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Title:

Comments: As a long time visitor to the RRG I totally agree with the need for changes. However I fear the current proposal will simply further restrict those of us that already follow all rules, guidelines and LNT principles and those who disregard rules already in place will continue to do so as there is not enough manpower available to monitor the whole region. I offer some thoughts based on experiences in other places. Would RRG consider requiring permits for ALL hikers and campers with limited supply available per day. The website could offer a real time view of number of permits still available (say 200 day hikes and 15 overnight permits still available on the specific day you are searching). This is somewhat similar to how Boundary Waters in Norther Minnesota controls the number of people. People could be required to reserve online and pick up in person. Prior to receiving the permit require an in person viewing of LNT guidelines (again similar to obtaining an overnight pass in Boundary waters). All vehicles parked in the RRG would be required to show a permit good for that day, and any without would incur severe fines. This would limit the number of people impacting the RRG on a daily basis, hopefully still allow dispersed camping which has been available for years and be an easier way for rangers to count/track and limit the number of people in the RRG at any given time. I'm sure there are tweaks that could be made to this general idea that would allow a similar system to work.