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Title:

Comments: I agree with the proposal that dogs and glass should be prohibited from Forest Service Lands and throughout the North Star Preserve. Additionally, I strongly believe that there should be limitations on the number of people who are allowed to access the river for recreating purposes. It has been documented in the North Star Management plan that in 6 out of 10 categories, 65-70% of respondents (page 66 of 99), feel that North Star is overcrowded, with a special emphasis on the categories of accessing and floating the river. There is great concern that the excess volume of visitors and overcrowding, as well as the disrespectful behavior of too many people are ruining the ecological integrity of the preserve, its wildlife, and natural beauty. It doesn't matter if this is happening in a so called "small window of intense use". The damage is being irrevocably done, and the respondents that "like the way the preserve is", do not reflect on the growing disrespect and damage that has occurred over time. Those of us who live by the preserve, have seen the damaging effects including less wildlife, litter, noise and trespassing. Does anyone pay attention to the sign that shows the Preserve as an Elk Migration Corridor for thousands of years? I can not remember the last time I saw a herd of Elk migrating through this area. As additionally stated many times by members of the community, there is a severe safety issue on highway 82 because too many cars are parking in order to access the river. The REAL cause of this stems from the unwillingness by our agencies to make the hard decision of permitting the river and reducing the volume of people who are allowed access. We are allowing the conditions of a Disneyesque waterpark to exist as opposed to what it was mandated to be, which is a Nature Preserve.