

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

First name: Dave and Jennifer

Last name: Roe

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To: Forest Service

From: Dave and Jennifer Roe

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the sharp increase in camping in the Deschutes Forest off Century Drive. It is a major concern for our community, Points West, 64 homes located between the Widgi Creek community and Seventh Mountain resort.

Our primary concern with campers in the forest so close to our community is fire risk. This is particularly threatening since we are 6 miles from the nearest fire station. Campers regularly have fires, some of which seem large and badly managed. We have recently sought bids to renew our insurance and nine insurance carriers passed on writing the policies in part due to fire risk.

Last summer we noted more than 50 vehicles in the area at times and we observed long stays, exceeding legal limits. We appreciate that the Forest Service is stretched too thin to keep tabs on the campers and their activities. On the other hand, residents in the neighboring communities deserve to feel safe in their homes. We also have concerns about sanitation, vandalism and theft.

We ask the Forest Service to prohibit camping in areas of the Deschutes National Forest and specifically off Century Drive between the visitors center and Tetherow.

Respectfully,

Dave and Jennifer Roe