



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**BEND WELCOMES RECORD FIELD FOR 30<sup>TH</sup> CASCADE CYCLING CLASSIC AND  
USA CYCLING ELITE/U23/JUNIOR NATIONAL ROAD CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS  
More Than 5,000 People Expected to Visit Bend For Events July 21 Through Aug. 2**

(BEND, Ore.)—As the Tour de France begins to make its way into and through the Alps, a record number of cyclists are descending on a different mountain range half a world away - the Cascade Mountains near Bend, Ore. - for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Cascade Cycling Classic and the USA Cycling Elite/U23/Junior National Road Cycling Championships.

A record 703 racers have already registered for the Cascade Cycling Classic, which takes place July 21-26. With participation topping 700 for the first time, compared to approximately 550 participants in 2008, the number of riders currently registered is as follows:

Pro 1 Men:	187 riders
Pro 1/2 Women:	116 riders
Masters Men:	109 riders
Cat 2 Men:	115 riders
Cat 3 Men:	97 riders
Cat 4 Men:	79 riders

An additional 1,000 racers from all 50 states will compete in the Elite/U23/Junior National Road Cycling Championships and the US Paracycling National Time Trial Championships, scheduled for July 27 through Aug. 2.

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For the first time in its 30 year history, the Cascade Cycling Classic has been split into two different races: the Cascade Cycling Classic for Pro 1 Men and Pro 1/2 Women, and the Cascade Stage Race for Masters Men, Cat 2 Men, Cat 3 Men, and Cat 4 Men. Racers in the Cascade Cycling Classic will compete in six stages over a six day period from July 21-26, while racers in the Cascade Stage Race will compete in four stages over three days from July 24-26.

The USA Cycling Elite/U23/Junior National Road Cycling Championships and US Paracycling National Time Trial Championships feature a combined 36 National Championship races over a six day period from July 27 through Aug. 2.

The two premier cycling events are expected to generate more than \$3 million in consumer spending for the local economy. Oregon State University will be conducting a detailed economic impact study on the events that will be available in September.

In addition to hosting the Cascade Cycling Classic and the USA Cycling Elite/U23/Junior National Road Cycling Championships, Bend will also be hosting the USA Cycling Cyclo-cross National Championship December. This marks the first time that one city has hosted two USA Cycling national championships in the same year.

For more information about the Cascade Cycling Classic, visit [www.cascade-classic.org](http://www.cascade-classic.org). For more information about the Elite/U23/Junior National Road Cycling Championships and the US Paracycling National Time Trial Championships visit [www.visitbend.com/championships](http://www.visitbend.com/championships).

#### About Visit Bend:

Visit Bend is a non-membership, non-profit economic development organization dedicated to promoting tourism on behalf of the City of Bend. For more information or to order a complimentary Official Visitor Guide to Bend, contact Visit Bend at 800-949-6086 or visit [www.visitbend.com](http://www.visitbend.com).