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Comments: Wilderness fee proposals

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1. How often and by how much will the fees be increased? We know that they will be raised eventually, since "taxes always go up".

2. If a person gets lost or stranded too far in the wilderness to make it out before dark, will they be retroactively charged the overnight fee?

3. How well has the "Iron Ranger" fee collection system worked? I think a lot of people, who may already have a NW Forest Pass, might decide, on the spur of the moment, to hike in from one of the 19 trail heads and would need to pay the extra fee without driving to where they can get cell coverage or buy a day pass. I know there was some talk of limiting the numbers of hikers, which is fine, but we also know there are some who will reserve a spot and then never show up. That would make a spot available for someone else. Along with that is the question of refunds. Will there be any?

4. Fifty-five years after the Wilderness Act it may be time to start talking about flying some equipment into the back country and putting in a few large septic systems. I know that goes against everything the wilderness is supposed to be, but human waste is a massive part of the problem. Naturally, there would then be a maintenance need and the fee would be even more.