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Oregon Cascades Recreation Web Exhibit



Alexander Kingsbery views the Middle Sister (left) and North Sister at sunrise from atop the South Sister in the Three Sisters area of the Cascades. All three peaks rise above 10,000 feet. (Alexander Kingsbery via Pacific Crest Trail Association)



About the Exhibit



This exhibit uses photos, artwork and memorabilia to highlight the history of recreation in the Oregon Cascade Mountains since 1900. The fashions and equipment may have evolved over time, but the interest in Cascades recreation has remained the same.

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Women's 1930s era climbing boots. (Mazamas Library and Historical Collections Object, Alta M. Loose Collection)

Recreation has played a key role in the history of the Cascade Mountains of Oregon since 1900. Residents of the Willamette Valley and other population centers have long escaped the hectic pace of cities and towns to commune with nature and play in the mountains.

This exhibit illustrates a wide, but incomplete, range of activities over the decades. The fashions and equipment may have evolved over time, but the interest in Cascades recreation has remained the same.

Camping, fishing, hunting, skiing, hiking and mountain climbing headed the list of favored recreation in the early 1900s. Various camps and retreats catering to youth, fraternal or religious groups thrived and offered many organized recreational pursuits in the Cascades for those willing to brave the often primitive roads.

Other visitors preferred the numerous rustic mountain lodges that grew popular throughout the Oregon Cascades. The completion of the Crater Lake Lodge in 1915 and Timberline Lodge in 1938 highlighted this trend. These destinations served as comfortable bases to explore and recreate in the surrounding mountains.

The development of better-paved roads into the mountains beginning in the 1920s spurred more individual travel. Meanwhile, the federal government built more reservoirs, campgrounds, hiking trails and other infrastructure that drew more visitors to the mountains.

While older forms of recreation remain popular, new types, such as snowboarding and mountain biking, have been added. The decades also have seen the growth of motorized recreation such as water skiing, jet skiing and snowmobiling.



A vintage mountaineering ice axe. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

About the Image Sources



A carved wood logo of the Mazamas at the Mazamas Building in Portland. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

Many of the images shown in this exhibit are from the holdings of the Oregon State Archives. These include both vintage black and white tourism photos from the mid-1900s and current color scenic images.

The staff of the *Oregon Blue Book* appreciate the additional information and photographs contributed for this exhibit from the following individuals and repositories:

Crater Lake National Park
Friends of Timberline
Mabry, Steve
Mazamas Library and Historical Collections
Mt. Hood Museum
Murray, Barry G.
Murray-Macioce, Bernadette
Pacific Crest Trail Association

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THE MURRAY FAMILY TREK

*Family adventure on
the Pacific Crest Trail*

About the Murray Family Adventure

The following description is based on the reminiscences of Bernadette Murray-Macioce, who traveled with her family on horseback over the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) for 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada in 1969 and 1970. It offers a glimpse into how such an ambitious family adventure got started and how it was viewed by a young girl. As the trip began, the family members were:

Barry G. Murray Sr. — 30-year-old father
Bernice Murray — 29-year-old mother
Barry G. Murray Jr. — 12-year-old son
Bernadette Murray — 10-year-old daughter
Colette Murray — 8-year-old daughter

The children were home-schooled while traveling, and of course, learned a lot about nature on the trail.

California Dreaming

The five members of the young Murray Family left their Portland home in 1963, loaded up their 1958 Morris Minor with everything they owned and headed south. Life seemed perfect as they settled in Lagunitas, California, an idyllic little town tucked away in the rolling hills of Marin County's San Geronimo Valley. The father, Barry G. Murray Sr., got work as a writer and photographer for San Francisco Magazine.



Left to right: Barry Sr., Colette, Barry Jr., and Bernadette Murray share a light moment and a snack while horse packing in the Oregon section of the Pacific Crest Trail in 1970. (Bernice Murray)

Societal Woes





The National Trails System Act, among other things, created the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail in 1968. (www.trails50.org)

By 1968, the San Geronimo Valley had become a haven for Janis Joplin, The Grateful Dead and hippies. The war in Vietnam was raging, Bobby Kennedy was assassinated and life felt grim. Drugs and violence took a more prominent role in society. At one point, Barry Sr. was called to a party to take a young woman who had overdosed to the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic—she foamed at the mouth as he drove over the Golden Gate Bridge. He arrived to find a line that wrapped around the building but got her in right away because he was one of the few people there who was not high. He left the woman there, never knowing if she survived.

