

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/10/2020 7:00:00 AM

First name: Molly

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: July 1, 2020

Holly Jewkes

Deschutes National Forest

U.S. Forest Service

Dear Holly,

As residents across the Cascade Lakes Highway here in Bend, OR, the camping area has become an eyesore that can be seen from the road: trailers, torn and ripped tents, trash, beer cans and marijuana smoke. On many occasions, the traffic stops abruptly causing almost near crashes from people turning in at the last moment to the access road.

Along the bike path have been people lurking (obviously not here to walk or bike ride) and we have felt unsafe in our own neighborhood. Campers come across to access the toilets and water fountains at all hours. There is trash along the bike path and roads near the area.

The area sometimes looks like a shantytown with fires, hanging laundry, and overall ratty looking unsightly conditions.

Some of these campers have been seen staying overnight at Meadow Day use area. One morning at 7 AM, we went for a walk and the campers were sleeping all over the riverbank - they told us the forest service said it was OK for one night.

It has ruined the aesthetics of our National Forest area close to home and as people drive up the Cascades "SCENIC" Highway it is no longer "SCENIC" with fires, trash, and a used car lot appearance.

This area across from Widgi Creek should be shut down all use and the service road should be locked and new signs posted.

Molly Crawley

Homeowner