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Comments: Fees Input

Hello-

First of all, I really wish this permitting system did not have to happen though I do understand that thought has to be put into the sudden, drastic increase in people heading to the mountains.
I very much hope those with a Bend drivers license, will be treated different. It seems unfair to include locals with the tourists. This is our home and we tend to take much better care of the land. Tourists more often tend to use and abuse thinking of parks as a playground and forgetting that care must be taken.

Here are some of my thoughts on the new trail proposals.

1. Citizens 65, 68 or at the very latest 70 yrs, should also have special use permit fee break.
65-70 years old is retirement age and this age group has a much more limited income.

2. How do you address the issue of tour companies buying up permits? They can afford to buy permits whether they end up using them or not. This will make it harder for families, friends and even small local hiking groups to get permits as availability would be drastically reduced. The average Oregonian cannot afford to buy up permits ahead of time and maybe use them, maybe not. This is crucial- I have heard of it happening in other states.

3. It will be less harsh if permit is from Memorial Day Friday to end of Labor Day week-end. Ending permit time on Nov 1st is really extreme (the entire season!) and the amount of outdoor activities lessens quite a bit after Labor Day week-end.
At the very least, after Labor Day have permits in effect only on the week-ends.

Thank you for having venue for public input.

Most sincerely,
Rachel Albright
Bend, Oregon