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Comments: I'm an environmental biologist, I analyze project impacts under NEPA and other natural resources laws. I see firsthand all too often how projects are framed and presented as minimizing impacts and yet the reality in the field is that the impacts are almost always worse than what had been claimed and in too many cases, those impacts are never accounted for.

I also see in the national forests and other natural public lands nearby to me how people abuse land. They leave their trash, they don't respect the land, they use it for crime, especially drug cultivation that disturbs the land and pollutes water.

Please adhere to the policy that these cabins would be phased out. Wilderness is supposed to remain wild and the United States of America has lost too much land that has remained truly wild. Allowing these cabins to remain indefinitely dilutes the meaning of wilderness and it denies future generations the assurance that the federal government will protect natural resources, which is its duty.

Cabins may seem innocuous, to some, but they have externalized impacts that extend beyond their individual footprints. They require access paths, which as your natural resources staff know, are conduits to spread invasive species and cause ancillary impacts to land and water. Habitations provide an avenue to introduce trash to the land and also raise the risk of wildfire and other disturbances.

The permits require that the cabins remain used in a traditional manner, and that they would be revoked if their use changed. The verification of the permitted use requires resources, those resources aren't provisioned by USFS policy, and USFS has been sorely underfunded for decades, therefore there's little assurance that the use of the cabins would remain the same indefinitely. Rather than react, it would be better to prevent.

Cabins don't belong in wilderness, please don't allow them to persist, especially if and when they were not permitted in the first place.