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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Central Cascades Wilderness Project

Peter Chapman
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November 18, 2019

Dear Willamette National Forest,

Thank you for working to protect our public lands. There are no perfect solutuons but please consider options that allow fair access for all while also educating and limiting the destructive human impact.

Recreation within Deschutes and Willamette National Forests' Wilderness areas has a positive impact on local Oregon communities. Many citizens choose to reside in places like Bend for the accompanying quality of life and the health benefits of outdoor recreation, including climbing, hiking, backcountry skiing, trail running, and other human-powered Wilderness-based activities. Burdensome and limited-entry permit systems could have an unintended economic impact on rural communities, local businesses, and the greater Oregon tourism economy.

A portion of permits should be held for walk-up, first come first serve availability to allow climbers to attempt summits during good weather windows, which decreases potential weather-related accidents and the chances of getting lost, both of which result in increased search and rescue missions within Wilderness areas.

Sincerely,
Peter Chapman