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First name: Jeremiah

Last name: Meizis

Organization: The Colorado Climbing Company

Title: Owner

Comments: As an outfitter/guide without permits to the area I'd like to provide my perspective on the proposed plans.

All of the proposed actions require money and staff to manage where one of the first sentences in the report states the NFS is understaffed and underfunded. I can't even get a call back after inquiring about guiding and outfitting thus further verifying the veracity of that predicament.

Whenever an area sees increased use and degradation the most common solution is permits and restricting use. Somehow the funds and staffing can commonly be organized for restricting use but I've never heard of it being found for education or increasing the active management of a resource. Certainly the locals are in favor of a permit for others but not themselves because of the sense of ownership. Like most other areas dependent on recreational tourism the towns want the revenue and business but once they have the money then the welcome is worn out.

Meanwhile there are multimillion dollar outfitters using these areas while putting little more than their 3% required back into the facilities, trails, roads, and other infrastructure they use. Instead of hindering and obstructing use I would encourage something different.

1. Allow more outfitters/guides. First we actually pay to use the land. Second we manage the people with us more than anyone else. We also provide an example and education for others beyond our guests as well as providing additional eyes and ears in the field the governed doesn't need to pay for.
2. Increase guide fees but allow organizations to offset those fees with their costs for additional labor. Guides can pick up trash or build trails and as frequent users we may have insights beyond typical staff.
3. Encourage people to use those guides since much of the resource damage comes from people who are excited to recreate but may not have the knowledge or abilities to do so in a low impact way.
4. If revenue is still an issue then increase law enforcement in the area and write a bunch of tickets. It sucks and I know most rangers don't like to be that way but permits don't educate like a \$500 fine.

The expansion of recreation will not go away and unless social media and population growth suddenly disappear then it will only continue. Permits and restrictions are likely to have the desired affect locally but will more broadly shift use elsewhere and does not represent a long term solution. Invest in the infrastructure for the future and invest in solutions that embrace growth in more sustainable ways.