Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/13/2019 3:33:31 PM
First name: Elise
Last name: W
Organization:
Title:
Comments: We support the Proposed fee but

RE: Central Cascades Wilderness Limited Entry System Proposed Special Recreation Permit Fee

We are writing in support of the proposed permit system and the proposed fees.

We believe the fees to be nominal and would allow people from all financial situations to be able to access the forest. (Though they may have to forgo a coffee for the day)

We believe most complaints will be groundless and likely more having to do with convenience (having to plan a trip rather than be spontaneous).

Changes Needed:

Require permits on all trails: We do NOT think that enough trails are being included in this permit process. We believe that the USFS did not do enough to protect our wilderness and forest ecosystems. As you state, only 19 of 79 trails are permitted. This is NOT ENOUGH. We believe that people will simply stop using the main trails and start using more of the others, pushing the impacts to other areas. We encourage you to require permits for ALL TRAILS into wilderness - this will be the only way to mitigate the overwhelming number of impacts to these ecosystems and wildlife.

Lower limits on number of users: The permit process seems to be merely a way to increase funds for forest management. The number of users that will be allowed access is set so high as to not provide any limitation whatsoever on wilderness use or access.

The number is set so high in cases that it will be 30 years before a limit is even reached.

We believe that if the goals are truly wilderness value and wildlife protection then the permit process would actually LIMIT access, not just take in fees.

The potential negative impacts that are likely with your proposal are that in fact MORE trails and wilderness areas will get impacted as people move from the popular trails. This sounds great on paper, but for wildlife and plants what this means is that more areas will now have more people. Animals that were using these less

populated areas and avoiding the predictable heavy use areas, now will have no where to go.

In the future, we will be forced to limit access overall, to all trails and areas.

This is how the National Parks survive.

Thank you.

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