including rafting, hiking, mountain biking and climbing – many of its waterways are also critical spawning grounds for salmon and steelhead. Current initiatives include collaborative efforts to protect the Whychus-Deschutes and Hidden Springs areas.

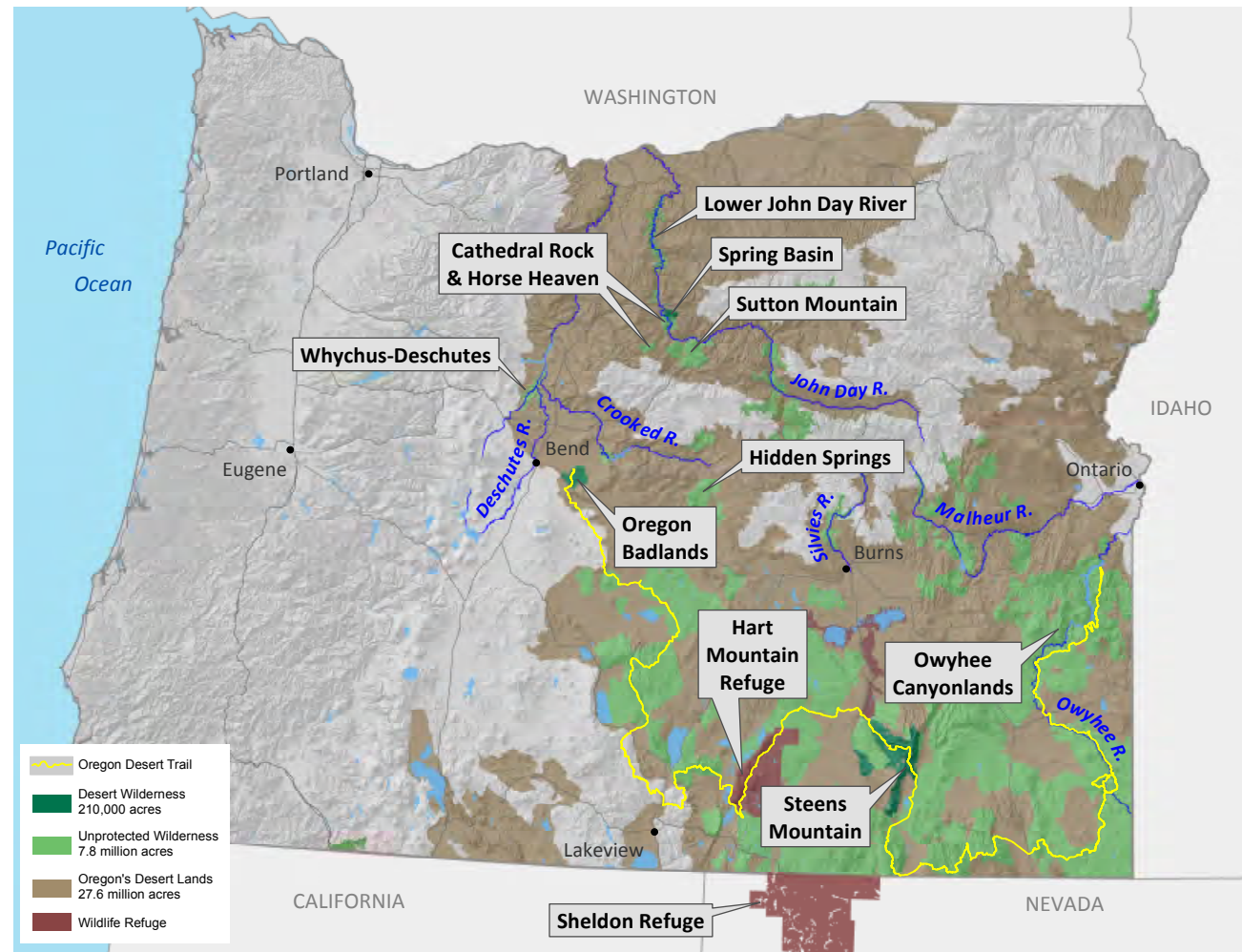
John Day River: The John Day River flows freely, absent of dams. It hosts prime habitat for summer steelhead and is one of the few remaining wild spring Chinook salmon runs in the Columbia River Basin. ONDA has partnered with local landowners and ranchers on wilderness for the Cathedral Rock and Horse Heaven areas of the river and is working closely with county officials, community leaders and landowners to protect other sensitive public land in the John Day

basin, including Sutton Mountain and the Lower John Day River.

