

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/18/2019 8:41:12 PM

First name: Brian

Last name: Bollwitt

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Three sisters, Mt. Jefferson Wilderness access

Thank you for hosting a public meeting in Salem regarding access in the wilderness areas. I was unable to attend but hear the turn out was pretty small so I thought it would be worth letting you know that there is another voice out there that is watching the future changes closely. I spend a lot of time in the Mt Washington and Mt Jefferson areas year around bc skiing, mountaineering, trail running, and climbing. I understand that something should be done to manage the highly traveled areas in order to keep them pristine for future generations. I am not going to act like there is a perfect solution to the permit system but my biggest concerns should be communicated.

Different areas have different problems. South sister has a day use issue, Broken Top Lake has an overnight issue, Jefferson Park has an overnight issue. These all occur during the weekends of late June through early September. This is no news to you but my concern is that day use limitation on Mt Jefferson is getting limited because of what is happening elsewhere. I love to take off on a whim and run back to Jefferson Park and scramble around the ridges before heading out with the setting sun. Can this still be done, most likely yes. Will I have to be more of a planner, yes; because somehow I'm a millennial without a printer. I will have to make plans for trips similar to how I do for Pamela Lake and that is frustrating. The rest of our work days demand a structured regimen and thorough planning and the best part of outdoors in the Northwest is that spontaneity can be the catalyst of many great opportunities and memories. The Friday nights over a beer planning the weekend depending on weather are going to be a little more restricted and more proactive or even reactionary to what is open. At the same time, I also don't want to go to a place where 50 people are already planning on going. But there in lies the next problem. As you have recognized in the past, those that reserve do not always fulfill. So what we may find is that once again we are restricted by people that aren't even showing up for their reservations in those areas because their plans changed. People these days are pretty poor at making commitments and keeping them. The trails and meadows could benefit from less traffic and so this is not all bad news for the lands we love but inevitably we will end up restricting travel to numbers below what our predetermined goals were set to be.

These issues stand out as my biggest concern and I appreciate you taking the time to hear our voice. I hope that a continued dialogue will continue with the land users and create a comfortable solution for everyone as well as the wilderness areas.

Have a great fall,

Brian Bollwitt

Sent from my iPhone