

2015

WILD DESERT CALENDAR

Oregon Natural Desert Association





OREGON NATURAL DESERT ASSOCIATION: WE KEEP OREGON'S DESERT WILD

To know Oregon's desert is to love it. And ONDA's thousands of hard-working volunteers, dedicated donors and passionate advocates know it well and love it deeply. Over ONDA's 27-year history, our community's shared devotion to Oregon's high desert ensures these amazing wild places are here to treasure and explore, now and always.

An all-volunteer effort, the Wild Desert Calendar has been connecting people throughout Oregon and beyond to our incredible wild desert places for more than ten years. We invite you to visit the places you see in these pages. Experience them with your friends and family and fall in love with Oregon's high desert. Then join us in helping conserve Oregon's wild desert lands, waters and wildlife:

Visit www.onda.org/getinvolved.

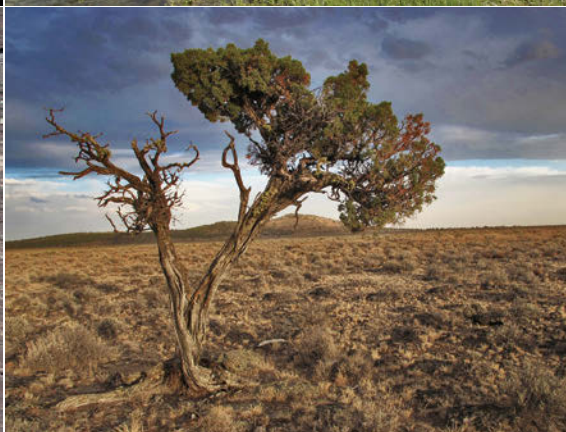


row 1 (L-R): Pronghorn fawns, Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, Greater Hart-Sheldon Region. © Jeremy Austin; ONDA members plant native species, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting, John Day River area. © Allison Crotty; Momentum River Expeditions: Middle Owyhee River Rafting, Owyhee Canyonlands. © Erik Meldrum.

row 2 (L-R): John Day River Float and Fence Pull, John Day River area. © ONDA; ONDA volunteers gather around a campfire on a work trip, Central Oregon Backcountry. © Gena Goodman-Campbell; Pedio cactus. © Cregg Large.

row 3 (L-R): Seattle Waldorf School students pull fence, Central Oregon Backcountry. © Gena Goodman-Campbell; ONDA staff and volunteers count Greater sage-grouse at dawn, Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, Greater Hart-Sheldon Region. © Michelle Alvarado; Teamwork! ONDA volunteers pass fence material across a river, Central Oregon Backcountry. © Gena Goodman-Campbell.

row 4 (L-R): ONDA lights in the night, Owyhee Canyonlands. © Sean Bagshaw; Hart Mountain area petroglyphs, Greater Hart-Sheldon Region. © Nick Dobric; Moonlight Buttes, Central Oregon Backcountry, © Jesse Laney; Bald eagle nest. © Cregg Large.

