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Comments: More comment on the Special Recreation Permit Fee

I've continued to think about this since my original email and wish to submit the following:

1. This is discriminatory - you're shutting out folks on fixed incomes who have limited discretionary income, as well as low income folks who used to be able to access OUR PUBLIC LANDS for "free"; since we already pay taxes on them. Camping/hiking was one of the few things we could do for free as kids --- now we are limited on our own land as to where we can go for free. At the very least, there should be senior discounts, and there should be insignificant fees (\$1/use) for Oregon Residents, as well as increased "nonresident fees"; -- just like the colleges do, just like our local Juniper Swim and Fitness does. I pay 20% more to use that facility because I live in the county, not the city. Further, you're charging active members of trail maintenance organizations the same fee you'll be charging the "hit and run"; visitors who use the trails, often trash the trails, and leave. As an active member of OET, I won't be participating in any work parties for any trails for which I have to buy a permit to ride or hike. I refuse to donate my time, my horses, and my money to maintaining trails I have to pay to ride. Especially when that same fee allows everyone to utilize the same trail without any time or effort investment at all.

2. I'm outraged that the USFS could come up with nothing more innovative than an impossible-to-fairly-enforce permit & fee system to protect our trails. They tried no other alternatives first. Asked for no public input as to possible alternatives first. With far less than the fees you're charging the public to access our own land, you could have hired a social media individual to post on social media and encourage utilization of myriad lesser-used venues than the ones you're bottle-necking with this permit strategy. With simple posts of "the 10 best trails in Central Oregon (highlighting a selection of beautiful, under-used trail systems)" on local pages, trail pages, equestrian pages, hiking pages, tourist pages, you could guide the crowds like minnows in the ocean. And you could change it up each season to spread the love. Permits and fees -- impossible to enforce across the board - the USFS cannot even maintain clear trails, nor can they maintain graded roads where necessary. They're getting hit on all sides in the media about their lack of ability to manage the land for which they are responsible and now they're self-imposing this impossible policing task. This system will only make the honest people saps.

3. In the area of Central Oregon, Mt. Bachelor could easily create the "Disneyland experience" of nice, safe, monitored, groomed hiking trails to the top where everyone could see the spectacular views, and would come away totally pleased with their "Oregon Experience". And Mt. Bachelor could make money like they're in business to do --- that would be a lovely way to extremely curtail the overuse of many of our local trails. It would also isolate the trash and toilet paper, etc (or they could put in strategic restrooms with their profits), to an area where manpower is readily available to deal with this. As it is now, the USFS mostly relies on volunteers to clean this up on our public lands.....

4. If the USFS is going to charge me for the use of my trails, I fully expect the USFS to maintain these trails and keep them free of downfall and safe for use --- otherwise, what am I getting for my (over and above already paid taxes) money? As previously stated, I will not advocate nor volunteer for any volunteer-maintenance of any permitted trail. My husband took the time and effort to become a certified sawyer to help us in OET, and I swamp

for him, as well as participate in several brush-clearing, trail-maintaining and horse-camp maintaining efforts throughout each year. That will stop. The USFS appears to want to become a concessionaire- they can maintain their money-makers.

Anne Wolff