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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments on proposed fees

To Whom it may concern:

I am one of the original objectors and stand by my original objections.

In addition, I now have the following comments/objections to the proposed fees:

1. Fees are too expensive for people who live in this area and hike a lot. Backpacking is even less affordable.
2. Having a contractor collect fees and administer the permits is outrageous, onerous for applicants, expensive.
3. What about horses who really trash all the trails? I see no provisions for them.
4. I also did not see any provisions for a season permit at a fixed price for people who live here. It could then be used to obtain permits for specific days.
5. I still think that the permit season is way too long and during the months of June and September (after Labor Day)
only weekend permits should be required.

My objection to the whole idea of having to obtain permits and pay for them is that

a) we as citizens own the land and pay taxes and should not be required to pay twice for an activity that has minimal

impact compared to other activities

b) This type of proposal seems to be the go-to solution for USFS every time. Nothing else has been tried such as providing more trails to disburse increased users, additional enforcement and/or education, use of volunteers. There are old, abandoned trails that could be used as in the case of Green Lakes.

The whole proposal has not been thought out very well to accommodate users, which I assume is a responsibility USFS is tasked with. There are many problems that have not been addressed, such as group use. (non-profits) It appears that for profit groups have no problem getting the permits they need. We have to curtail our activities so these businesses can continue to profit from public land.

I am extremely disappointed in the way this has been handled (or not handled). No effort has been made to accommodate responsible wilderness recreationists by trying other solutions first before limiting use and making people pay for the privilege of using the land that is theirs.

Respectfully submitted,

Hanne Madsen

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