

19th CENTRAL OREGON COAST SWIMS AT EEL LAKE - 2026

Eel Lake, OR Saturday, August 22, 2026

Hosted by Central Oregon Masters Aquatics
Sanctioned by Oregon LMSC for U.S. Masters Swimming, Inc.
Operating under Special Use Permit from Oregon State Parks

SAFETY & SWIMS

SAFETY—OUR PRIMARY CONCERN:

- **Rules:** Swimmers MUST follow all announced safety rules without exception, under penalty of disqualification.
- **Swim Safety:** All swims will be unescorted. Spotters in safety boats will monitor the entire course in zone coverage and medical personnel will be on-site. Swimmers must wear a brightly-colored swim cap of your choice (such as team caps!), have their race number on their arms (or hands when wearing sleeved wetsuits), and provide their emergency contact information with entry.
- **Land Safety:** Basic first aid supplies & treatment will be available. EMTs will be on call.

LOCATION: Eel Lake is a freshwater lake on the Oregon coast at William M. Tugman State Park, on U.S. 101 between Reedsport and Coos Bay. Expected water temperature is 67-71 degrees F., and will be posted on race day.

SWIMS (in order):

- **3000-meter Swim** counterclockwise twice around our polygonal course (remember your geometry?).
- **400-meter Predicted-time Rubber Ducky Swim** out-and-back along a floating lane line.
- **1500-meter Swim** clockwise once around our polygonal course.

SWIM SCHEDULE (subject to change due to conditions):

8:00am	Registration/Check-in OPENS for all swims

8:40am	Registration/Check-in CLOSES for 3000-meter swim
8:45am	Mandatory pre-swim instructions for 3000-meter swim
9:00am	Start of 3000-meter Swim

10:00am	Registration reopens for the next two swims
10:30am	Registration/Check-in CLOSES for 500-meter Predicted-time Swim
10:45am	Mandatory pre-swim instructions for 500-meter Predicted-time Swim
11:00am	Start of 400-meter Predicted-time Rubber Ducky Swim

11:15am	Registration reopens for 1500-meter swim
11:30am	Registration/Check-in CLOSES for 1500-meter swim
11:45am	Mandatory pre-swim instructions for 1500-meter swim
12:00noon	Start of 1500-meter swim
12:45pm	Awards

WILD SWIMS: Oregon swimmers have often used Eel Lake for “wild swims” (borrowing the term from our British cousins) and potluck dinners. Come early and/or stay late and create your swim adventure(s), with your usual swim mates or with others among your Oregon swim pals. Eel lake is a great lake with lots of swim options, good nearby camping, and is a lovely place for you and your swim buddies to have a fun weekend.

ELIGIBILITY & RULES

ELIGIBILITY: Open ONLY to adults (18 years of age or older on the day of the event) who are current USMS members or foreign equivalents. Eligibility will be automatically verified through the online entry system. For swimmers who are not USMS members, USMS “One-Event” membership is available with entry for \$20.

AGE DETERMINING DATE: The swimmer’s age as of December 31, 2026, will determine the age group according to USMS rule 301.4.

RULES: Current USMS rules will govern this event. Under penalty of disqualification, swimmers may not make deliberate contact with craft, craft operators, and/or any physical features on or near the course during the swim

SWIMWEAR: Current USMS swimwear rules will govern this event.

- **1500 & 3000-meter Swims:** Category II suits—including wetsuits—are welcomed but tabulated separately from Category I suits. See event website for swimwear category details. Swimmers in either swimwear category MAY wear a Safety Tow Buoy for identification and safety. These are defined as inflatable, tethered to the waist, and towed no farther behind than mid-calf. Swimmers wearing Safety Tow Buoys will be tabulated in Category II as required under USMS rules.
- **400-meter Predicted Time Rubber Ducky Swim:** All suits that meet the USMS design (‘modesty’) swimwear clause and all gear are legal, except wristwatches. All swimmers will participate in the same swimwear category.

CONSOLIDATED EVENT: All swims will be conducted seeded as a single swim without regard to swimmer gender, age, or swimwear category. Places, awards, and published results for the 1500 & 3000-meter events shall be separate for each gender, age group, and swimwear category. Places, awards, and published results for the Predicted-time swims will be ordered on the closeness to swimmers’ predicted times.

