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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Central Cascades Wilderness Project

Elizabeth Riley

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Terrebonne, OR 97760

November 18, 2019

Dear Willamette National Forest,

As a local resident of Central Oregon and steward of the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests' Wilderness areas, I object to the proposed quota-based fee structure because it will directly affect my ability to access to wilderness closest to my home. I moved to Terrebonne, Oregon because of outdoor recreation, including climbing, hiking, backcountry skiing, and trail running. If the system is put into place using online reservations as proposed, I may not get to visit the trails if people make online reservations and then don't actually show up. Some trails could potentially remain empty while other trails get heavier usage.

A portion of the permits should be held for walk-up, first come first serve availability. A kiosk such as the one used in the State Park system could self-limit the number of people on the trails. The Forest Service should partner with County and State officials to address parking issues at trailheads. Managing and enforcing parking would self-limit the number of people on trail systems. Officials could issue expensive violation tickets for any illegal parking at trailheads.

To access public land year-round in Oregon, the average resident must spend \$85/yr on fees alone (Northwest Forest Pass, Oregon State Parks Pass, Snow Park Pass). Adding additional fees will create more barriers for low-income communities such as the one in which I reside. Another consideration could be for the Forest Service to consider a local's annual pass or volunteer pass to remove undue limitations and financial burden for individuals who frequent the permitted areas and support stewardship.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Riley