



2018

WILD DESERT CALENDAR

Oregon Natural Desert Association



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

From petroglyphs to panoramic vistas, Oregon's high desert offers much to love. ONDA's thousands of hard-working volunteers, dedicated donors and passionate advocates know the desert well and love this remarkable region deeply. Our vibrant community is dedicated to ensuring that Oregon's high desert treasures are protected for future generations to know and love just as we do today.

An all-volunteer effort, the Wild Desert Calendar has been connecting people throughout Oregon and beyond to our incredible wild desert for nearly 15 years. We invite you to visit the places you see in these pages. Then join us in taking action to conserve Oregon's stunning rivers, wild lands and wildlife.

Visit www.ONDA.org/getinvolved.



row 1 (L-R): A hiker gazes into the depths of the Owyhee Canyonlands, photo: Adam McKibben; ONDA volunteers get goofy after a work trip on Bridge Creek, John Day River Basin, photo: Nathan Wallace; ONDA volunteers count Greater sage-grouse on a particularly snowy spring morning, Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, photo: David Beltz.

row 2 (L-R) The weather breaks and a rainbow emerges in the uplands of the Owyhee Canyonlands region, photo: Adam McKibben; Fun for the whole family! 2017 Annual General Meeting, John Day River Basin, photo: Allison Crotty; An ONDA volunteer serves up a good meal after a long day working to restore Oregon's high desert, John Day River Basin, photo: Sage Brown.



row 3 (L-R): An ONDA volunteer retrofits protective caging to give this cottonwood room to grow, John Day River Basin, photo: Greg Burke; Paddlers explore the wild Owyhee River, photo: Levi VanMeter; An ONDA volunteer protects a willow planting from browsers like deer, John Day River Basin, photo: Nathan Wallace.

row 4 (L-R): ONDA volunteers float the John Day River, photo: Sage Brown; ONDA and the Bureau of Land Management team up to remove obsolete barbed wire fence, John Day River Basin, photo: Sage Brown; Sagebrush starts for a high desert restoration project, photo: Jessica Brothers; Public lands supporters unite at a town hall meeting with Rep. Walden, photo courtesy of ONDA.



OREGON'S WILD DESERT: 8 MILLION ACRES TO EXPLORE

Oregon's high desert remains a remote marvel of the West. You'll find few paved roads here. Instead, nature plays out largely uninterrupted. Swift rivers, sheer canyons, craggy peaks and quiet expanses provide critical habitat for wildlife and a backdrop for outdoor exploration. Pronghorn antelope often outnumber people, and starry night skies are a way of life.

This is the awe-inspiring place that the Oregon Natural Desert Association presents to you in the 2018 Wild Desert Calendar. If you find yourself inspired by the wild lands in these photos, we invite you to join us in protecting them.

For 30 years, ONDA has worked to protect, defend and restore Oregon's high desert public lands. By partnering with tribes, land management agencies, landowners, elected officials and people like you, ONDA is a strong voice for the conservation of Oregon's high desert.

THE SPECIAL PLACES WHERE WE WORK

OWYHEE CANYONLANDS

At more than 2 million acres, Oregon's Owyhee Canyonlands is the largest undeveloped, unprotected expanse in the lower 48 states. Its red-rock canyons, vital rivers and diverse wildlife – including the imperiled Greater sage-grouse – are unlike anything else in Oregon. Permanent protection of the Owyhee is one of ONDA's top priorities.

CENTRAL OREGON BACKCOUNTRY

With rolling sagebrush plains and dramatic river canyons, the gateway to Oregon's dry side offers world-class recreation right outside city limits – including fishing, hiking, horseback riding and more. 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.

JOHN DAY RIVER BASIN

The John Day River flows absent of dams, providing prime habitat for summer steelhead and Chinook salmon. The surrounding lands offer exceptional recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat. By working with county officials, community leaders and landowners, ONDA helped welcome legislation in 2015 that would make Sutton Mountain wilderness. ONDA has also partnered with local landowners and ranchers on wilderness for the Cathedral Rock, Horse Heaven and Lower John Day River areas.

STEENS MOUNTAIN

In 2000, Steens Mountain became Oregon's first desert wilderness. ONDA played a critical role in making it happen and continues to advocate on the iconic mountain's behalf today. From challenging "right idea, wrong place" wind energy development to watchdogging the carving of unnecessary roads, we continue to protect the jewel of the Oregon desert.

GREATER HART-SHELDON REGION

Spanning more than 3 million acres of Oregon and Nevada, the Greater Hart-Sheldon Region 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 and the imperiled Greater sage-grouse. ONDA has worked to protect and restore this region for decades.

OREGON DESERT TRAIL

The Oregon Desert Trail stretches nearly 800 miles across some of the most scenic, ecologically significant public lands in Oregon's high desert, including the Oregon Badlands Wilderness, Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, Steens Mountain Wilderness and the Owyhee Canyonlands. Whether it's a day hike or a long-distance adventure, the Oregon Desert Trail offers recreationists of all stripes an amazing way to experience the high desert.



