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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Proposed permits and fees

I read your article in the Sisters Nugget about the proposed permitting fees for Mt Jefferson, Mt Washington and the Three Sisters Area. As an avid hiker and one of the coordinators of the Black Butte Ranch hiking group, these fees and the permitting process will have a considerable impact on our summer hiking activities.

We are not opposed to a new permitting process or fees, but I am surprised to see that you are diverging from the system used in other areas and all the National Parks that charge a fee per group or per car. Charging per individual is much more difficult to coordinate on our part and to enforce on your part. As group coordinators, we will end up paying for the people who have to cancel at the last minute or who simply don't show up. We will also have to restrict participation in our group activities to those who can plan ahead and can commit to a particular date.

We would strongly prefer a group reservation fee like that used for Pamela Lake or a per car fee like that used at many of the sites, such as Canyon Creek Meadows, to an individual-based fee which will be very difficult to coordinate and to collect.

We are not overnight hikers, so those fees do not impact us.

We appreciate your consideration of these coordination issues as you implement the new system.

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