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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Wilderness Special Use Permit Fee Proposal

Dear colleagues,

I am fully supportive of the Forest Service charging a use fee for both day and overnight use at the 19 trailheads proposed.

The proposed fee structure, when combined with the required processing fees for the limited entry permits, is confusing and lacks alignment with the need for fees to be re-invested in wilderness management activities.

Please consider a different fee structure:

No special use fee for youth 15 and under when accompanied by an adult who does have a paid permit. This assumes the youth will be supervised by a permit holder (as they are unlikely to get there on their own - can't legally drive until they're 16 years of age) and thereby less likely to cause impacts, requiring funds to mitigate.

Day use permits, including limited entry reservations, should be set at \$5 and would INCLUDE the \$1 processing fee (\$4 of recreation fees collected) and should be set at \$10 for overnight use, including limited entry reservations, and would INCLUDE the \$6 processing fee (\$4 of recreation fees collected). I don't see an arguable reason as to why overnight visitors should be required to pay a higher fee than day users. The quotas set under the limited entry system should govern the overall impact.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stacey Forson

Limited entry reservations would include the special recreation permit fee, plus the processing fees charged by Recreation.gov. The processing fees are currently \$1 per person for day use and \$6 per overnight group.