

2025 | 20th Anniversary Edition

WILD DESERT CALENDAR

Oregon Natural Desert Association





Celebrating 20 Years of Wild Desert Photography

OREGON'S DISTINCTIVE DESERT

Oregon's high desert is a unique landscape featuring impressive rivers, craggy canyons, broad peaks, undulating hills and ancient junipers. Innumerable petroglyphs and pictographs record Indigenous presence since time immemorial. By day, you can watch clouds sweep over the Sagebrush Sea. At night, the dark skies sparkle with countless stars.

Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA)

is the only conservation organization dedicated exclusively to this remarkable region. ONDA aims to preserve the wonders of Oregon's high desert for future generations to know and love just as we do today.

ONDA helps people throughout Oregon and beyond connect with this incredible wild desert and ensures they have a say in how these public lands are managed. Thousands of dedicated donors, passionate advocates and steadfast volunteers take part in ONDA's strategic conservation campaigns, continuous policy vigilance and ambitious restoration work each year, working together to keep Oregon's desert natural, wild and thriving.

GRATITUDE

Special thanks for this publication go to the 100+ photographers who submitted images for consideration, our featured photographers, all of the naturalists who share phenological observations, and our highly dedicated calendar committee: Scott Bowler, Greg Burke, Dave Caplan, Mark Chidlaw, Jim Davis and Helen Harbin.

Copyright to all photographs herein belongs to the photographers who generously donated these images.



ROW 1 (L-R): Watching the October 2023 eclipse from the high desert. Photo: Chris Friend. Spring raft trip on the Owyhee River. Photo: John Aylward. Sunrise hot spring soak on a winter morning camping around Willow Creek. Photo: Jeff Reynolds.

ROW 2 (L-R): Their favorite place in the world: the Painted Hills. Photo: Richard LeBlond. A kayaker on the East Fork of the Owyhee River. Photo: David Folts. Hiker overlooks the high desert. Photo: Bill Eastlake.

ROW 3 (L-R): Jeff and Sandee build fencing on a South Fork Crooked River Stewardship trip. Photo: Sarah Lindsay. Biker and dog on the Alvord Desert playa. Photo: Alex Zimmerman. Stumbling upon a clear, secluded pool of water deep in the Owyhee Canyonlands. Photo: Adam Lee.

ROW 4 (L-R): Happy camper on a snowy day in the Pueblo Mountains. Photo: Ada Cohen. Sunset Silhouette on a spring evening in the John Day Wilderness. Photo: Ada Cohen. ONDA Volunteers take part in a spring restoration project at Pine Creek. Photo: Renee Schiavone.

Cover: 2023 annular eclipse at Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge. Photo: Tyson Fisher

CONSERVING OREGON'S DESERT PUBLIC LANDS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

From stately bighorn sheep to diminutive horned lizards, a wide range of birds, plants, fish, insects and animals live in Oregon's high desert, with many species dependent on its vast expanses of unbroken sagebrush steppe to survive.

ONDA has worked to protect, defend and restore Oregon's high desert since 1987. By partnering with Tribes, land management agencies, landowners, elected officials and people like you, ONDA is a strong voice for conservation in Oregon's high desert.

We hope your passion for restoring and conserving the desert's essential landscapes is reignited each month as you page through the breathtaking scenery in this Wild Desert Calendar.

WHERE ONDA WORKS

OWYHEE CANYONLANDS

Oregon's Owyhee Canyonlands is the largest undeveloped, unprotected expanse in the lower 48 states. Its red rock canyons, vital rivers and array of wildlife are unlike anything else in Oregon. Permanently protecting the Owyhee is a top priority for the ONDA community. *See June, July and September.*

CENTRAL OREGON BACKCOUNTRY

With rolling sagebrush plains and dramatic river canyons, this gateway into Oregon's dry side offers a wide variety of recreation just a few miles outside city limits. Many of its waterways are critical spawning grounds for salmon and steelhead. ONDA works with community members to conserve the natural beauty of beloved wild areas of Central Oregon. *See December.*

