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First name: Dennis

Last name: Flaherty

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fees for Three Sisters wilderness entry

It might have helped to know what the fees were intended to provide for. I can see how Rec.gov might use theirs.

If the fees are discourage people from going there, then they are not high enough.

If they are to provide money to mitigate the damage caused and to maintain trails, then they are not high enough.

If they are to fund employees to enforce the law, then they are not high enough.

If they are to discourage scalpers from buying up the permits and reselling them, they are not high enough.

If they are set so as to not penalize low income tourists, then why bother with fees. Instead,

I suggest you begin ticketing parking on the highway in a stiff manner to penalize people that ignore protocol.

I suggest you tow and impound vehicles parked at trailheads with no visible permit.

I suggest you ticket and fine people violating the rules of each campground.

I suggest you require LNT certification to apply for a permit to enter this part of the wilderness and that this number be submitted to Rec.gov with the application.

I think the fees should be much higher for entry to climb South Sister, and that also should require certification in wilderness survival/first aide to reduce the number of SAR calls and the risks to SAR volunteers caused by tourist ignorance.

I think fees should be waived for people that participate in clean up work parties led by Friends of the Cascade Wilderness or SWATS, or some other organized, focus, chartered group, in the damaged area. They should get a day waived for a day worked.

Dennis Flaherty