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Title:

Comments: Accessibility will be dimnished by proposed fees.

While many can agree that strategies to mitigate the effects and issue of overcrowding is needed for some of the wildernesses (definitely not all), these solutions need to come in the form of quotas and yearly use permits, rather than daily, pay to hike fees. For someone like myself who hikes 50 days a year, or for a working class family member that is paying for each of his kids, these fees are prohibitive. They especially discourage spontaneous adventures, which are common due to my type of work.

There are so many trails in the Willamette national forest that can only a handful of users a year, let alone day. There should be a program to improve and promote the numerous alternatives to other overcrowded trails. New and improved trails networks, as well as promoting the many that already exist across the NF can relieve other trails. Additionally, only the most problematic trailheads (Devil's Lake TH, Jeff Park) should have measures to reduce overcrowding, instead of the blanket wilderness as a whole. The proposed wildernesses are huge and encompass a ton of trails, many of which get little to no use. I would be upset paying expensive fees on public land when I don't see a single person or ranger over the course of the day.

The fee proposals need to be cancelled. The response is overwhelmingly negative, and infringes on our rights as an American.

-Nate Barrios
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