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Comments: I have been camping, hiking, and fishing throughout Colorado for over 30 years. Dispersed camping is a family tradition of mine and of many others. We camp out of our vehicle, and it is dispersed camping 95% of the time. The overwhelming majority of other dispersed campers I have met have been good, responsible people.

In recent years, dispersed camping has become even more preferred for us due to developed campgrounds either being full with other campers, or not available in the right place. Dispersed camping provides a broader number of locations to camp, providing variety and freedom. Furthermore, dispersed camping offers the advantage of privacy and seclusion, a primary factor in the desire to get out in the wilderness and enjoy nature.

My friends, family, and I have always camped responsibly, causing no undue harm to the environment. Fires are extinguished thoroughly and never left unattended. If there is private property nearby, it is always respected, to include the limitation of excessive noise at night. We always leave our camp sites better than when we arrived, packing out all trash and tidying up. I have not observed any significant or broad environmental degradation over the years secondary to dispersed camping.

There will always be irresponsible actors. But the correct response is not to penalize responsible actors by limiting their choices and freedoms in relations to dispersed camping and the enjoyment of nature and the wilderness. Don't punish the many for the faults of a few.

The best solution would be to open up even more areas for dispersed camping. By doing this, campers will not be sequestered into so few areas. High density camping, as a result of limited dispersed campsites, is the real driver in disproportionate erosion in certain areas. Please, do not further limit dispersed camping.