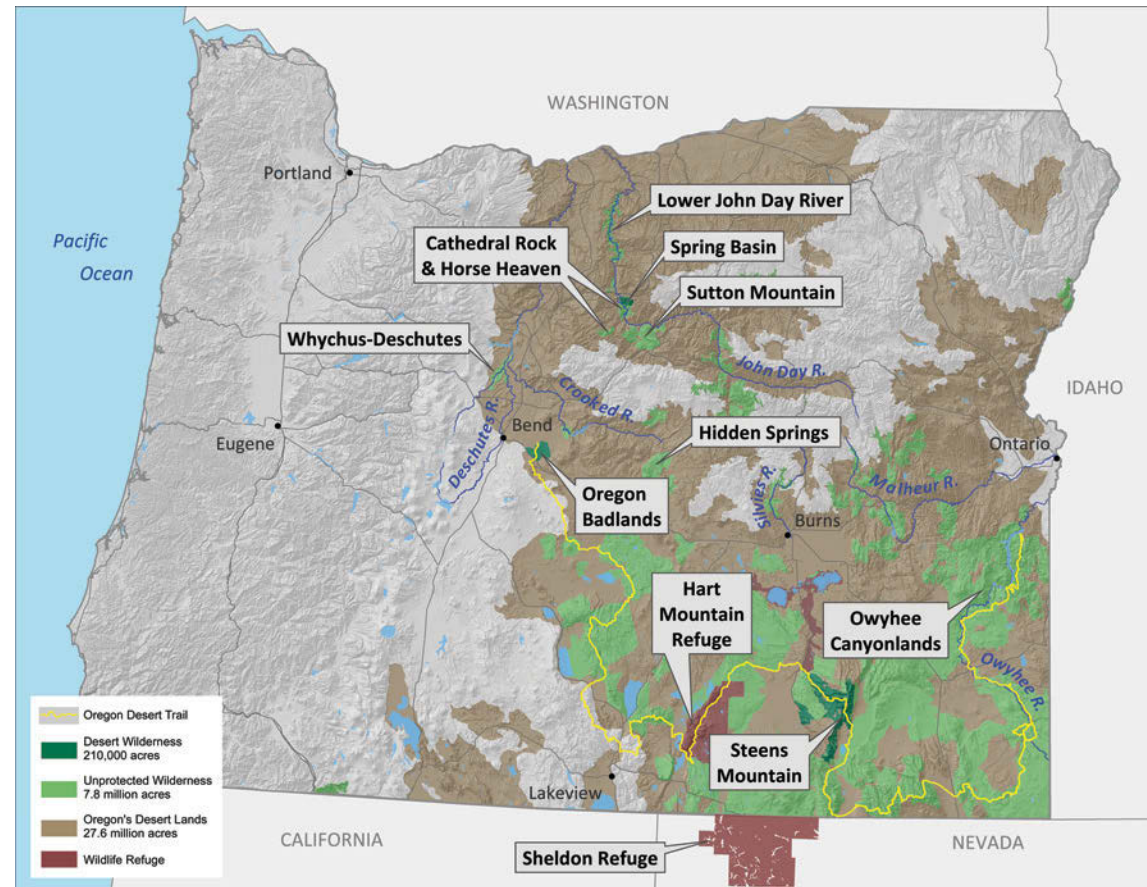


OREGON'S WILD DESERT: 8 MILLION ACRES TO EXPLORE

Not far from Oregon's signature moss-draped forests lies a high desert wildland that stretches across half the state. Out here, dynamic rivers, sheer canyons, craggy peaks and quiet expanses provide a vast wonderland for wildlife and for outdoor adventures. Pronghorn antelope often outnumber people and starry skies are a way of life.

Welcome to Oregon's dry side, the awe-inspiring place that the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) presents to you in its 2015 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 Oregon's high desert for future generations. Roughly 8 million acres of potential wilderness exists here awaiting discovery. When our favorite places are protected as wilderness, we take comfort in knowing that we can return year after year, season after season, to land changed only by the elements. By partnering with landowners, government agencies, elected officials and individuals like you, ONDA provides a strong voice for the conservation of Oregon's high desert.



CENTRAL OREGON BACKCOUNTRY

With rolling sagebrush plains and dramatic river canyons, the gateway to Oregon's dry side offers world-class recreation right outside Bend city limits – including rafting, hiking and horseback riding. Many of its waterways are also critical spawning grounds for salmon and steelhead. ONDA is engaged in collaborative efforts to protect the Whychus-Deschutes and Hidden Springs areas of Central Oregon.

GREATER HART-SHELDON LANDSCAPE

Spanning more than 3 million acres of Oregon and Nevada, 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.

JOHN DAY RIVER

The John Day River flows absent of dams, offering prime habitat for summer steelhead and Chinook salmon. ONDA has partnered with local landowners and ranchers on a Wilderness proposed for the Cathedral Rock and Horse Heaven areas on the river. ONDA works closely with county officials, community leaders and landowners to protect other sensitive public land, including Sutton Mountain and the Lower John Day River.

OWYHEE CANYONLANDS

At more than 2 million acres, Oregon's Owyhee Canyonlands region is the largest undeveloped, unprotected expanse in the lower 48 states. Its red-rock canyons, vital rivers and diverse wildlife – including the largest herd of California bighorn sheep in the nation – are unlike anywhere in Oregon. Permanent protection of the Owyhee is one of ONDA's top priorities.

STEENS MOUNTAIN

In 2000, Steens Mountain became Oregon's first desert wilderness. ONDA played a critical role in making it happen and advocates on the iconic mountain's behalf today. ONDA continues to defend against threats like "right idea, wrong place" wind energy development and the carving of unnecessary roads in this special place.



