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Comments: Adaptive management should go both directions. The plan states that it allows for response to continued degradation. But it should also allow for reducing restrictions, increasing number of people allowed, etc., if conditions are good.

Prohibiting camping above timberline is a good idea. Tundra areas need to be protected.

Regulations on food should allow food to be carried in a pack with a person. Some Forest Service regulations are worded in such a way that a day-hiker is required to have food in a bear canister even if it is in a pack on their back or in their sight. One of the allowable ways to store food should be in a pack that a person is carrying or within sight (for example, a day-hiker can have food in a pack on their back and can take a break and take their pack off and set it on the ground, as long as it is in sight).

Everyone always says their dog is under control. Off-leash dogs affect wildlife even if they are not directly chasing an animal.

Closing and rehabilitating unauthorized roads is a good idea. It is also important to ensure they do not reopen.

Having toilets for people to use is important. Adding toilets would be a good idea, since it will keep more human waste out of the environment.

It is important, though, that toilets are clean and maintained. If a toilet is gross, people will not use it, and it might as well not be there.

I'd strongly recommend changing the wording on removing solid human waste and hygiene products. From the comments, it seems hygiene products is intended to include toilet paper. But when I read "hygiene products", I think it means things like pads and tampons, and other period hygiene items. I think you need to explicitly say toilet paper, so just insert that, and change the phrasing to: human solid waste, toilet paper, and other hygiene products.

I just saw that the Blaine Basin section says toilet paper and hygiene products. I think the plan needs to use that type of wording everywhere when toilet paper is also intended. So change human waste and hygiene products to human waste, toilet paper, and hygiene products.

The Blue Lake permit system details sound very good. Requiring the permit-holder to be present and making permits nontransferable is a really good idea. That prevents people from taking permits they don't plan to use. The 4 permits per person per season limit is also good, so more people have an opportunity to enjoy the area. It is also good to see that day-use permits can increase under the plan if conditions allow.

This seems like a well-thought out permit system.

One thing not addressed is how far in advance people can get permits. It might be good to have some available several months in advance, and release the rest a few days in advance so that the system accommodates people that need to plan well in advance and also people that have more flexibility or don't know their schedule so far in advance.

The permit system and restrictions should apply to everyone, with no exceptions for residents in the area. This is federal land. It belongs to everyone.

Prohibiting campfires is a good idea. I think campfires should be banned in all the backcountry areas. At the very least they should be restricted to existing fire rings.

Having adaptive management actions start with increased education and enforcement is a really good idea. Increasing restoration and barriers, like rocks and logs to block people, boulders to block vehicle access, fencing where needed, is also good.

Increasing the number of day-use permits when encounters are low enough is also a really good item in the plan.

I'd recommend explicitly allowing people to sleep overnight in their vehicles in all the parking areas that have a toilet. This increases available "camping" with no additional impact. The parking spot is already there. Having someone sleeping in a vehicle parked there does not increase impact, as long as a toilet is available.

Thanks for working on this. All in all it seems like a solid plan.