QUALIFYING TIME: Swimmers who cannot swim 1650-yards (1500-meters) in 45 minutes MUST NOT ENTER these events. It’s for safety! Swimmers on the 3000-meter course longer than 1:40 may be stopped and listed as DNF/DQ in the results.

‘JUST FOR FUN’ CATEGORY: In both the 3000 & 1500-meter swims, we have included a category called ‘Just for Fun’ for swimmers who would like a more-relaxed, non-competitive participation swim experience. Swimmers in this category may use otherwise-prohibited devices like snorkels, buoys, paddles, fins, etc, within reason and safety constraints as determined by the Referee. They’ll identify themselves at the swimmers’ pre-swim meeting and swim with the rest of us, but for safety & fairness they’ll start at the back of the pack and avoid contact & drafting with those who are racing. We won’t report places or score them in any swimwear category, but we will report times as a courtesy. As we said—just for fun! A little history: In 2017, the Eel Lake Swims were the very first event in the nation to pilot this category, now integrated into our usual swims and aimed to attract swimmers who might not be inclined to swim without their favorite gear.

WARM-UP & WARM-DOWN:

- **Where:** There will spotters provided in the cove area close to shore for supervised warm-up & warm-down. Choosing to swim elsewhere in the lake is at the swimmer’s own risk.
- **When:** Warm up before the pre-race instructions; swimmers go directly from meeting to marshaling to racing!

STARTS & SEEDING: The 1500 & 3000-meter swims will use a mass start. The 500-meter Predicted-time Swim will use an individual start with a 20-second stagger, seeded fastest to slowest.

REGISTRATION & FEES

REGISTRATION—ONLINE ONLY (except day-of-race entries, which carry a \$20 late fee):

https://www.clubassistant.com/club/meet_information.cfm?c=1756&smid=21763.

DEADLINE: Online entries must be received by Tuesday, August 18, at 11:59pm PDT. After that, swimmers may only enter at the swim site as a Day-of-Race entry, which carries a \$20 late fee. **Save some cash—submit your entries on time!**

ENTRY FEE: One swim is \$30; two swims are \$40; all three swims are \$45. Entry fee includes pre & post-swim snacks and the swims themselves.

PARK DAY USE FEE: Tugman State Park now has a day use fee. Use your Oregon State Park Annual Pass or purchase a one-day pass on site, \$10 for Oregon residents and \$12 for non-residents.

OTHER INFORMATION

RESULTS: Will be posted at Eel Lake promptly after each swim and at www.comaswim.org and www.swimoregon.org after the event.

AWARDS: Age groups are standard USMS age groups.

- 1500 & 3000-meter swims: Eel Lake ribbons to the top three finishers in each age group & swim in both suit categories.
- 500-meter Predicted-time Rubber Ducky Swim: Eel Lake ribbons to the top three finishers closest to their predicted time. And ALL entrants may choose their own rubber ducky, in order of finish by predicted time!
- 'Just for Fun' Category in the 3000 & 1500-meter swim: No awards, but the satisfaction of a swim well done.

OREGON OPEN WATER SERIES: All swims count towards the cumulative season series. The 1500 & 3000-meter swims are featured swims. The 500-meter Predicted-time Rubber Ducky Swim and the 'Just for Fun' category in the 3000 & 1500-meter swims are participation swims.

SOUVENIRS: None. We're trying to keep the cost of your swims affordable.

HOT DRINKS: We'll have hot water for drinks to help keep you warm before & after swims.

SNACKS: Beverages, brownies, cookies, & fruit will be available, but breakfast & lunch will not be provided.

DIRECTIONS: Google William M. Tugman State Park, just off U.S. Highway 101 between Reedsport and Coos Bay.

PARKING: There is plenty of nearby car parking in the park close to the swim site; park away from the water and the boat ramp. Avoid the boat parking site because it's there for boats!

CAMPING: Tugman Campground has both reservable and first-come first-served campsites, as well as reservable yurts. Call 1-800-452-5687 for reservations, as early as possible for best results. As backup, try nearby Umpqua State Park, same reservation number.

EVENT WEBSITE FOR EVENT INFO: www.comaswim.org

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