JOHN DAY RIVER BASIN

Without dams to block migration, the John Day River provides safe passage for summer steelhead and Chinook salmon. The surrounding landscape offers critical habitat for mule deer, elk and more, with exceptional recreational opportunities too. ONDA's dedication to conserving the area is instrumental to a community-driven proposal to protect Sutton Mountain. *See April.*

GREATER HART-SHELDON

Spanning more than 3 million acres of Oregon and Nevada, the Greater Hart-Sheldon is a diverse expanse of mountains, wetlands, sagebrush steppe and canyons that provide a safe haven for wildlife. Hundreds of species thrive here, including migrating waterfowl, pronghorn and the imperiled greater sage-grouse. Protecting the Greater Hart Sheldon will ensure these public lands remain a thriving ecosystem for flora and fauna. *See January, March and November.*

STEENS MOUNTAIN

With wild rivers coursing through broad gorges, golden aspen groves and lush wildflower meadows, Steens Mountain is simply stunning. ONDA played a critical role in securing wilderness designation for Steens and continues to serve as a vigilant advocate for this iconic mountain today. From challenging inappropriate industrial development to preventing unnecessary roads, ONDA protects this jewel of the Oregon desert and cares for the nearby Alvord Desert and Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. *See February, May, August and October.*

OREGON DESERT TRAIL

With long stretches of cross-country travel stitched together by pieces of defined trail, the Oregon Desert Trail is a long-distance hiking route like no other. Whether you head out for a day, a week, or a month, this route through eastern Oregon's public lands will grant you an intimate connection to the wildest stretches of Oregon's high desert. *See May, August, September, October November, December.*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Oregon's high desert is the homeland of a diversity of Indigenous people, including the Northern Paiute, Shoshone, Bannock, Wasco, Warm Springs, Yahooskin, Cayuse, Walla Walla and Umatilla peoples organized within several Tribes. These include the Burns Paiute Tribe, Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, the Klamath Tribes, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and others.

ONDA is committed to collaborating with these communities and eager to continue learning more about how our conservation mission can complement Tribal and Indigenous conservation goals.





JANUARY

Pronghorn with Beatys Butte, Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge. Photo: Jim Davis



Coyote. Photo: Shannon Phifer

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

MARGARET MEAD
Anthropologist and Author

Look for trumpeter swans at the Summer Lake Wildlife Area and Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. ♦ Watch any open waters to see bald eagles fishing, waterfowl dabbling and songbirds busily foraging for seeds among any unfrozen aquatic plants and grasses.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	● 30	31	1	2	3	4
		New Year's Eve	New Year's Day Last day of Kwanzaa		Quadrantid meteor shower (40/hour)	Perihelion (Earth closest to Sun) 5:28 A.M. PST
5	◐ 6	7	8	9	10	11
ONDA incorporated, 1989						
12	○ 13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	◑ 21	22	23	24	25
	Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday observed					
26	27	28	● 29	30	31	1
			Lunar New Year			



FEBRUARY

Little Blitzen Wild and Scenic River, Steens Mountain Wilderness. Photo: Mark Darnell



Greater sage-grouse. Photo: Richard Eltrich

"I am not altogether convinced there is anywhere in the lower 48 states where getting truly lost is possible without special talent, but it is nice to believe the high desert may hold that possibility."

BRUCE HAYSE
Hiker, Environmentalist and Author
Unobscured Horizons, Untravelled Trails – Hiking the Oregon High Desert

With little else available, the evergreen leaves of big sagebrush make for valuable winter forage for greater sage-grouse, mule deer, pronghorn and numerous other wildlife species. ♦ The very first plants will often begin emerging now, often tiny annuals on dry, bare slopes. ♦ Juniper subtly begin to turn from their rusty brownish-green of winter to a brighter greenish-blue of spring.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	● 29	30	31	1
						Black History Month
2	3	4	● 5	6	7	8
9	10	11	○ 12	13	14	15
					Valentines Day	
16	17	18	19	● 20	21	22
	Presidents' Day					
23	24	25	26	● 27	28	1
					First day of Ramadan	



MARCH

Storm light at sunrise, Lake Abert Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Photo: Jim Davis



American avocet. Photo: Shannon Phifer

“Although the jewel of this landscape is the lake, the complete story consists of countless plants and animals, from the very primitive, reddish, bacteria-like archaea that thrive only in the lake’s high-salinity waters to the golden eagles and ravens that soar above the craggy slopes of Abert Rim.”

