

# CONSERVING OREGON'S DESERT PUBLIC LANDS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

ONDA conserves the most spectacular and ecologically important public lands in Oregon's high desert. Our solutions-oriented and inclusive conservation initiatives support a thriving future for lands, waters, wildlife and communities throughout eastern Oregon.

Since its founding in 1987, ONDA has partnered with Tribal and Indigenous communities, land management agencies, elected leaders and committed people like you to advocate for conservation actions that protect, defend and restore Oregon's high desert.

## WHERE ONDA WORKS

### OWYHEE CANYONLANDS

● Oregon's Owyhee Canyonlands is the largest unprotected expanse of wildlands in the contiguous United States. Its deep canyons, rushing rivers, rich cultural history and diversity of wildlife set it apart from anywhere else in Oregon. Our campaign to permanently protect the Owyhee is a national conservation priority. See *January, May, July, August 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 recreational opportunities. Many of its waterways provide spawning habitat for salmon and steelhead. ONDA works with community members to conserve and restore the natural values of this beloved landscape. See *June and November*.

### 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 supports abundant habitat for mule deer, elk and more, with exceptional recreational opportunities too. ONDA is partnering with local communities and other organizations to promote permanent protection for Sutton Mountain and surrounding landscapes. See *April*.

### TRIBAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

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.

### GREATER HART-SHELDON

● The Greater Hart-Sheldon encompasses a vast region of mountains, wetlands and sagebrush steppe supporting an abundance of wildlife. Migrating waterfowl, pronghorn, the imperiled greater sage-grouse and more thrive here. ONDA's advocacy to strengthen protections and counter threats will sustain wildlife, habitat, cultural values and public enjoyment for generations to come. See *February and March*.

### STEENS MOUNTAIN

● With spectacular streams coursing through deep 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 remains a vigilant advocate for this iconic mountain today. ONDA also joins partners to steward the nearby Alvord Desert and Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. See *October and December*.

### OREGON DESERT TRAIL

● Showcasing the natural wonders and conservation opportunities of Oregon's high desert, 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 deepen your connection to this exceptional landscape. See *February, March, July, September, October and December*.

