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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I applaud the efforts of conservation by the Ouray Blue Lakes Ranger District. I recognize that wilderness areas are special and unique as I have enjoyed these areas many times in the past and would appreciate them holding their unique beauty.

Many of the plans for extending the wilderness boundaries, turning old roads into trails, restoration of vegetation by temporarily closing areas. Good job.

I completely concur with limiting ORV's into these areas. Machines today, are not the same as they were 40 years ago and have the ability to tear up the landscape, it's too easy.

I am a Rifle Bear, my mother was born and raised in Montrose. My family has long deep roots in the area and I have plenty of family still there. I visit every year. I will soon be retiring back to this area.

Reading the final draft IEA I am reading that the USFS plans to move forward without changing anything in the initial draft.

I am specifically objecting to the BlueLakesFinalIEA section 2.2.3.2 A hiking permit and a limit of 40 per day. This is illegal.

This is taxation without representation. You do not have authority to implement a tax without providing a service.

This is in violation of 16 USC Ch. 87: FEDERAL LANDS RECREATION ENHANCEMENT  
6802

(d) Limitations on recreation fees

(1) Prohibition on fees for certain activities or services

The Secretary shall not charge any standard amenity recreation fee or expanded amenity recreation fee for Federal recreational lands and waters administered by the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, or the Bureau of Reclamation under this chapter for any of the following:

(A) Solely for parking, undesignated parking, or picnicking along roads or trailside.

(B) For general access unless specifically authorized under this section.

(C) For dispersed areas with low or no investment unless specifically authorized under this section.

(D) For persons who are driving through, walking through, boating through, horseback riding through, or hiking through Federal recreational lands and waters without using the facilities and services.

You are also in violation of my 4th Amendment rights: I am able to travel freely without toll on any public property.

Moving the wilderness boundaries back, and creating longer walks will solve 95% of the population visiting problem. Here is your second problem. On the Coconino, the Fossil Springs Wilderness, is an amazing place that they manage very well without trampling peoples rights. So the USFS has already solved this problem and has a working model.

When I read the initial draft, this hiking permit is being billed as a "first ever". Since the USFS already has a working model, why is there a new "first ever".

Really simple folks, your government overreach on this point is appalling. You will have a problem establishing reasonable suspicion or probable cause to stop and detain anyone. If someone is simply hiking through, not camping, and not using your facilities and you detain them, someone will take this to court and it will become a class action suit.

Think of it this way. A cop cannot stop you just to see if you have a driver's license. That is a civil rights violation. Gotta have reasonable suspicion or probable cause. The USFS appears to opening up a can of worms legally. Remember the USFS already has working model on the Coconino. Actually The Tonto National Forest utilizes the same techniques to management successfully popular high traffic areas, so again, why the "first ever"?

Again the draft has many good ideas and I support the good ideas. I do not support a renegade supervisor imposing a tax on US citizens for the sole purpose of "being first" and looking for a promotion.

Warmest regard,  
Scott Brown