RON LARSON

Biologist and Author

A Natural History of Oregon’s Lake Abert in the Northwest Great Basin Landscape, 2023

As perennial plants resume growing, look for new green shoots of grasses, including Great Basin wild rye, bluegrass and fescue species, and flowers such as sagebrush, buttercup, lomatium, yellow bells, grass widows, and phlox emerging in warmer, drier areas. Shrubs like manzanita and dwarf Oregon grape may be blooming on warmer, sunnier rock outcroppings. ♦ Found only in the American West, mountain mahogany trees are greening up, with both the leaves and blossoms giving off a lovely scent. ♦ Ungulate herds are moving off their winter ranges. ♦ With thin, flat bodies that heat quickly, side-blotched lizards are perching on sun-bathed rocks, the first reptile species to become active in early spring. ♦ Greater sage-grouse are courting, with male birds performing elaborate dances for females on the mating grounds that they return to year after year.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
23	24	25	26	● 27	28	1 Women’s History Month Meteorological Spring Begins
2	3	4	5 Ash Wednesday	☾ 6	7	8
9	10	11	12	○ 13 Total Lunar Eclipse 11:58 P.M. PDT (max)	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Spring Equinox, 2:01A.M. PDT	21	☾ 22
23/30 (30) Last day of Ramadan	24/31	25	26	27	28	● 29



APRIL

Sutton Mountain Wilderness Study Area, proposed Sutton Mountain National Monument. Photo: Tyson Fisher



Checkered white on sulfur flower. Photo: Barb Rumer

"I like to think the inland sea and, now, the sagebrush ocean, dreamed of me, of you before we got here; before we entered the cool of the rocky lair—to filter the desert's chalky soil through our questions, untangle the plaits of bird bones hollowed by the memory of weightlessness and flight, run the fine blade of chiseled points across our tongues, measure our giant's feet against the delicate sage bark moccasin, imagine a meal of beetle, mammoth, and mollusk."

ELLEN WATERSTON

Oregon's Poet Laureate, Author and Teacher
Excerpted from *Through Holocene Eyes*

Bitterroot begins blooming in April from the Central Oregon Backcountry to the Owyhee Canyonlands. ♦ Greater sage-grouse congregations at leks peak in early April, with males aiming to attract female attention with their elaborate courtship display. ♦ Flocks of shorebirds such as least and western sandpipers stop along shorelines and mud flats to fatten up for their long migration to breeding habitat above the Arctic Circle.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Passover (begins at sunset)

Last day of Passover
Easter

Lyrid meteor shower
(20/hour)
Earth Day



MAY

Wildhorse Canyon, Steens Mountain Wilderness. Photo: James Parsons



Baby burrowing owls. Photo: Tara Lemezis

“Rocks are reminders that history, wonder, beauty and surprise are everywhere, all around us, all the time.”

NORA BAUMAN
Rockhound and Desert Naturalist

It's prime high desert hiking season now, with the moist soil and warm sun encouraging dozens of flower species to bloom. Get out there before noxious cheatgrass seeds begin to infest one's socks and shoes. ♦ *Lewissia* now blooms on rocky outcrops, the fleshy green leaves from earlier in spring giving way to glorious white and pink flowers. Great displays of closely related balsamroot and wyethia color vast swaths of the landscape a bright yellow, with purple lupine providing a lovely counterpoint. Other wildflowers now include bighead clover, sand lily, dwarf magenta monkeyflowers, white eyelash-weed, ballhead waterleaf, pink and white phlox, red and yellow Indian paintbrush, and varieties of *Collinsia*. ♦ In aquatic habitats, the eggs of frogs, toads and salamanders hatch, attracting garter snakes, herons and white faced ibis to feed on the plump tadpoles. ♦ A great variety of swallows, warblers, tanagers and shorebirds arrive on newly defrosted wetlands to feed and breed. Hotspots include Lake Abert, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Warner Wetlands and Summer Lake.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
● 27	28	29	30	1	2	3
				Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month		
☾ 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Eta Aquarid meteor shower (30/hour)				
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

