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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Recreation Fees

Your trailhead fees for backpacking and hiking are very regressive and will cause major problems for thru-hikers who hike the pacific crest trail and other trail systems and wilderness area trails. I can't believe the Forest Service is considering this. I am a 67 year old hiker and I hope to enjoy some hiking and backpacking in Oregon, but I will not bring my economic activity to the Willamette if you implement such regressive fees. I have a Forestry degree with emphasis in wilderness management. I have never heard of this type of fee structure in the USFS lands. I will definitely not visit your National Forest and spend my dollars in your economy if you enact these type of fees. These are public lands, which I already pay taxes to support.

Adding this additional regressive "tax" is unacceptable. You should be ashamed as managers. You give the USFS a very bad image and reputation by these type of proposed actions. Encouraging outdoor recreation and healthy activity and access to our public lands should be your goal, not unfairly charging hikers to perpetuate a sham like distributing use and minimizing overcrowding.

Ken Wall

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