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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Proposed Special Recreation Permit

I strongly support the proposed special recreation permit system for the central Oregon wilderness areas.

Last year I backpacked in the Three Sisters Wilderness for the first time since 1978. I was appalled at the crowding and overuse I found in the area around Green Lakes, No Name Lake, Golden Lake, Wickiup Plain, and the approach to the South Sister climb. The only time I felt like I had anything even approaching a wilderness experience was when I hiked the unofficial trail that runs between North and Middle Sisters. I came away from that trip with such a deep sense of sadness that such a beautiful area had been allowed to deteriorate through extreme overuse.

I also hope the USFS will continue to take other steps to protect the wilderness above and beyond the permit system. One specific suggestion is to permanently close Forest Road 380. That would probably do more than anything to prevent further overuse of the sensitive alpine environment around Broken Top.

Sincerely,

Terry Petersen
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