JANUARY



Owyhee Canyonlands, rock detail. © Tyson Fisher

We cannot take the beauty and wildness of our deserts for granted. It is increasingly obvious that there is no place on land or water where development cannot reach. The natural treasures we know now will only exist for future generations because we had the courage and foresight to fight for their protection today.

BRENT FENTY
ONDA executive director

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

DECEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31					

FEBRUARY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



FEBRUARY



Greater sage-grouse. © Michelle Alvarado

Light is the tool that shapes the stone and lifts
figures from absences.
Portal and column
stand forth from shadow, fade in slant of sun.
Doors open – look at them! –
into the rimrock

URSULA K. LE GUIN
from “The Ziggurat,” *Out Here*

JANUARY													MARCH						
	1	2	3										1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10							8	9	19	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17							15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24							22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							29	30	31				

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 Fall in love with Oregon's wild deserts! ONDA.org/support
15	16 Presidents Day	17	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
1	2	3	4	5 ○	6	7



MARCH



Orange globe mallow. © Barb Rumer

Wilderness is nothing more than a spiritual desire, if not a biological necessity, for people to be whole with their past and connected to their future; like the gates of a temple, the boundaries of wilderness are artificial, yet crossing that threshold allows feelings of a larger self, a nod of respect for what was, and a sense of what should be.

BILL MARLETT
former executive director of ONDA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Daylight Saving Time begins, 2 AM						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		St. Patrick's Day			Spring Equinox, 1:22 PM PDT	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
John McConnell, Earth Day founder, born, 1905						
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Palm Sunday	Oregon Badlands & Spring Basin wilderness areas designated 2009. Celebrate these amazing wild places! ONDA.org/support					

FEBRUARY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

APRIL

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30		



APRIL



Bitterroot. © Ellen Mendoza

The desert is full – full of time and space and distance and silence. These things fill it up, spill over the edges. To really see the desert means adjusting one's ideas of what emptiness and nothingness are. Believe me, in the desert there is so much space it can become claustrophobic. And outside the desert is a lifetime of noise.

CHARLES FINN
High Country News

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
					Good Friday	First day of Passover
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Easter						Last day of Passover
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		John Muir born, 1838	Lyrid meteor shower (20/hour) Earth Day We need more wilderness on planet Earth! ONDA.org/support			
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

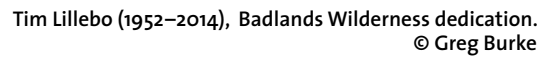
MARCH

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MAY

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							





SENATOR RON WYDEN
Entered into the *Congressional Record*
February 24, 2014

APRIL							JUNE										
				1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
26	27	28	29	30				28	29	30							

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

26 27 28 29 30 1 2

Note

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Cinco de Mayo
Eta Aquarid meteor
shower (30/hour)

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

Mothers Day
Love your mother (nature)!
ONDA.org/support

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

24/31 25 26 27 28 29 30

Memorial Day



JUNE



West Little Owyhee, Oregon Desert Trail. © Jim Davis

But the enduring fascination of the high desert, and the reason its survival as a wild place is within reach, may well lie in the fact that this vast open can't quite be named. It stays always one step ahead of the namers, luring us who would try deeper and deeper into its irresistible embrace.

ELLEN WATERSTON
ONDA blog, 2012

MAY									JULY						
					1	2					1	2	3	4	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16			12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30	31	
31															

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Fathers Day Summer Solstice, 9:38 AM PDT					Oregon Wilderness Act passed, 1984 Celebrate Oregon's wild deserts! ONDA.org/support	Taylor Grazing Act passed, 1934
28	29	30	1	2	3	4



JULY



Western fence lizard. © Kristin Wolter

I have entered into the desert. I have come to the great immutable one in her sanctuary. She sits on a throne of Light, her hands serenely clasped; her lips tranquil as Dawn; her eyes solemnly questioning.

CHARLES ERSKINE SCOTT WOOD
The Poet In the Desert

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4 Independence Day Freedom, equality and Wilderness for all! ONDA.org/support
5	6 Aphelion (Earth farthest from Sun) 1 PM PDT	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 Delta Aquarid meteor shower (20/hour)	29	30 Spotted owl listed as endangered species, 1990	31	1

JUNE

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

AUGUST

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	



AUGUST



Pronghorn. © Greg Burke

Willows never forget how it feels
to be young.

Do you remember where you came from?
Gravel remembers.

Even the upper end of the river
believes in the ocean.

