Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/12/2022 12:22:14 PM First name: Mickey Last name: Martin Organization:

Title:

Comments: I've been a heavy user of the outdoors my whole life and for the last 7 years - the majority of that time has been here in Colorado. I'm he not naive to the increased crowds issue over the last 2/3 years because do Covid and while I think it's great so many new people are experiencing the wonder of nature, I do understand the issues you all have with these high numbers. However, in my opinion, limiting numbers - especially during a specific season seems to be aimed towards visitors of the state and area. Maybe it's based on data you all have I don't know. But a date range just seems to encourage higher use directly before and after permits are required which could make your problems worse. In addition, I feel like throwing limited numbers on an area - whether there is a fee associated or not and assuming that will help improve trail conditions, trash, off road users etc. seems a bit ignorant to me. A lot of us who have been in nature our whole lives understand the principals of leave no trace, basic trail etiquette and being good stewards of the land. However, a lot of people - those new to the outdoors or those while in frequently access it - are not. Limiting numbers without education is a bandaid and doesn't help solve the issues your area or others across the country are facing. Education and awareness are vital to the long term health of our forests, mountains and lakes.

Have a quiz on LnT before giving a permit - if they fail, no permit. Reward people for picking up trash, reporting those who aren't taking care of our lands or volunteer to help you all out with whatever needs to be done to our lands. You all need to get creative instead of just slapping a permit with smaller numbers and hoping that solves the problem. I realize you probably are in a tough position with limited staff, poor resources and small budget - but limiting access you our public lands alone is not the answer.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Mickey