Spring sunrise at McDermitt Creek canyon, McDermitt Caldera. Photo: Kurt Kuznicki



Evening primrose. Photo: Patrick Stoll

*“But when I smell the sage,
When the long, marching landscape line
Melts into wreathing mountains,
And the dust cones dance,
Something in me that is of them will stir ”*

MARY AUSTIN
Poet and Author, *Going West*, 1922

Many widespread flowering plants and shrubs are in full bloom now, including paintbrush, owl's clover, desert parsley and the iconic keystone species of the high desert: sagebrush. And, in select vernal ponds scattered throughout the Great Basin, at roughly 5,500 - 6,500' elevation, the delicate orchid-like blooms of the Great Basin calicoflower appear. ♦ The nests of resident shorebirds, such as the black-necked stilt, snowy plover and spotted sandpiper, are filled with eggs, with downy chicks arriving soon. As these baby birds fledge and leave the nest, their parents will teach them to forage. ♦ As rivers warm up and water levels drop, many cold water loving fish migrate upstream, if possible, or hunker down into deeper pools.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 LGBTQ+ Pride Month Meteorological Summer Begins	2 ☾	3	4	5	6 First day of Eid al-Adha	7 Last day of Eid al-Adha
8	9	10	11 ☉	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 ☾	19 Juneteenth	20 Summer Solstice, 7:42 P.M. PDT	21
22	23	24	25 ●	26	27	28
29	30	1	2 ☾	3	4	5



JULY

Owyhee Canyonlands. Photo: Jim Davis



Mariposa lily. Photo: Al St. John

“My photography in the Oregon desert comes from a response to wonder and an urge to share. I try to look beyond the splendor and awe of massive expanses and stunning skylscapes. What draws me in are the intimacy of side canyons, cliff shadows, reflections, geological turmoil, lichens or critters. I will use something like a tiny sliver of sky to bore in on the essence of grandeur.”

JIM DAVIS

Photographer and ONDA Wild Desert Calendar
founding committee member

Wildflower species that were blooming in May or June at lower elevations will now be blooming at higher elevation. July is prime time for sagebrush mariposa lilies, scarlet gilia, gray-green thistle and Steens Mountain thistle. ♦ Baby birds and animals are out and about, learning from their parents and honing their survival skills. Those baby rodents, lagomorphs and ungulates who haven’t yet developed strong skill sets are feeding their mammalian predators. ♦ Flies and mosquitoes, crickets and grasshoppers, butterflies and moths, and an amazing variety of beetles are at peak population now, supplying their manifold predators with a steady food source.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
				Aphelion (Earth farthest from Sun), 12:54 P.M. PDT	Independence Day	
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
	Delta Aquarid meteor shower (20/hour)					



AUGUST

Sunrise view north from Pueblo Mountain Wilderness Study Area. Photo: Christof Teuscher



Badger. Photo: Shannon Phifer

“Rolling sage flats, rocky draws, a broad playa, hidden canyons and caves, high tablelands and rimrock make up this relatively undisturbed sagebrush steppe ecosystem. As most high desert enthusiasts are aware, all these blank spaces on road maps are worthy of exploration. Far from being empty white plains they are often rugged and almost certainly wild.”

