

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/26/2019 6:41:42 AM

First name: Stephen

Last name: Lovett

Organization:

Title:

Comments: RE: CCWSP

Hi,

Just a quick note to state that the PCTA / PCT Oregon's position paper is reflective of my views.

As a section hiker who has completed a JMT thru hike as a significant portion of the California PCT sections, I'll be planning on hiking through Oregon in the coming few years.

I value your work, and empathize with your concerns, but to date there are a LOT of unanswered questions, and the expensive and burdensome aspects of section hiking seem to be exacerbated by the current proposal. A key aspect of section hiking is timing. As you folk know weather is a key risk factor, and short seasons can limit services, (food, fuel, transportation to and back to the trailhead etc.) so often a huge amount of prep work is required with many contingencies built in. Without a clear understanding of permitting and ease of compliance I believe you will simply drive down compliance and/or increase risk factors for people who chose to comply with dates when good judgement would dictate a change of plan.

The online permitting that CA's Desolation Wilderness is worth a look. And while cost factors are less a factor for me personally, I do think the corridor pass or some form of family plan would provide more equal access for those who would find the proposed structure burdensome.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Best,

Stephen Lovett