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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

We are in favor of a Forest Service order prohibiting camping within a half mile of the Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway from Tetherow to the Welcome Station. This area has become an unsightly gathering of tents, dilapidated RV's and other vehicles in an area without proper sanitation facilities. Consequently the campers relieve themselves in the woods or they cross the highway to impose themselves on the facilities at Widgi Creek Golf Course. We have seen many of these campers stay for a month or more which is well beyond the legal limit. This is hardly reflective of a "Scenic Highway". In addition to this is, there are numerous large, poorly contained and often unmonitored campfires present in a perfect tinder box of trees, many of which are dead. These campfires pose an alarming risk of starting a forest fire which would instantly cross the highway and consume over 200 homes, one of which being ours. We have been told that the Forest Service lacks the staff to patrol the area which is why we have seen this problem rapidly exacerbate itself.

For these reasons we urge you to adopt the Deschutes National Forest proposal to prohibit camping in this highly combustible area. Thank you for your consideration.