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Organization:

Title:

Comments: This is such an important recreational area and the more we can encourage people to be outside, the better for their weight and health! Although my address is out of state, I'm from Ketchikan as well as a regular visitor and business owner there. Suggestions:

1. Prohibit commercial use of the trail around Ward Lake and the Frog Pond trail. Continue to prohibit off-leash dogs.
2. Add elevation to the Ward Lake trail from the picnic shelter area to Signal Creek campground because this section of the Ward Lake trail floods during many rain events.
3. Provide winter access to the Ward Lake area by clearing the road of snow and ice.
4. Add latrines to the trailheads, especially for Connell Lake and Perseverance Lake.
5. Extend trails around Connell Lake and Perseverance Lake to make a loop around each lake.
6. Update maps at each trailhead.
7. Add a few rustic seating areas (using available local logs and such) along the Connell Lake and Perseverance Lake trails to provide a few rest and picnic spots.
8. Provide maintenance along the Connell Lake trail to repair damaged boardwalk, washed out trail and removal of downed trees.
9. Expand existing campgrounds by installing some small cabins that can be rented.
10. Ensure that ALL trash cans in the entire area are bear-proof and emptied regularly (recycling cans for aluminum would be nice as well, especially in the Ward Lake picnic area).
11. Provide authorization for cell phone providers to allow some limited camouflaged cell phone access in the area (where not currently available), for safety reasons. Or perhaps install a pay phone (like the one at Beaver Falls) in a few strategic spots.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.