

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/3/2019 6:00:00 AM

First name: Vicki and Bill

Last name: Billmayer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Greetings,

My husband and I have been Moose City shareholders/owners since 2009. The area is so beautiful and until the last few years when we visited up there in the summer it was pretty quiet. There would be occasional rafters drift by. We attend a couple big group outings in June/July and do some family camping in July/Aug at Moose City and of course the level of the river influences our floats as it probably does others.

In the last few summers in July/Aug timeframe the parking lot for the launch site near the Border Patrol Station is jam packed with cars parked all the way to the road. In fact, we reinforced our fence to help define our private property line. When we floated July last year (2018) with some family members it was bumper boats. There were people floating in inner tubes, fishing tubes and rafts. It was obviously a high impact weekend. I counted five groups within a stones throw of us most of the float to Ford cabin. That seemed too much.

My personal opinion is with this much activity some type of management including a permit system would be beneficial. Obviously people who reside in a regular residence on the river can decide last minute to float, but we generally know when we will be hauling a raft up the north fork road. If the system would provide a land-owners permit free upon request, on-line, and easily accessible I'm in favor of a permit system. The bigger issue then become policing the system. If your department is already spread thin how will a permit system make things any better? There are so many people who ignore the rules and/or feign ignorance, it will become more emotionally charged for the land owners who do use the river frequently.

I'm sure I'm not giving you any new thoughts, I'm just in favor of some type of research to assess the issue and develop a plan to minimize the impact. There must be dozens of rivers in other states who have faced similar issues. I'm in favor of doing some research and in addition reaching out to other states so we can learn from their success.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.