The Spark of Adventure

Barry Sr. mounted his horse, Big Enough, on October 2, 1968 and rode to the Lagunitas Grocery Store to buy the San Francisco Chronicle. As he placed the newspaper on the counter and dug into his pocket for his coin, the headline jumped off the page: “President Lyndon B. Johnson Signs National Trails System Act.” There it was in black and white: with the stroke of a pen, the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail officially became the nation's first cross-country long distance scenic trails. He read the article while riding his horse as he hurried home to tell the family.

The Family Prepares

The news of the national scenic trail designation struck a chord with the Murray Family. They didn't own a television so while most other families were watching the Ed Sullivan Show, the Murrays gathered at night around the fireplace and read together. A family favorite was the Laura Ingalls Wilder series of books. Around the dinner table, the discussion turned to getting away, going back in time—to a place without drugs and violence. Soon that conversation became more focused on “the Pack Trip.” The family prepared meticulously while studying books about how to pack horses, make leather clothing and gear and learn countless other skills needed to safely complete the trek.



Bernadette Murray rides her horse up the trail to the Dee Wright Observatory at McKenzie Pass in the Oregon Cascades in 1970. (Barry G. Murray)

On the Trail

Finally, in April 1969, the Murray's set out from the Mexican border, determined to ride 2,650 miles to Canada on the newly-designated Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. Up to two-thirds of the trail had not been built or was not maintained. Over 400 miles crossed private property and locked gates on private property often meant confronting angry owners with guns. Much of the trail was simply a

dotted line on a map that bore little resemblance to reality. As the family traveled, they trailblazed routes and dismounted to build and mark the trail. The family left the trail for the winter and returned the next spring to complete the adventure.



Home, Sweet Home!

Bernadette and Colette Murray pause at a sign marking the historic Barlow Road near Mt. Hood in the Oregon Cascades in 1970. (Barry G. Murray)

After struggling through the long California trail section, Bernadette was excited to be finally be back home in Oregon. The new Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail followed the long-established Oregon Skyline Trail, and proved to be the best-maintained section of trail on the entire route. In reality, many groups built the the Pacific Crest Trail over the centuries: Native Americans, mountain men, homesteaders, fire crews—all of them were trail blazers.

Press Coverage

On Mt. Hood, the family was met by a press conference at Timberline Lodge and rode right up the ski trail where their family had earlier skied and climbed for years. During the press conference, the U.S. Forest Service presented the family with garbage bags the agency had printed to start the Woodsy Owl "Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute! Pack it Out!" campaign that, Bernadette remembers, was inspired by writing the message on the sides of the pack panniers on their horses.

Finally on October 7, 1970, after struggling through the snow in northern Washington, the family reached the Canadian border, completing their adventure and cementing their memories for a lifetime.

Favorite Oregon Spots

As the miles flew by, every day was a visual treat of beautiful lakes, high deserts, snow capped peaks, virgin forests and gushing waterfalls. When asked to choose a favorite spot in the Oregon Cascades, Bernadette struggled and noted the "stunning vistas around every bend or just over the next mountain."

Among her many favorite places, Bernadette lists: "Lake of the Woods, Mt. McLoughlin, the Pumice Desert, Crater Lake, Mt. Thielsen, Three Fingered Jack, Diamond Peak, Wikiup Plains and the spectacular snowcapped



Barry Murray Jr. moves trash from pack panniers to a trash can at a developed spot along the

Three Sisters: Faith, Hope, and Charity. [The trail] follows the crest of the Cascades [as it] passes by Mt. Jefferson and stunning Jefferson Park, rugged Opie Dilldock Pass, McKenzie Pass and the beautiful Dee Wright Observatory, and stately Mt. Washington. It passes by majestic Mt. Hood and then makes a dramatic drop to the lowest point on the PCT before the crossing of the Bridge of the Gods at Cascade Locks and continuing through Washington." Clearly, she saw too much beauty to narrow it down to one or two spots.

Pacific Crest Trail in the Oregon Cascades in 1970. The pack panniers read, "PACK IT OUT."
(Barry G. Murray)

Learn More

For more information about the Pacific Crest Trail, contact the PCTA at www.pcta.org or attend the Annual PCT Days. Learn more at www.pctdays.com.