Greater Hart-Sheldon Landscape: Spanning more than 4 million acres, the Greater Hart-Sheldon Landscape is a diverse expanse of mountains, wetlands, sagebrush steppe and canyons. It's also a haven for wildlife: More than 300 species thrive here, including migrating waterfowl, pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep and Greater sage-grouse. ONDA has

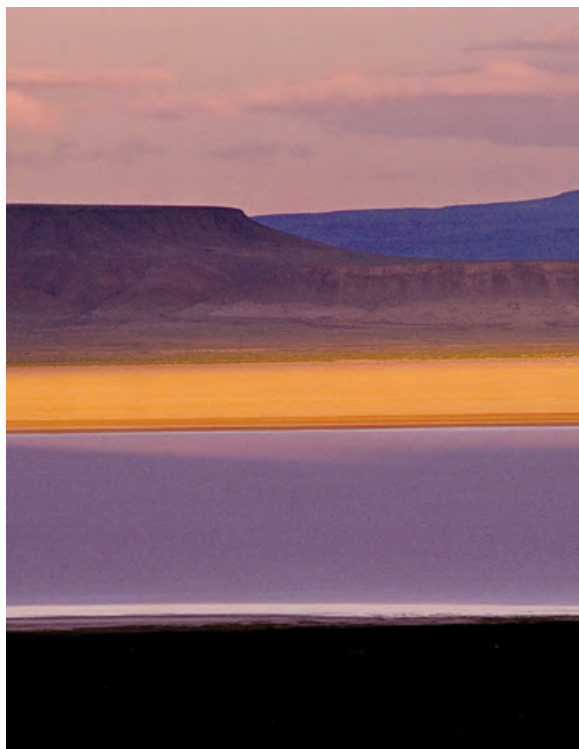
worked to protect, restore and connect this region for decades.

Steens Mountain: ONDA played a critical role in securing a wilderness designation for this iconic mountain and continues to advocate on its behalf today. In pushing for "smart from the start" energy development, ONDA has stood against placing wind turbines at the mountain's crest. ONDA has also worked to prevent carving unnecessary roads into Steens.





JANUARY



Alvord Desert. © Al St. John

Wilderness is a place to learn gratitude, humility and dependency...A nation that creates and maintains protected wilderness is showing capability of a kinder, gentler and more sustainable relationship with this planet. Can anything really be more important?

Dr. Roderick Frazier Nash
ONDA Wild Desert Blog

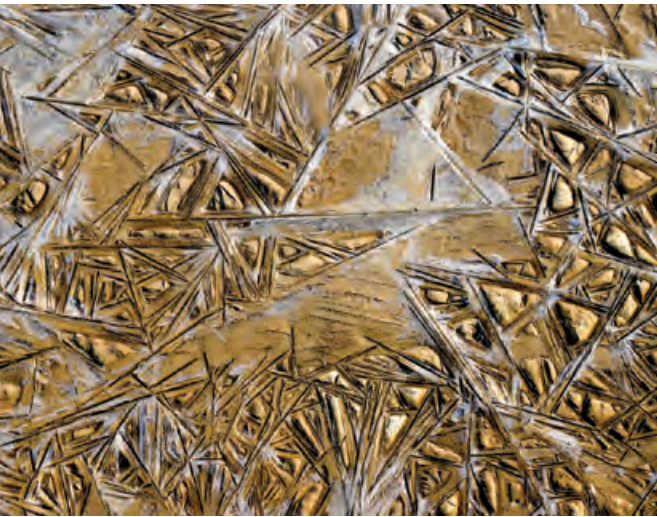


Working to protect, defend and restore Oregon's high desert for more than 25 years!

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------|--|---------|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| | | | ● 1 New Year's Day | 2 Quadrantid meteor shower (40/hour) | 3 Perihelion (Earth closest to Sun) 4 AM PST | 4 |
| 5 ONDA incorporated, 1989 | 6 | ● 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Aldo Leopold born, 1887 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | ○ 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday observed | 21 | 22 | ● 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Edward Abbey, born 1927 Honor Ed's 'wild' legacy. ONDA.org/support | ● 30 Cows removed from Donner und Blitzen Wild & Scenic River, 1997 | 31 | |



FEBRUARY



Mickey Basin. © Tyson Fisher

You have entered the country of shadow. And a vast and brooding presence that had been hiding, moments earlier, behind the gauze of light is now slowly walking toward you through the clarified air. It is the breathing body of the mountain itself.

David Abram
Becoming Animal: An Earthly Cosmology



Discover southeastern Oregon's desert jewel...

