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**USA TRACK & FIELD ANNOUNCES TWO TRAIL RUNNING NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS RETURNING TO BEND, OREGON IN 2011**

**Events solidify Bend as premier trail running destination**

(BEND, Ore.)—On the heels of hosting three XTERRA trail running national championships and two USA Track & Field trail running national championships over a three year period, Bend, Oregon has been picked to host the 2011 Half-Marathon and 50k Trail Running National Championships.

Bend played host to both events in 2010. The executive committee for USA Track & Field voted at their annual meeting in Virginia Beach, V.A. to once again choose Bend as the destination for 2011.

“Visit Bend and our entire community are honored to host USA Track & Field again,” said Kevney Dugan, Sports Development Manager for Visit Bend. “This is a great opportunity to introduce Bend to new visitors from across the country and share with them the incredible trails and lifestyle offered in Bend.”

The 2011 Trail Half-Marathon will take place June 12 in conjunction with the “Dirty Half.” The 50k race will be held September 23 in conjunction with the Flagline 50k. Each race will bring approximately 200 runners from around the country to compete for a National Championship. Visit Bend will work with USA Track and Field to manage the event and Dave Thomason of SuperFit Productions has been selected to be the race director for both events.

Bend, Oregon is no stranger to national recognition for its extraordinary outdoor recreation opportunities. In recent years, Bend has been named America's Top Adventure Town (*Men's Journal*), best trail running town (*Outside*) one of the country's Top Five Ski Towns (*Travel + Leisure*), and #1 mountain biking town in the United States (*Mountain Bike Action*), "bona fide climbing town" (*National Geographic Adventure*), and one of the Top 10 Fly Fishing Towns in the U.S. (*Fly Fisherman*).

**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, contact Visit Bend at 1-800-949-6086 or visit [www.visitbend.com](http://www.visitbend.com).

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