ELAINE REES

Former ONDA Board President
Desert Ramblings, May 1989

Pika are busy cutting and drying little “haystacks” to provide the food stores they will depend upon in winter, as they do not hibernate. ♦ Green rabbitbrush explodes into waves of bright yellow blooms this month all across the high desert. ♦ Subalpine wildflowers in the upper meadows and gorges of Steens Mountain, Hart Mountain and in the Pueblo, Trout Creek and Oregon Canyon mountains are reaching their peak. ♦ Many shorebirds will begin their southward migration now. ♦ Kestrels are searching fields for their favorite and most abundant prey: grasshoppers. Seed-eating birds are busy fattening up as plants ripen. ♦ Most reptiles retreat into cool hiding places at midday, except for the heat-adapted Great Basin collared lizard which can be seen basking on boulders— even when it’s 100 degrees.

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
		Perseid meteor shower (60/hour)				
17	18	19	20	21	● 22	23
		Malheur National Wildlife Refuge established, 1908				
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	☾ 30



SEPTEMBER

Owyhee Canyonlands sunset. Photo: Rick Samco



Sagebrush lizard. Photo: Kari Ferber

“The Owyhee Canyonlands bear lifeways known to my Shoshone Paiute people. We were born to the Owyhee, where the canyonlands provided cover in times of hardship. Shoshone, Paiute and Bannock stories will be told through a monument designation and our cultural resources and lifeways protected for generations to come”

GARY MCKINNEY

Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Advocate

Large numbers of Wilson’s phalaropes, eared grebes and American avocets should be stopping at Lake Abert to feast on brine shrimp and brine flies in preparation for their southward migration—if water is available in the lake. ♦ Gray rabbitbrush is in bloom, feeding the same pollinators that enjoyed green rabbitbrush blooms last month. ♦ Aspen, cottonwood, hackberry, chokecherry and willow trees, along with many smaller desert shrubs and even some perennial plants, are beginning to show autumn colors—especially along riparian corridors at middle and higher elevations. ♦ Several interesting flying insects can be seen, including moths, migrating butterflies, and the truly spectacular tarantula hawk wasps, with their shiny black bodies and deep orange wings—up to 2 inches long!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 <div>Labor Day Meteorological Autumn begins</div>	2	3 <div>The Wilderness Act passed, 1964</div>	4	5	6
○ 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
● 14	15 <div>Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)</div>	16	17	18	19	20
● 21	22 <div>Rosh Hashanah (begins at sunset) Autumn Equinox, 11:19A.M. PDT</div>	23	24 <div>Rosh Hashanah (ends at sunset)</div>	25	26	27
28	● 29	30	1	2	3	4



OCTOBER

Little Indian Gorge, Steens Mountain Wilderness. Photo: Mark Darnell



Bighorn sheep. Photo: Haley Tobiason

“The landscapes we know and return to become places of solace. We are drawn to them because of the stories they tell, because of the memories they hold, or simply because of the sheer beauty that calls us back again and again.”

TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS

Writer, Conservationist and Activist

Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place, 1991

The large aspen groves on Hart and Steens mountains are taking on burnished hues of yellow, orange and red. ♦ This is mating season for deer, elk, pronghorn and bighorn sheep. Listen for elk bugling in forested areas. ♦ The flowers on most shrubs have long-since faded, but big sagebrush is just coming into bloom. ♦ Mushrooms appear across a variety of habitats, especially following rains. ♦ Many species of raptors migrate south as prey species begin to den up and diminish in abundance.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			Yom Kippur (begins at sunset)	Yom Kippur (ends at sunset) National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act passed, 1968		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			John Day Fossil Beds National Monument established, 1975			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Indigenous Peoples' Day					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Diwali	Orionid meteor shower (20/hour)				
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
		Omnibus Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act passed, 1988		Steens Mountain Cooperative Management & Protection Act passed, 2000	Halloween	



NOVEMBER

Full moon rising over the Warner Lakes, Oregon Outback Dark Sky Sanctuary. Photo: Jim Davis



Petroglyphs. Photo: Chris Friend

“We drove down from sunrise on Steens Mountain, crossing gravel roads on the northern edges of Catlow Valley to the break over Hart Mountain into North Warner, where we could look down on lakes brimming with spring runoff, shimmering in the morning breezes . . . We stood facing such beauty as if given something from a dream about what the world could be, if we let it, alive and significant without us.”

