

Mt. Hood National Forest

Climb with us . . .

. . . in your national forest!



The Challenge

It's in Portland's backyard – but Mt. Hood is a technical climb, where climbers need to be prepared. Even so, sometimes they need help when they get in over their heads.



The Opportunity

The Mazamas, the Crag Rats, and Portland Mountain Rescue help Mt. Hood National Forest manage a climbing program focused on safe climbing, leaving no trace, and a good wilderness experience.

Mt. Hood, in the heart of Mt. Hood Wilderness, is a climber's icon. Thousands of people from all over climb the 11,239-foot peak each year. Climbers come for challenge, risk and solitude.



The Mazamas, a 3,000 member climbing club founded on Mt. Hood in 1894, focuses on climbing leadership, safety, conservation and climbing education. They help climbers be informed, safer, and better prepared. They help fund climbing rangers, provide weather, snow, and avalanche conditions on-line, and manage the “Blue Bag” program to eliminate human waste on climbing routes.

Wilderness is challenging. There IS an element of risk. When things go wrong, these partners are a big help in search and rescue operations.

Portland Mountain Rescue (PMR) and Crag Rats of Hood River specialize in Mountain search and rescue. They promote safe climbing and rescue practices, and protection of wilderness values during rescues. They work closely with Clackamas and Hood River County Search and Rescue and the climbing rangers. PMR's volunteer “hasty team” members are often the first responders at weekend accidents.



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The Next Step

Volunteer! Be part of Mt. Hood National Forest's climbing program! Contact the Mazamas at 503-227-2345 or www.mazamas.org; Portland Mountain Rescue at (503) 222-7678 or www.pmru.org; or Mary Ellen Fitzgerald at (503) 622-3191 ext. 625 or www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/recreation/climbing/index.shtml.

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