MAP DETAIL





JANUARY



Bobcat. Photo: Devlin Holloway

Basin and Range. It is a soundless immensity with mountains in it. You stand, as we do now, and look up at a high mountain front, and turn your head and look fifty miles down the valley, and there is utter silence.

John McPhee
Basin and Range

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	○ 1 New Year's Day	2 Perihelion (Earth closest to Sun) 9:35 PM PST	3 Quadrantid meteor shower (30/hour)	4	5 ONDA incorporated, 1989	6
7	● 8	9	10	11 Aldo Leopold born, 1887	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday	● 16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	● 24	25	26	27
28	29 Edward Abbey born, 1927	30	○ 31 Cows removed from Donner und Blitzen Wild & Scenic River, 1997	1	2	3



FEBRUARY



Golden eagle. Photo: Devlin Holloway

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. ... to approach all of earth-life, of which we are a part, with humility and respect.

Richard Nelson
The Gifts

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2 Groundhog Day	3
4	5	6	7 ☾	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 ●	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Ash Wednesday St. Valentine's Day	22	23 ☾	24
25	26 Presidents' Day	27	28	1	2	3
4 Howard Zahniser, father of 1964 Wilderness Act, born, 1906	5	6	7 First gray wolf in 37 years enters Oregon, 1999	8	9	10

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					

MARCH

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4	5	6
7	8	9
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16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30
31		



MARCH



Yellow-headed blackbird. Photo: Devlin Holloway

Nature ever flows; stands never still. Motion or change is her mode of existence. The poetic eye sees in Man the Brother of the River, and in Woman the Sister of the River. Their life is always transition.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Journals

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	○ 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	● 9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	● 17
Daylight Saving Time begins, 2 AM						St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	● 24
		Spring Equinox, 9:15 AM PDT		John McConnell, Earth Day founder, born, 1905		
25	26	27	28	29	30	○ 31
Palm Sunday					Good Friday Oregon Badlands & Spring Basin wilderness areas designated, 2009	First day of Passover

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



Hedgehog cactus. Photo: Helen Harbin

When Aldo Leopold wrote, “Of what avail are forty freedoms without a blank spot on the map,” I like to think he had places like Hampton Buttes in mind. Out there, landmarks with mysterious names stir one’s curiosity – Long Barn Mountain, Stone House, Rhubarb Springs, Twelvemile Table. And then there are those best, unnamed places – the blank spots on the map waiting to be explored.

Gena Goodman-Campbell
Public Lands Coordinator, ONDA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter	2	3	4	5	6	7 Last day of Passover
8 ☾	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 ●	16	17	18	19	20	21 John Muir born, 1838
22 ☾ Earth Day Lyrid meteor shower (20/hour)	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 ○	30	1	2	3	4	5

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				



MAY

Monarch on milkweed. Photo: Devlin Holloway

Then all of a sudden you're afloat and the world is reduced to basalt canyon walls, sun, clouds, wind and water. Water that slides serenely along in places, seethes and boils in others. It's free and wild and indifferent to your daily struggle...And you're more here than there, more what is than what if.

Jim Witty

Meet Me in the Badlands

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					

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	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Eta Aquarid meteor shower (30/hour)						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Mother's Day						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	Memorial Day					



JUNE



Collared lizard. Photo: Devlin Holloway

I left the Owyhee feeling creatively revitalized, like I have a new cadence to what drives me. It is my deepest hope that we will all continue to experience and not take for granted these moments that reignite our sparks. Let them guide you. Let them give you permission to dream. Let them help you remember those moments of wonder.

Adam McKibben
ONDA supporter

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Father's Day				Summer Solstice, 3:07 AM PDT		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Oregon Wilderness Act passed, 1984	Taylor Grazing Act passed, 1934			

MAY

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

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				



JULY



American avocet. Photo: Devlin Holloway

But then we reached the edge of the rimrock cliffs and looked down to see marshes linked like jewels across the breast of the Great Basin. Just then the sun dropped down over the long marshy lakes, and in that lovely light, the waters lay before us, spread out on the basin's great wide table.

Nancy Langston
*Where Land & Water Meet:
 A Western Landscape Transformed*

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
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Independence Day

Aphelion (Earth farthest from Sun), 9:47 A.M. PDT

Henry David Thoreau
born, 1817

Delta Aquarid meteor
shower (20/hour)

Spotted owl listed as
endangered species, 1990

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

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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



Burrowing owls. Photo: Devlin Holloway

It was an empty world because no man had yet joined sticks to make a house or scratched the earth to make a road or embedded the transient symbols of his artifice in the clean horizon. But it was not a sterile world. It held the genesis of life and lay deep and anticipant under the sky.

