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Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. As a Wall, SD, resident and frequent user of Buffalo Gap National Grassland, I would like to make three comments about the Pinnacles Dispersed Recreation Management #61608 project.

First, please leave or develop parking areas for day use activities. Perhaps the north end by the pond and farther east just before FS Road 7158 turns south would be good spots for day use parking. Some locals go to walk their dogs. I like to go for a walk often about sunrise along the wall, which incidentally used to be a a lot more private. Perhaps, going north from FS Road 7158 along the wall and creating a walking/hiking trail seems the best option to avoid all the traffic and congestion on the south end of the Pinnacles. This is not only good for locals wanting to continue day use activities but also for visitors who want to see the Grassland. This area, via FS Road 7158, is easily accessible for visitors who want a brief "Grassland experience" on their way to or from Badlands National Park.

Second, visitors need to be educated about the multiple uses of the area and authorized or mandated by the US Forest Service. For instance, they may see an ATV user who appears to be off-roading cross country in the Pinnacles area or anywhere on the Grassland. However, this could be a permittee checking their livestock. The visitor may think since someone is out "there" riding an ATV, so they can do so as well. Here is where educating the public is key.

Last, as far as I know, this topic has not been brought up yet: Visual pollution. FS road 7116 is about 6 miles east and in the basin below Pinnacles. FS road 7116 goes from near the Missile site south to Badlands National Park. From this road and the basin, the entire ridge can be seen -- even from the bison fence separating Forest Service and Park Service lands. One can see the towers, the RVers and the Wall water tower from all along the basin.

As I understand, the plan indicates designated dispersed camping sites may/will be placed along the west side of FS roads 7170 and 7158 so the sites are away from the wall. Maybe this will help with the visual pollution one sees from the basin. I certainly hope so.

Once again, as a Wall resident, the wall and basin were secluded, private places. Being in the basin and along the wall used to be a mini retreat. This is not true any more and is heartbreaking to see such a large human imprint on the landscape miles away from recreationalist use.