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Crater Lake Black Bear

Two men watch a kitchen worker hand feed scraps to a black bear in Crater Lake National Park in this undated photo. Interactions such as this, once not uncommon, are now known to lead to dangerous and unhealthy outcomes, both for wildlife and for humans. The park has been a recreational destination in the southern Oregon Cascades since its founding in 1902. (Crater Lake National Park)

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Lake of the Woods

Brightly painted Adirondack chairs on the shore at Lake of the Woods Resort west of Klamath Falls beckon vacationers to sit back, relax and take in the view of the lake. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Mt. Hood Skier

A backcountry skier descends Mt. Hood's Illumination Rock at the 9,200 foot level in 1985. (Dale Crockatt Collection, Mt. Hood Museum)

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Timberline Lodge Drawing

An original pen and ink drawing captures the relaxed mood of sitting around a fire after a day of skiing on Mt. Hood. The drawing by Douglas Lynch was done circa 1937–1939 for a Timberline Lodge advertising brochure that was never published. (Friends of Timberline)

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Diamond Lake Fishing

A couple shows off fish caught on Diamond Lake east of Roseburg in 1937. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Crater Lake Sliding

A student wearing snowshoes employs a much faster travel method by belly sliding down a snowy slope at Crater Lake. (Stephanie Duwe, NPS, Crater Lake National Park)

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Mazamas Poster

A colorful 1948 Mazamas mountaineering organization poster encourages hikers to join a trail trip into the mountains. (Mazamas Library and Historical Collections, Marianne and Ty Kearney Collection)

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Crater Lake Skiers

Skiers take a break at the rim of Crater Lake in 1939. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Snow Machine

Two skiers and a park ranger stand next to Ike Davidson's snow machine at Crater Lake National Park circa 1931–1932 in this photo by Charles H. Simson. (Crater Lake National Park)

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Diamond Lake Camping

Two women relax at a campground next to Diamond Lake with Mt. Theilsen in the background in 1956. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Charles Lindbergh at Crater Lake

Tourists at Crater Lake National Park got a thrill in 1927 when Charles Lindbergh flew his “Spirit of St. Louis” airplane over the park as part of an extensive flying tour around the country. Earlier in the year, Lindbergh became the first person in history to fly solo non-stop from North America to Europe, transforming himself into an instant international celebrity in the process. This photo is by Fred H. Kiser. (Crater Lake National Park)

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Lake Harriet

Two people canoe through lake fog on Lake Harriet in the Cascade Mountains of Clackamas County.
(Oregon State Archives Photo)

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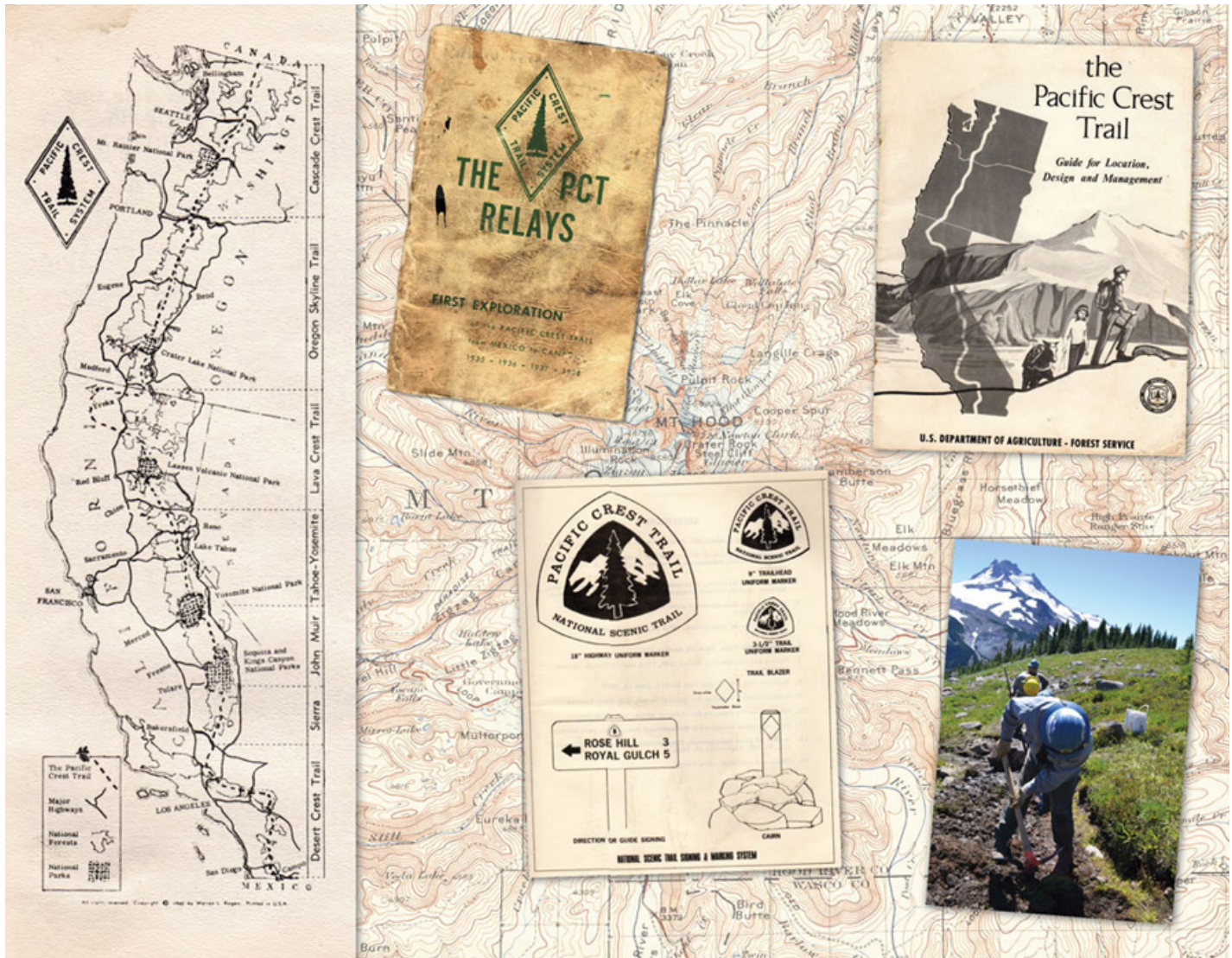
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Pacific Crest Trail Memorabilia

