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Comments: Hi there,

Thanks for the opportunity to share feedback on the access plans for trailheads near Quandary, Spruce Creek, and the surrounding Tenmile area. I'm a local resident who uses these trails regularly - especially the Mohawk Lakes route - and I really appreciate the efforts to improve access while protecting the environment and respecting nearby communities.

A few things I'd love to see prioritized in the plan:

A permanent restroom at the Spruce Creek Trailhead would be a big improvement. With the volume of hikers using the area, this is long overdue and would help both visitors and the local environment.

Clear, consistent parking signage at Spruce Creek is also badly needed. The current setup leads to a lot of confusion, unsafe parking, and unnecessary congestion.

Regarding Shuttle and Reservation Systems:

I fully support continued shuttle access and a reservation system at Quandary Peak. The trail is extremely popular, high-traffic, and draws out-of-town visitors who benefit from a managed system. The shuttle has helped reduce roadside parking and emergency issues, and I think it should continue.

However, I feel very strongly that the same system should not be extended to Spruce Creek/Mohawk Lakes. The usage pattern at Mohawk is different - it draws a mix of locals and visitors, and many people hike there during non-peak times (early mornings, evenings, weekdays, and shoulder seasons). A mandatory shuttle or reservation system would place an unnecessary burden on nearby residents who are not contributing to crowding issues.

If trail management is necessary, I'd recommend creating a separate, flexible access method for locals - such as a local permit, registration, or a system based on vehicle plates - that allows residents to continue accessing the trailhead directly without being forced into a shuttle or timed system.

Over-managing access to Mohawk Lakes risks punishing the people who use it most respectfully and consistently. The trailhead needs infrastructure help, not full restriction.

Thanks again for all the work going into this process, and for considering the perspective of those of us who live here and care about long-term access and stewardship.