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Organization:

Title:

Comments: FW: Proposed fee program

From: Lynne Connelley On Behalf Of lynne@mybendproperty.com

Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 10:45 AM

To: 'WillametteRecFeeComments@usda.gov' <WillametteRecFeeComments@usda.gov>;

Subject: Proposed fee program

I understand that certain trailheads are overused by the public, but I do have a problem with the proposed fee program, specifically the dates that will see restrictions. I would suggest imposing the restrictions between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend.

At the meeting last week at the FS offices, I asked the question why you are proposing restrictions through September since that greatly limits our access as locals, especially since in November the road is closed altogether. That would give us up to Memorial Day weekend (often bug season) and limit our access to all of October and part of November, less than 60 days. When I asked the FS employee why not allow access after Labor Day, he responded that the week after Labor Day is one of the highest use times due to use by locals. So it appears that you ARE attempting to shut us out of our public lands. I would urge you to end the fee program on Labor Day each year.

My second problem with the fee program is my fear that hotels and resorts will swamp the program and buy up all of the permits. How are you going to restrict this so that on January 2 of each year all or most of the permits are not gone? At the meeting no one at the FS had the answer to this, although the "comment period," which is exceedingly short, is closing.

Will we as the public have another opportunity to interface with the FS? The meeting that was held recently was very poorly run. It gave no opportunity for the attendees to address the FS. The break-out sessions were poorly run, impossible to hear and gave none of the feedback to the general audience after these sessions.

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