

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/31/2019 9:36:35 PM

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Comments: Fee Proposal

Regarding the proposal to charge visitor fees to use wilderness areas, I think it would make more sense to raise revenue for enforcement of established policies by stopping giving away public resources to private for profit industries like logging and ranching. These public lands are intended for public use, and should not be given away to private industries. If the wilderness areas need more staff to enforce permit camping or more funds for better signage and information or more funds for toilets, those who are profiting from our taxes should pay for them.

When our children were young, our income was so limited that one of the only sources of recreation that we could access were free parks and wilderness areas. The proposed fees would have been prohibitive for our family, negatively impacting our family connections and my children's experiences of the natural world.

I don't think it is fair to make these areas inaccessible to low income families.

Penelope Jones-Vaughn

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