WILLIAM KITTREDGE
Author, *Hole in the Sky*

The tundra swans at Summer Lake Wildlife Area are assessing the temperatures and how much of the water has frozen over, deciding whether they will stay for the entire winter or carry on. ♦ Other migrating species have moved on, leaving resident animals to settle into their winter ranges—lower, warmer areas with less snow, accessible food, water and shelter.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	 29	30	31	1 First day of Dia de los Muertos Native American Heritage Month
2 Daylight Saving Time ends, 2 A.M. Last day of Dia de los Muertos	3	4	 5	6	7	8
9	10	 11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17 Leonid meteor shower (15/hour)	18	 19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	 27 Thanksgiving	28 Native American Heritage Day	29



DECEMBER

Winter in the Oregon Badlands Wilderness. Photo: Greg Burke



Pronghorn. Photo: Hayden Connor

“The ancient junipers of the Badlands Wilderness possess a deep wisdom that is unknowable to us. How else could these trees have survived in such a harsh environment for thousands of years?”

GENA GOODMAN-CAMPBELL
ONDA Stewardship Director

Short-tailed and long-tailed weasels are investigating brush and rock piles, hunting for ground squirrels, mice and pack rats. ♦ Beaver are living off the hardwood sticks cached at the bottom of their pond, staying below the ice until the spring thaw. ♦ Mule deer and elk can be seen in the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and concentrated in places where snow cover is thinner with brushy or treed cover. If you come across them in rut, be careful not to intrude.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1 Meteorological Winter Begins	2	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities	○ 4	5	6
7	8	9	10	◐ 11	12	13 Geminid meteor shower (100/hour)
14 Hanukkah (begins at sunset)	15	16	17	18	● 19	20
21 Winter Solstice, 7:03A.M. PST	22 Hanukkah (ends at sunset)	23	24	25 Christmas	26 First day of Kwanzaa	◐ 27
28	29	30	31 Last day of Kwanzaa New Year's Eve	1	2	○ 3

OREGON'S HIGH DESERT THROUGH THE SEASONS



JANUARY GREATER HART-SHELDON



FEBRUARY STEENS MOUNTAIN



MARCH LAKE ABERT



APRIL JOHN DAY RIVER BASIN



MAY STEENS MOUNTAIN



JUNE MCDERMITT CALDERA



JULY OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



AUGUST PUEBLO MOUNTAINS



SEPTEMBER OWYHEE CANYONLANDS



OCTOBER STEENS MOUNTAINS



NOVEMBER GREATER HART-SHELDON



DECEMBER CENTRAL OREGON BACKCOUNTRY

This **Wild Desert Calendar** will drop you into twelve of the most dramatic, inspiring landscapes in Oregon's vast high desert. Your experiences will include a full moon rising over the Oregon Outback Dark Sky Sanctuary, a snowy day amongst pronghorn in Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, warm morning light rising over spring flowers in the McDermitt Caldera and a unique perspective from deep within the walls of the Owyhee Canyonlands. You'll also enjoy a closer look at the wildlife that hide throughout this landscape, and you can appreciate the resiliency of greater sage-grouse and pronghorn in the chill of winter, the precariousness of baby burrowing owls entering the world, the grace of American avocet gliding on water and more. Prose, poetry and thoughts from biologist Ron Larson, ONDA Stewardship Director Gena Goodman-Campbell, Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Advocate Gary McKinney, Poet Ellen Waterston and others will inspire contemplation and action. And, with moon phases, meteor showers, wildflower blooms and migratory bird arrivals provided, you can use this calendar as a guide to immersing yourself into Oregon's high desert.

All proceeds benefit Oregon Natural Desert Association. ONDA protects, defends and restores public lands in the Owyhee Canyonlands, Central Oregon Backcountry, Greater Hart-Sheldon, John Day River Basin and Steens Mountain. To conserve the desert places you love, visit ONDA.org/give.

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