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------|----------|---|----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Groundhog Day | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 St. Valentine's Day Show your wild deserts some love! ONDA.org/support | 15 |
| 16 | 17 Presidents' Day | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Howard Zahniser, father of 1964 Wilderness Act, born, 1906 | 26 | 27 | 28 First Gray Wolf in 37 years enters Oregon, 1999 | |



MARCH



Collared Lizard. © Al St. John

You see these things, even if you are not looking. You come out and the animals will find you, even if you never know they are there. Whether you are observant, curious, unaware, reluctant, or apathetic, they will find you.

Craig Childs

The Animal Dialogues: Uncommon Encounters in the Wild



Explore, restore and celebrate the high desert:
Volunteer with ONDA!

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-------------------|---------|---------------|---|--------|---|
| | | | | | | ● 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | ● 8 |
| | | | Ash Wednesday | | | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Daylight Saving Time begins, 2 AM | | | | | | |
| ○ 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | St. Patrick's Day | | | Spring Equinox, 9:57 AM PDT 'Spring' into action for Oregon's high desert. ONDA.org/support | | John McConnell, Earth Day founder, born, 1905 |
| ● 23/30 | 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| (30) Oregon Badlands and Spring Basin wilderness areas designated, 2009 | | | | | | |



APRIL



Western Screech-Owl. © Jim Davis

People usually consider walking on water or in thin air a miracle. The miracle is not to walk on water. The miracle is to walk on the green earth, dwelling deeply in the present moment and feeling truly alive.

Thich Nhat Hanh

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-------------|----------------------|---|---|----------|-------------|----------|
| | | ☾ 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | ☾ 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | ☾ 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Palm Sunday | | First day of Passover | | | Good Friday | |
| 20 | 21 | ☾ 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Easter | John Muir born, 1838 | Last day of Passover Earth Day First Earth Day, 1970 Lyrid meteor shower (20/hour) | Do you agree that wild deserts make our planet amazing? ONDA.org/support | | | |
| 27 | ☾ 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |



Find the gateway to Oregon's high desert...



MAY



Three Forks, Owyhee River. © Curtis Reesor

Once you've spent time in these incredible desert places, photos or maps are no longer two-dimensional. They evoke images of places you've been and seen and experiences you've had.

Brent Fenty
Executive Director, ONDA



Adventure awaits in Oregon's spectacular
"Grand Canyon!"

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------|--|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | | | ● 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 Cinco de Mayo Celebremos Oregon's desiertos salvajes! ONDA.org/support Eta Aquarid meteor shower (30/hour) | ● 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | ○ 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Mother's Day | | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | ● 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | ● 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| | Memorial Day | | | | | |



JUNE



Greater Sage-Grouse. © Barbara Rumer

There are times and places in this beautiful world that transcend anything we can ever hope to express in our limited capacities as human beings....Nothing we can do or create can substitute for wildness. Those of you who experienced it know what I mean, and those of you who don't will do well to seek it out. Your life will be forever changed and enriched by it.

Guy Tal

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------|--------|---------|-----------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| Father's Day | | | | | | Summer Solstice, 3:51 AM PDT |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | | | | Oregon Wilderness Act passed, 1984 Keep Oregon's deserts wild! ONDA.org/support | Taylor Grazing Act passed, 1934 | |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |



A place where the antelope play...



JULY



Desert Whitetail Dragonfly. © Christopher Christie

(John Stuart Mill) said that the main constituents of happiness appear to be... tranquility and excitement...If so, a good river must be essential happiness...because on a river, tranquility and excitement alternate every half mile...I think it's a pity that Mill... never found a way to run a desert river.

Kathleen Dean Moore
Riverwalking



Reflect on ONDA's efforts to protect native fish and wildlife...

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|---------------------------------------|---------|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | Aphelion (Earth farthest from Sun) 5 PM PDT | Independence Day Liberty, justice and wilderness for all! ONDA.org/support | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | | | Henry David Thoreau born, 1817 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | | | | | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| | Delta Aquarid meteor shower (20/hour) | | Spotted owl listed as endangered species, 1990 | | | |



AUGUST



Monkey Flower. © Greg Burke

*When we walk among the ancient junipers,
do we simply see a swath of sylvan sameness
or a higher connection to the primitive, soul-
churning essence of wild land?*

Jim Witty
Meet Me in the Badlands

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-----------|---|--|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| ☾ 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| ○ 10 | 11 | 12 Perseid meteor shower (60/hour) Wish upon a star for more wilderness! ONDA.org/support | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| ☾ 17 | 18 President Theodore Roosevelt created Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, 1908 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24/ 31 | ● 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |



Get out there! Enjoy – and respect – Oregon's high desert...



