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Comments: Oppose
I strong oppose any requirement that limits access to public lands. The explination that it will redistribute access is short sited. Also by making the permits. accessable at the trial head you limit access to locals, or those who can afford to take a weekday off in preparation for the weekend.
Having the permits accessable at the trailhead also runs the risks of causing unprepared hikers. Prior to hiking most individuals will study the trial beforehand. However if you show up and that trails permits are already taken, They may go to another trail they are unprepared for.
Additionally the costs are unreasonable. Additionally the justification that they are needed to reduce access is a lie since the permit will do that itself. Additionally the justification that the cost is needed to pay for the damage of increased use wrong since under the permit there will be less use then even several decades ago.
In all this is a terrible idea.
Thanks
Phil