Beryl Markham
West with the Night

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

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



Petroglyphs. Photo: Michelle McSwain

You cannot travel anywhere in Oregon without encountering the Miocene, from 24 million to 5 million years ago.... Its eruptive power glowers from the dark faces of Steens Mountain, Hart Mountain, and Abert Rim.... In the nearly 20 million years of the Miocene, more lava probably flowed across the Oregon landscape than had erupted here in all the time before and all the time since.

Ellen Bishop
In Search of Ancient Oregon

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										

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
☾ 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Labor Day Federal Wilderness Act passed, 1964			President Franklin Roosevelt designated Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, 1935		
● 9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rosh Hashana	Rosh Hashana				
☾ 16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Yom Kippur			Autumn Equinox, 6:54 PM PDT Bruce Babbitt designated Klamath Wild & Scenic River, 1994
23/30	○ 24	25	26	27	28	29



OCTOBER



Pronghorn. Photo: Devlin Holloway

Do the trees speak back to the wind
when the wind offers some invitational comment?
As some of us do, do they also talk to the sun?
I believe so, and if such belief need rest on
evidence, let me just say, Sometimes it's
an earful.

Mary Oliver
"Do the trees speak" in *Felicity*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2 National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act passed, 1968	3 Congress passed Steens Mountain Cooperative Management & Protection Act, 2000	4	5	6
7	8 Indigenous Peoples' Day	9	10	11	12	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	1	2	3

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



Coyote. Photo: Devlin Holloway

When the land said stop talking, I stopped moving, as though words were needed to keep going, to soften the blow of lava smashed across this scape, to deflect the unrelenting gaze of land meeting sky halfway, to guide my deaf hand across rockbound whispers, ... and warn the streams, giddy off the Steens, that from this alkaline basin there is no escape.

Ellen Waterston
“Harney Lake” in *Between Desert Seasons*

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 <div>President Reagan signed Omnibus Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, 1988 Oregon citizens vote to create state Scenic Waterways System, 1970</div>
4 <div>Daylight Saving Time ends, 2 AM</div>	5	6	• 7	8	9	10
11 <div>Veterans Day</div>	12	13	14	☾ 15	16	17 <div>Leonid meteor shower (15/hour)</div>
18 <div>Cows removed from Owyhee Wild & Scenic River, 1999</div>	19	20	21	☾ 22 <div>Thanksgiving</div>	23	24
25	26	27	28	☾ 29	30	1



DECEMBER



Cottontail. Photo: Greg Burke

It seems natural to liken venerable trees to grand old men. It is something to have lived through storms that try one so terribly, but only succeed in giving greater powers. Even the scars of a tree add dignity, and the loss here and there of a limb only makes for more character.

Eloise J. Roorbach
“The Big Basin” in *Overland Monthly*

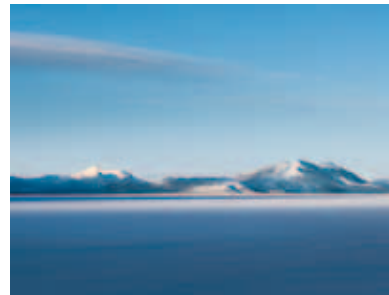
NOVEMBER												JANUARY									
			1	2	3								1	2	3	4	5				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10						6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17						13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24						20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
25	26	27	28	29	30							27	28	29	30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	• 6	7	8
	First Day of Hanukkah					
9	10	11	12	13	14	☾ 15
	Last day of Hanukkah			Geminid meteor shower (100/hour)		
16	17	18	19	20	21	☾ 22
					Winter Solstice, 2:23 PM PST	
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	☾ 29
		Christmas				

The **Oregon Natural Desert Association** works to protect, defend and restore the beauty and solitude of Oregon's wild desert, including the Owyhee Canyonlands, Central Oregon Backcountry, Greater Hart-Sheldon Region, John Day River Basin and Steens Mountain. Support ONDA's efforts and help protect the places you love. Visit www.onda.org/support.



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JANUARY **MICKEY BUTTE/TABLE MOUNTAIN**



FEBRUARY **GREATER HART-SHELDON REGION**



MARCH **JOHN DAY RIVER**



APRIL **HAMPTON BUTTE**



MAY **WHYCHUS-DESCHUTES**



JUNE **OWYHEE CANYONLANDS**



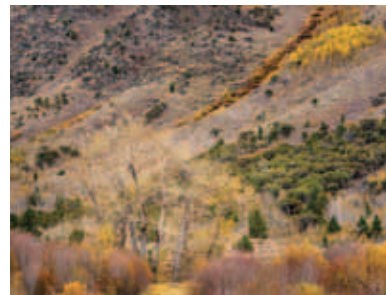
JULY **WARNER VALLEY**



AUGUST **GREATER HART-SHELDON REGION**



SEPTEMBER **ABERT RIM**



OCTOBER **STEENS MOUNTAIN**



NOVEMBER **MALHEUR WILDLIFE REFUGE**



DECEMBER **OREGON BADLANDS**

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 Sequeria, Helen Harbin and all 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.

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