SEPTEMBER



Twin Springs Gorge. © Jim Davis

Our adventure is heightened by knowing that we are among a few who will venture into this canyon and see the sights now laid out before us. We are in a land of solitude, but we are not lonely. The sanctity of isolation is palpable; this canyon holds secrets which should remain untold.

Anonymous



Volunteers are the heart of what we do: Join us!

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--|---------|--|----------|--------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Labor Day | | Federal Wilderness Act passed, 1964 Protect, defend and restore Oregon's wild deserts ONDA.org/support | | | President Franklin Roosevelt designated Hart Mountain as National Antelope Refuge, 1935 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| | Fall Equinox, 7:29 PM PDT Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt designated Klamath River a Wild & Scenic River, 1994 | | | | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |



OCTOBER



Hart Mountain. © Jim Davis

The west of which I speak is but another name for the Wild; and what I have been preparing to say is, that in Wildness is the preservation of the World. Every tree sends its fibres forth in search of the Wild.

Henry David Thoreau
Walking



Discover wild waters and the wonders that surround it...

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | | ☾ 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | ☾ 8 Draconid meteor shower (10/hour) | 9 Federal Wild & Scenic Rivers Act passed, 1968 | 10 Congress passed Steens Mountain Cooperative Management & Protection Act, 2000 | 11 Yom Kippur Keep Steens Mountain wild, always! ONDA.org/support |
| 12 | 13 Columbus Day | 14 | ☾ 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Orionid meteor shower (20/hour) | 21 | 22 • | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 John Day Fossil Beds National Monument founded, 1974 | 27 | 28 Congress passed Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, 1988 | 29 ☾ | 30 | 31 Halloween | |



NOVEMBER



Lichens at Lake Abert. © Jim Davis

It is commonplace of all religious thought that the man seeking visions and insight must go apart from his fellows and live for a while in the wilderness...he will return with a message. It may not be a message...he set out to seek, but...he will have had a vision or seen a marvel and these are always worth listening to or thinking about.

Loren Eiseley
The Immense Journey



Sit back, relax and enjoy a good story...

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|---|--------|----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Daylight Saving Time ends, 2 AM | 3 President Reagan signed Omnibus Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, 1988 Oregon citizens vote to create state Scenic Waterways System, 1970 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 Veterans Day | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 Leonid meteor shower (15/hour) | 18 Cows removed from Owyhee Wild & Scenic River, 1999 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23/30 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Thanksgiving Feeling grateful for Oregon's wild deserts? ONDA.org/support | 28 | 29 |



DECEMBER



Hart-Sheldon Corridor. © Brian Ouimette

I have heard the elders say that everything in nature has its own spirit and possesses a power beyond ours. There is no way to prove them right or wrong, though the beauty and interrelatedness of things should be evidence enough...If it is a myth, then spirit is within the myth and we should live by it.

Richard Nelson
The Gifts



Conservation: A gift that keeps on giving!

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------|--------|--|-----------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 ○ |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | | | | | Geminid meteor shower (100/hour) |
| ● 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| | | This holiday season, give the gift of conservation! ONDA.org/support | First Day of Hanukkah | | | |
| ● 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| Winter Solstice, 3:03 PM PST | | | Last Day of Hanukkah | Christmas | | |
| ● 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

The Oregon Natural Desert Association works to protect, defend and restore the beauty and solitude of Oregon's wild desert places, including the Owyhee Canyonlands, Central Oregon Backcountry, Greater Hart-Sheldon Landscape, the John Day River Basin and Steens Mountain. You can contribute to ONDA's efforts and grow Oregon's conservation legacy by supporting ONDA today. Visit www.ONDA.org/support to help protect the places you love.



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JANUARY OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



FEBRUARY STEENS MOUNTAIN



MARCH OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



APRIL MIDDLE DESCHUTES CANYON



MAY OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



JUNE HART MOUNTAIN



JULY OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



AUGUST OREGON BADLANDS



SEPTEMBER OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



OCTOBER JOHN DAY RIVER



NOVEMBER HORSE HEAVEN



DECEMBER OWYHEE CANYONLANDS

2014 Wild Desert Calendar

The Wild Desert Calendar is a publication of the Oregon Natural Desert Association. Copyright to all photographs herein belongs to the photographers. Special thanks to Greg Burke, Jon Cain, Mark Chidlaw, Jim Davis, Helen Harbin, Jeff Jones, Miriam Lipsitz, Daniela Marshall, Karen Mellberg, Mike Sequeria, and contributing photographers. ONDA also thanks our members, volunteers and supporters who have made this calendar and all of our work to conserve Oregon's deserts possible.

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