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Organization:

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Comments: ATTN: Recreation Fees

Thank you for extending the comment period.

I am a person who intends to Section-Hike the PCT and for me these proposed new fees are prohibitive due to how restrictive they are.

I don't want to quit my job, in fact it would be irresponsible given my responsibilities.

But I still want to take on a challenge of great meaning.

And I would certainly hope to contribute to local communities and the preservation of the trails I use.

So I favor a type of "corridor" permit that would be easy to obtain and not subject to excessive restrictions. What PCT:Oregon pointed out in their letter is a bit appalling - limiting access to 3 entities weekly, which could be 3 individuals! That is a poorly thought out quota.

As a 57 year old, I'm thinking 10 miles a day is about as much as I'll be able to hike, and 4-5 weeks about how much time off I can responsibly take. I think that is typical of section-hikers, though some travel more miles daily.

I also favor using fees to improve the conditions of the trail, as opposed to hiring more enforcement staff.

I would be very concerned that people lose trust in institutions when the main visible result of more funds ends up being more enforcement.

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