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Organization:
Title:
Comments: recreation fees

To whom it may concern,

I moved to Bend in 1983 and am now entering retirement and a fixed income. I worked my entire adult life, paying taxes, etc and now that I finally have the free time to enjoy the Central Oregon outdoors, you are pricing me out of that enjoyment. I can barely afford the gas to get to a trail head. Please don't charge me to day hike.

I can no longer backpack and do overnight trips into the woods. But I can hike limited distances. I think most seniors are in the same boat as I am. We are not really going to impact things when we go for an hour or two hike and then come home. So go ahead and charge for overnight packing and require registration. But for day hikes please find a way to exclude seniors…especially local seniors from the expense or the hassle of registration. You give kids a break…how about the same courtesy to us old folks?

I already paid for the forest service pass that allows me to park free and get discounts for camping fees. I don't remember the name for it, but you should include the right to park and day hike for seniors for free to that pass, or issue another one.

Thank you for your consideration.

David Foster
Bend Oregon