Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/18/2025 6:00:00 AM
First name: Chuck
Last name: Cichowitz
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Thanks to the USFS staff for the continued effort to move the Dispersed Camping Management proposal (DCM) forward.

Please accept the following comments pertaining to the EA for the proposed DCM.

Road Additions - Clear Creek

* Roadless Area Consideration - identification and justification of road proposals considering that these proposals are in a Roadless Area. This evaluation appears to have been overlooked in the process.
* New Roads - how will they help manage camping - or will this increase camping impacts?
* Remove proposal for 2 - Spur Roads off CR 390A. This will only draw more traffic up 390A and presents a possible impact to the CDST experience.

Browns Creek

* Removal of campsites proximate to the CT up CR 273.
* In appropriate areas - minimize larger group campsites. CR 274a & 272b and 272 towards Browns Creek TH

As noted in the EA under Design Feature REC2

* "Steps to limit social trails"
* "Include opportunities for groups of vehicles and larger 'group site' configurations in consideration of the other design features in this table."
* These additional actions may include adding additional signing, barriers, or sites, or conversely, removing and closing a designated site or sites altogether. Continued site management and future camping within any site or area is dependent on whether it can be sustainably managed over time

Since this an Adapted Management plan there is no further public input regarding the number of designated campsites or the number of larger group campsites. I have concerns about the latitude to "Include opportunities for groups of vehicles and larger 'group site' configurations in consideration of the other design features in this table."

As we know and continue to observe these impacts from increases in camping it isn't just limited to more campers. Its more trash, increased hardening of sites, increased recreation use that contributes to increased social trails and loss of experience quality. We have seen an increase in usage of firearms and motorized off-road use. The type of camper and the experience they are looking for is changing. This area is becoming more of a destination rather than a camping place for the night. Let's ensure quality recreation opportunities and sustainability by "right" sizing our designated camping sites. Building a strong realistic foundation will support this excellent effort.