Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/13/2019 4:38:44 PM
First name: Patrick
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Recreation Permit Fee Feedback | Willamette Nat'l Forest

Hi,

I am writing to provide feedback regarding the proposed recreation permit fee. I do not agree with charging new daily or overnight fees.

As someone who has lived in Bend and Portland, I agree the wilderness areas need to work towards better trail and wilderness sustainability. Achieving sustainability through lowering usage seems like a viable option. Having said that, achieving this through increasing fees does not seem like a good option. I feel this way based upon working around underprivileged families and youth. For some families and youth adding even a mall fee would be enough of a hardship and deterrent, and would keep them away from these outdoor areas. It is important to keep the outdoor and wilderness areas accessible to people of all incomes and backgrounds. Someone's financial situation should not be the reason for not going into the outdoors. For households that live "paycheck to paycheck", this would be a hardship.

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Patrick Judge

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