

Fall Climbing Statement

This will be the last climbing report until Spring 2015. As we enter the late summer and fall, much snow has melted from the upper reaches of Mt. Hood and climbing conditions become poor as there is quite a bit of rockfall inside the crater on the steeper portions of the mountain. If you do choose to make a summit attempt, take great care and don't be afraid to turn back, as the mountain will always be there.

When you leave either parking area, please use the Climber's Trail just east of the ski area to avoid resort operations.

As always, visibility above tree line can go from good to bad quickly, making navigation difficult. Use caution and be aware of the rapidly changing weather if you choose to climb this weekend or into next week.

Please check the NOAA weather service and the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center for up to date snow and weather conditions expected on Mt. Hood. Also, web sites exist that contain anecdotal trip reports that may or may not prove helpful.

Spring climbing conditions can be dangerous and unpredictable. Sudden storms, avalanche hazard, and high winds can happen at any time and may make climbing conditions dangerous and potential search and rescue even more dangerous. Those planning to climb should take all necessary equipment for self rescue and sustained stays on the mountain if it becomes necessary to wait out a storm. Avalanche rescue gear such as beacon, shovel, and probe is also strongly recommended. Mountain locator units are available for rent at REI and Mt. Hood Inn. Personal locator beacons, like a SPOT device, are also an option. Cell phones are a good idea but be advised they may not work in many locations. All climbers are required to pack out human waste. Blue bags are available at the climbers register in the Wyeast Day Lodge. Please adhere to a Leave No Trace ethic while on the mountain so climbers after you may enjoy their experience.

Short term weather conditions:

- See NOAA Mt. Hood forecast:
- a) go to - <http://forecast.weather.gov>
- b) type-in zipcode 97028
- c) click on the top of Mt. Hood on the map for a local Forecast. Note the elevation of the forecast you are reading!
- d) click "Zone Forecast for Northern Oregon Cascades" for a regional forecast

Short term weather and avalanche conditions:

- See [Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center](http://www.nwac.us/) <http://www.nwac.us/>

Disclaimer:

Conditions on the mountain change rapidly. This report does not point out all hazards. Don't expect that what is described here is what you will find. These reports are from competent climbers who are sharing their observations at one point in time. You need to be evaluating conditions and weather throughout your climb.