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Comments: Greetings:

In reviewing the proposed plan, I see very little restriction of the activities that have created and continued to create significant environmental harm and compromised safety of the traveling public, and this is coupled with a lack of enforcement of existing laws. Further, I see no discussion of funding.

You may recall the USFS's unwillingness to pursue legal action against those known to have violated federal law by damaging and destroying public property. This absence of a willingness to enforce the law and existing regulations means any future regulations and restrictions will be meaningless.

The addition of a single additional parking area at the top of the canyon does nothing to reduce the risk of traffic accidents caused by the over-used scenic pullouts throughout the canyon. Further, the long-term use of these pullouts by climbers denies use by the traveling public. The safety and convenience of the traveling public cannot be compromised for the benefit of a relatively few climbers whose impact is significant yet their contribution to solving the problem they have created minuscule.

Finally, the failure to identify a funding source for any and all of the proposed actions indicates this will be yet another burden shifted to the taxpayers, most of whom will receive no benefit, for the benefit of a small special-interest group. Climbers created this problem, and can either cease and desist or provide the funding necessary to solve the problem. For that matter, the USFS either needs to enforce existing laws or they need to be defunded. The taxpayers have already shouldered the burden of increased law enforcement activity, as ineffective as that has been, and the costs for preparing management plans. Had the perpetrators of the crimes in the canyon been prosecuted, fines and penalties imposed could have both offset the costs incurred by the public for their individual actions and would have served as a deterrent to those continuing to abuse the area.

The solution is simple: Close the entire area to camping unless and until those users can provide the facilities necessary for safe and protective use. Camping as concentrated as that found in the Canyon would, if addressed as would be a private individual's actions, result in significant infrastructure investment as required by Wyoming Statute and Department of Environmental Quality requirements. Close the pullouts to long-term (greater than one hour) parking. Traffic volumes and activities such as these by a private entity would require review, mitigation, and approval by WYDOT. Enforce the closures vigorously, with fines assessed to cover those enforcement costs.

USFS management of this area, and enforcement of existing regulations and laws, has been a colossal failure. Correspondence with the USFS with regard to this issue has been either unanswered or resulted in meaningless platitudes. There is absolutely no reason why the actions of both the climbers and the USFS should continue to be rewarded and subsidized by taxpayers.