The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), a north-south hiking route that traces the crests of the Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountains from Mexico to Canada, offers some of the purest recreation in the Cascades. Originally proposed in the 1920s, it gained National Scenic Trail status in 1968. The trail winds through the Oregon Cascades for 460 miles, crossing Crater Lake National Park and several wilderness areas before dropping over 3,000 feet into the Columbia River Gorge at Cascade Locks. Images—Far left: a 1960 PCT map. (Warren L. Rogers); Top left: a 1930s PCT relay routing book. (Warren L. Rogers); Bottom left: A PCT trail sign at Timberline Lodge. (Oregon State Archives); Top right and above: A 1971 PCT development guide. (U.S. Forest Service); Bottom right: A trail crew works on the PCT near Mt. Jefferson. (Kosette Isakson via Pacific Crest Trail Association) Background Map: A 1924 topographic map of the Mt. Hood area. (University of Texas Libraries) Slide 13 / of 44



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Crater Lake Tourists

Tourists sit on a rock wall near Crater Lake Lodge and take in the grandeur of the brilliant blue water. Crater Lake was formed after Mt. Mazama blew its top about 7,700 years ago. (Oregon State Archives)

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Timberline Lodge Watercolor

Millard Sheets painted this watercolor ski scene at Timberline Lodge for the September 1967 United Airlines calendar designed to entice travel to the area. (Friends of Timberline)

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Mt. Hood Crevasse

Climbers peer into the abyss of a glacier crevasse on Mt. Hood. This photo was probably taken by Ralph Gifford in the 1920s. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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McKenzie River Fishing

A man casts his fishing line into the McKenzie River just below Tamolitch Falls in 1942. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Skier Drawing

An original pen and ink drawing shows a skier on Mt. Hood. The drawing by Douglas Lynch was done circa 1937–1939 for a Timberline Lodge advertising brochure that was never published. (Friends of Timberline)

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Murray Family Adventure

Barry Murray Jr. rides the Pacific Crest Trail in 1970 along the edge of Zig Zag River Canyon while leading his pack string. Mt. Hood looms in the background. The Murray Family created indelible memories while being the first to complete the trail after its National Scenic Trail designation in 1968. Along the way, they encountered many obstacles such as disappearing trails and angry landowners.
(Barry G. Murray)

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Mt. Hood Climbers

A Mazamas climbing party ascends Mt. Hood circa 1952. (Mazamas Library and Historical Collections Photograph, Mazamas Collection)

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Sparks Lake Kayakers

Kayakers paddle on Sparks Lake with the South Sister in the background. (Oregon State Archives)

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Pacific Crest Trail

The sun sets over the Pacific Crest Trail near McKenzie Pass east of Eugene. The trail celebrates its 50th anniversary as a national scenic trail in 2018. (Alexander Kingsbery via Pacific Crest Trail Association)

