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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Recreation Fees

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed "Limited Entry System" with the associated "Special Recreation Permit Fee".

From the beginning I have been beating the drum to hopefully bring attention to the overuse & abuse of our natural resources. My focus has leaned towards the high lakes of both the Deschutes National Forest and the Willamette National Forest, the two resources areas our family has enjoyed and protected to the best of our ability over the past 60+ years.

My comments are twofold:

1. I am absolutely in support of a program to fairly limit entry into these resources. I would also like to add to the concept with "limit entry" and "limit activities". I appreciate that the best process forward may be using small steps, but activities, accessory, & companions, e.g., domesticated animals have a serious compounding impact on our environment.

2. As I am sure you are aware, the success of these programs lies heavily upon the mechanism used to implement.

* I personally feel the fee size represents a waste of time. \$3 or \$6 (plus rec.gov fee), seems ridiculously low. Charge enough to implement a world class reservation system. Sorry to say, rec.gov is improving, but has a long way to go to reduce user frustrations and nightmares....speaking from multiple experiences. I would go so far as to suggest, that the fee, whether it be \$3 or \$12, will not be the deterrent for individuals to enjoy our outdoor resources, the deterrent will be a painful process.

- i. Average movie ticket price: \$9 (2 ½ hours)
- ii. A single glass of wine: \$9 (10 minutes)
- iii. Oregon Zoo: \$17.95 (1-2 hours)

You get my point. Here's another suggestion:

- a. Domesticated animals, if allowed: \$150
- b. Campfire: \$500
- c. Cat hole: \$500

* Hunting licenses, fishing licenses, boat licenses, Aquatic species licenses, etc. all have an annual fee, or every two-year fee option; as well as day use. Let's get creative and convenient:

- i. What about a \$100 annual pass, \$50 tax deductible
- ii. What about a \$1000 lifetime pass, \$500 tax deductible
- iii. What about an opportunity for someone to provide a "gift membership

pass" to one less fortunate? 1-year, 2-year, 5-year.

Hopefully you get where I am coming from, and thank you for the opportunity to comment. That's my \$3 worth! 😉

Sincerely,

Jack Godard
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