FIELD TRIPS

Several exciting field trips have been organized especially for this conference. You can add your field trip selections when conference registration opens.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

Conference attendees can participate in one of the following excursions:

Disc Golf Tournament: Spend the day playing in a casual disc golf tournament along the banks of the Deschutes River in beautiful Tumalo State Park. Disc golf is great for participants of any skill level, age, or ability, and is an excellent way to connect people with the outdoors. Discs and instructions will be available to all participants.

Cascade Range ATV Ride: Ride through the woods on an ATV or in a side-by-side UTV as driver or passenger. We will wind our way through the Cascades on dirt and gravel roads to the summit of Santiam Pass to reach a designated ATV trail system.

Fort Rock Cave Archaeological Tour: Harken back to a time of vast lakes, warming temperatures, and the last of the Ice Age megafauna in this rare opportunity to visit one of North America’s most important archeological sites: Fort Rock Cave. In 1938, famed archaeologist Luther Cressman discovered 70 pairs of sagebrush bark sandals — revealing evidence of some of the first human beings in the Americas. Participants will take a self-guided hike around the geological formation at Fort Rock State Natural Area and an archaeological tour of Fort Rock Cave.

Bicycle Tour: Ride along the Deschutes River in Sunriver Oregon. This 20-mile route will be a combination of pavement, gravel and single-track trails featuring some of Central Oregon's most scenic landscapes.

Smith Rock Hiking and Landscape Photography: Hike through one of Oregon's most popular state parks and the birthplace of sport rock climbing: Smith Rock State Park. Choose between a strenuous 7-mile hike up to the top of Smith Rock's "Misery Ridge", or opt for a mellow 4-mile hike and guided landscape photography session in the Smith Rock canyon along the Crooked River.

Deschutes River Float: Witness the beauty and silence of the forest on a kayak or canoe along Oregon's third largest river. We’ll launch from LaPine State Park and paddle will pass ashen, volcanic river banks along placid, Class I river reaches. If we’re lucky, we may spot otter, osprey and bald eagles.
Local Fly-Fishing Trips: Advanced anglers are invited to spend the day casting fly rods in one of Central Oregon's finest trout fishing locations: Fall River. This guided trip will outfit participants with the gear and the skills training to learn finesse stream fly-fishing.

Park Property Tours: Join park managers for a behind-the-scenes tour of two Oregon State Park properties: Tumalo and Prineville Reservoir. Situated along the Deschutes River, Tumalo State Park operates a campground and day-use area popular for hikers, river floating, picnicking, and fishing. Our second stop will be at Prineville Reservoir State Park, Oregon's first International Dark Sky Park. Spreading over 3,000-acres, with 43-miles of shoreline, the campground and day-use area are well known for boating, fishing, and hiking.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

Collier Memorial State Park and Crater Lake National Park

Spend the morning exploring southern Oregon's Collier Memorial State Park and the afternoon visiting Oregon's only national park, Crater Lake.

At Collier, you’ll visit the state’s finest logging museum, an outdoor museum that houses historic logging equipment that documents the evolution of logging technology in southern Oregon from the 1860s to present day. You’ll see a 1914 Russel Steam Tractor in operation and take a wagon ride behind a 1914 steam tractor. The visit will include a hike along Spring Creek, where blackened trees tell a story of how the landscape is recovering from a devastating 2020 wildfire.

The afternoon will be spent at Crater Lake National Park, featuring the deepest lake in America. Surrounded by cliffs almost 2,000 feet high and boasting a picturesque island with a violent volcanic past, Crater Lake is home to old-growth forest hikes and cross-country ski trips in the winter months.