WILLIAM STAFFORD
from "Climbing Along the River,"
Ask Me: 100 Essential Poems

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

JULY

	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER

	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



SEPTEMBER



Skinner's sulfur butterfly. © Melvin Adams

The first time you experience a rainstorm in sagebrush, you will walk away remembering the smells. The desert comes alive after a rain. Sweet, pungent fingers of sage and bitterbrush blend together to form an old nostalgic concoction that puts Hallmark to shame.

JEREMY AUSTIN
ONDA blog, 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3 Federal Wilderness Act passed, 1964 Protect, defend and restore Oregon's wild deserts! ONDA.org/support	4	5
6 President Franklin Roosevelt designated Hart Mountain as National Antelope Refuge, 1935	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Rosh Hashana	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Bruce Babbitt designated Klamath River a Wild & Scenic River, 1994	23 Yom Kippur Autumn Equinox, 1:21 AM PDT	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

AUGUST

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

OCTOBER

						1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		



OCTOBER



Sandhill cranes. © Kristin Wolter

They watched mountains dissolve, felt in their roots what I could only understand as an abstract idea. ... The aspen bark began to glow white in the light and thousands of leaves rattled in a breeze; I had the certain feeling that the aspen grove was a collection of departed souls reincarnated in communal roots, the phloem and xylem of complete families and tribes.

MELVIN ADAMS,
Netting the Sun

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
○ 27	28	29	30	1	2	3 Congress passed Steens Mountain Cooperative Management & Protection Act, 2000 Keep Steens Mountain wild, always! ONDA.org/support
● 4	5	6	7	8 Draconid meteor shower (10/hour)	9	10
11	● 12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	● 20	21 Orionid meteor shower (20/hour)	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

SEPTEMBER

	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29
30					

NOVEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



NOVEMBER



Obsidian artifact. © Ellen Mendoza

In the legends of the saints and the prophets either a desert or a mountain is pretty sure to figure. It is usually in the middle of one or on the top of the other that the vision comes or the test is met. To give their message to the world they come down or come out, but it is almost invariably in a solitude, either high or dry, that it is first revealed.

JOSEPH WOOD KRUTCH
The Desert Year

OCTOBER												DECEMBER													
						1	2	3													1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10							6	7	8	9	10	11	12						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17							13	14	15	16	17	18	19						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24							20	21	22	23	24	25	26						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							27	28	29	30	31								

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Saving Time ends, 2 AM	2	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	24	25 Thanksgiving Grateful for Oregon's wild deserts? ONDA.org/support	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5



DECEMBER



Petroglyphs, Hart-Sheldon corridor. © Brian Ouimette

Its falling notes tumble from rock to rock the way light seems to fall: Not in any hurry. Such gifts cannot be rushed, this light shawling down the hill, this descending song. Desert morning comes if you notice it or not, whether or not you are asleep, say, or if your eyes are closed, listening. But when you look up, there it is.

KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE
Wild Comfort: The Solace of Nature

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

First Day of Hanukkah

Geminid meteor shower
(100/hour)

Last Day of Hanukkah

Give the gift
of conservation!
ONDA.org/support

Winter Solstice,
8:48 PM PST

Christmas

NOVEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JANUARY

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	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. Support ONDA's efforts and help protect the places you love. Visit www.ONDA.org/support



Oregon Natural Desert Association
50 SW Bond Street, Suite 4
Bend, Oregon 97702
541.330.2638 | www.onda.org



JANUARY **OWYHEE CANYONLANDS**



FEBRUARY **HART-SHELDON REGION**



MARCH **WHYCHUS-DESCHUTES**



APRIL **CATHEDRAL ROCK**



MAY **OREGON BADLANDS**



JUNE **OWYHEE CANYONLANDS**



JULY **PUEBLO MOUNTAINS**



AUGUST **HART MOUNTAIN**



SEPTEMBER **SUTTON MOUNTAIN**



OCTOBER **HART MOUNTAIN**



NOVEMBER **STEENS MOUNTAIN**



DECEMBER **OWYHEE CANYONLANDS**

2015 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, Daniela Marshall, Mike Sequeira, Helen Harbin, Miriam Lipsitz and our contributing photographers. Many thanks to our ONDA community of members, volunteers and supporters who make this calendar and all our desert conservation work possible.

Printed locally with soy-based inks on 30% recycled, Forest Sustainability Council-endorsed paper manufactured using 100% green, e-certified renewable energy.

Special thanks to the following contributors:



\$15.00