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First name: Steve

Last name: Jones

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Mt. Jefferson and 3 Sisters Wilderness Recreation Fees

I am responding to the public comment period for the recreation fees. I believe the day use and overnight entry restrictions are too low.

Looking at the visitation rates for the 3 Sisters Wilderness, the permit system will cut visitation by about 50% from 2016 levels. This will place an unfair burden on people who want to hike here and follow the rules. Trying to suddenly cut visitation by 50% will create a new set of problems.

Looking at the Mt. Jefferson overnight limits, they are also too low. Looking at the proposed entry numbers for Mt. Jefferson, it looks like the number of overnight permits for the Jefferson Park area were designed to have campers use the permitted campsites around the lakes in Jefferson Park and not for people who camp away from the lakes. The wilderness is 111,177 acres according to a USFS website. That makes a density of 1 overnight party for 3 square miles in the entire Mt. Jefferson wilderness.

Steve Jones