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First name: Aaron

Last name: Rajic

Organization:

Title:

Comments: This has been a local favorite for decades and would be unfortunate if we cannot access our own backyard hiking without obtaining a permit. I understand the need to control numbers and keep the area pristine, but locals have been respectfully utilizing Blue Lakes way longer than Insta/social media tourists made it into their posting monetizing playground. While I think everyone should be entitled to use this national treasure, I would hope there would be a way for local Ouray County residents to obtain year round permits. Hawaii utilizes a similar system that allows local residents unlimited access to popular hiking areas, while limiting the number of tourists. Again, nothing against tourists, but when locals can't even utilize the forest that borders our homes, what are we to do? I would hope a balanced strategy could be utilized, one that protects Blue Lakes, limits daily access, while also protecting local access as well.