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Wagon Train

A wagon train on a 1975 tour celebrating the upcoming Bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence heads along the historic Barlow Road with Mt. Hood in the background. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Timberline Lodge Cartoon

Timberline Lodge, the iconic four-story resort hotel completed in 1938 on the shoulder of Mt. Hood, offers year-round recreation but is best known as a ski destination. Built by the Works Progress Administration, the structure incorporates numerous works by local artists. Here, a 1938 Oregon Journal cartoon by Howard Fisher celebrates the opening of the lodge. (Howard Fisher/Courtesy of The Oregonian)

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Resting on the Trail

Bernadette Murray relaxes and bonds with her mare Chiquita during a 1970 family adventure on the Pacific Crest Trail. The pair drifted off to sleep in the bright sunshine after a long day's ride. (Barry G. Murray)

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Olympic Skiers

The Mahre brothers ski down Mt. Hood in 1986. Twin brothers Phil and Steve won gold and silver medals, respectively, at the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. (Friends of Timberline)

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Decorative Woodcut

A decorative woodcut by Charles Haney depicts the Timberline Lodge. (Friends of Timberline)

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Camp Cooking

Bernice Murray cooks a steak, a special and rare treat, in camp near Mt. Hood on a Murray Family horse-packing adventure along the Pacific Crest Trail in 1970. (Barry G. Murray)

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Timberline Lodge Letterhead

Timberline Lodge letterhead from 1968. (Friends of Timberline)

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Timberline
LODGE

OREGON, 97028



RICHARD L. KOHNSTAMM
AREA OPERATOR

ROBERT J. HOWER
MANAGER

March 4, 1968

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Pacific Crest Trail Adventure

Bernadette Murray cuddles with Tagalong, her little filly horse who was born on the Pacific Crest Trail during a Murray Family horse-packing trip on the 2,650-mile long trail from Mexico to Canada in 1969 and 1970. For young Bernadette, every day with Tagalong was a new adventure. (Barry G. Murray)

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Clear Lake Canoers

Canoers glide along the calm waters of Clear Lake in the central Oregon Cascades. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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National Park Ranger

A National Park Service Naturalist Ranger stands on the rim of the caldera at Crater Lake and speaks to a group of visitors circa 1935. The lake and Garfield Peak are in the background. (Crater Lake National Park)

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High Elevation Skiing

Jeff Lokting skis near the 10,000-foot level of Mt. Hood in 1985. (Mt Hood Museum)

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Inner Tubing

A child rides an inner tube down a snowy slope near Diamond Lake Lodge circa 1967. (Oregon State Archives)

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Mountain Climber

Mountain climber Joe Leuthold, probably on Mt. Hood, is framed by rocks as he ascends circa 1950.
(Mazamas Library and Historical Collections Photograph, Al and Helen Gerding Collection)

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Waterskiing

A man waterskis atop a stool at Big Lake with Mt. Washington in the background. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Snowshoeing

Amy Nelson snowshoes through heavy snow in the Sky Lakes Wilderness Area in the southern Oregon. (Ian Nelson via Pacific Crest Trail Association)

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Ski Rescue Drawing

An original pen and ink drawing shows a ski rescue sled team on Mt. Hood. The drawing by Douglas Lynch was done circa 1937–1939 for a Timberline Lodge advertising brochure that was never published. (Friends of Timberline)

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Snowboarder

A snowboarder on Mt. Hood just above Timberline Lodge takes advantage of a sunny July day in 2014 to hit the slopes. The Palmer Snowfield draws Olympic athletes from around the country to train as well as skiers and snowboarders who attend various camps from June to September. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Fly Fishing

A man fly fishes on the McKenzie River near Leaburg in the Cascades foothills east of Eugene. (Oregon State Archives Photo)

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Women Climbers

The first all women's Mazamas climbing party ascends Mt. Hood in 1932. (Mazamas Library and Historical Collections Photograph, Beatrice de Lacy Collection)

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Dee Wright Observatory

Tourist take in the panoramic view of mountain peaks from the Dee Wright Observatory in the lava fields at McKenzie Pass. (Oregon State Archives)

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Snowmobiling

Snowmobilers take a break on a slope above Elk Lake in the Cascades west of Bend in 2016. (Steve Mabry)

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Rosary Lakes

A colorful sky lights up one of the Rosary Lakes near the Pacific Crest Trail north of Odell Lake.
(Jamie Ford via Pacific Crest Trail Association)

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