

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2019 9:03:33 PM

First name: Jean

Last name: Nelson-Dean

Organization:

Title:

Comments: RE: Proposed changes to the final Decision Notice for the Central Cascades Wilderness Strategies Project

Mr. Mioduszewski,

Good afternoon, I am attaching our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about the Special Recreation Permit Fee proposal. It answers several of your questions. We have this FAQ sheet available on our website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/deschutes/home/?cid=FSEPRD670378> . Unfortunately our system holds items for several hours before they are published and I just updated our FAQs to include answers to some of your questions.

Here is our response to some of your questions that aren't directly answered in the FAQ sheet:

We will continue to engage with partners to expand education efforts around Leave No Trace and wilderness ethics. The Deschutes National Forest has second largest volunteer program of all the national forests and many of our volunteers work in wilderness on both the Deschutes and Willamette NFs. If you are interested in helping, one of these groups is Friends of the Central Cascade Wildernesses (www.centralcascades.org). We also have several individual wilderness volunteers. If you are interested in being a wilderness volunteer you can contact Jasmine Berg, jasmine.berg@usda.gov. We also have a group called the Deschutes Trails Coalition that is working to help educate people about trails and maintaining a sustainable trails system. You can contact Danielle McBain at danielle.mcbain@discovernw.org for more information. Through our years of having wilderness rangers, we have had a history of working with visitors and educating them on Leave No Trace and wilderness ethics. As required under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act 80 to 95% of the funding from the special recreation permit fee, if approved, would be invested in wilderness management activities, trail maintenance, visitor education and expanding work with volunteers and partners within the three wildernesses.

The Deschutes National Forest is continuing to explore options for new high elevation trails outside of Wilderness to accommodate increased use on nearby public lands. As stated previously, potential locations include Tumalo Mountain and Mt Bachelor. At this time we have over 1,200 miles of trails for summer use on the Deschutes National Forest with hundreds of additional miles of trail on the Willamette National Forest.

From: Matthew Mioduszewski <mattanuska@gmail.com>;

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 12:18 PM

To: Anderson, Debbie -FS <debbie.anderson2@usda.gov>; Anderson, Debbie -FS <debbie.anderson2@usda.gov>; Peterson, Matt B -FS <matt.peterson@usda.gov>; FS-Willamette NF Recreation Fee Comments <willametterecfeecomments@usda.gov>; Nelson-Dean, Jean A -FS <jean.nelson-dean@usda.gov>; Robinson, Tammy T -FS <tammy.t.robinson@usda.gov>;

Subject: Re: Proposed changes to the final Decision Notice for the Central Cascades Wilderness Strategies Project

Hello,

I am a standing objector of the CCWS program and now you are soliciting comments on fees. This response is regarding a lack of follow-up from the Forest Service on topics they stated would be addressed at this point. I will

submit a direct comment regarding the fees before the closing date. In prior communications with objectors you stated that additional information will be presented and provided during the fee determination phase of the project. Well, here we are, and you've not done this. The below is a direct quote from the attachment below. My comments highlighted yellow. The public cannot make fully informed comments on the fees without you presenting answers to the topics below. And the below questions are not exhaustive as far as information as it relates to fees. There were multiple responses to objectors that referenced being outside of scope and that they would be addressed during the fee phase of the project. I will be emailing those items separately as the document is not electronically available on the project website.

As part of the implementation process, these items will be further developed and presented to the public as part of the fee determination phase of the project, scheduled to begin in May 2019. The public will have the opportunity to learn more about and comment on each of these items as well as the proposed permit fee during the summer of 2019 (June through September): Here we are in mid October with almost none of this being addressed.

- * We will propose an annual pass option; Remains unaddressed in fee summary (CCWS Fee Outreach Press Release 10082019.pdf)

- * We will create a volunteer pass, to recognize individuals who invest a substantial amount of time in support of wilderness stewardship; Remains unaddressed in fee summary (CCWS Fee Outreach Press Release 10082019.pdf)

- * Kids 12 and under will not be required to pay the wilderness stewardship fee;

- * We will work with partner organizations to make passes/permits available to underserved communities; Remains unaddressed in fee summary (CCWS Fee Outreach Press Release 10082019.pdf)

- * For both day use and overnight permits, a portion will be reservable at the beginning of the season, and a portion will only be made available the day before; Remains unaddressed in fee summary (CCWS Fee Outreach Press Release 10082019.pdf)

- * We will continue to engage with partners to expand education efforts around Leave No Trace and wilderness ethics; Remains unaddressed in fee summary (CCWS Fee Outreach Press Release 10082019.pdf)

- * The Deschutes National Forest will continue to explore options for new high elevation trails outside of Wilderness to accommodate increased use on nearby public lands. Potential locations include Tumalo Mountain, Mt Bachelor. Remains unaddressed in fee summary (CCWS Fee Outreach Press Release 10082019.pdf)

Preview attachment 2019-03-11 Summary of Changes Central Cascades Project and Trailheads.pdf

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2019-03-11 Summary of Changes Central Cascades Project and Trailheads.pdf
144 KB

Thank you
Matt Mioduszewski

On Wed, Mar 20, 2019 at 11:59 AM Anderson, Debbie -FS <danderson01@fs.fed.us> wrote:
Dear eligible objectors - thank you for your attendance and participation at the resolution meeting and your interest in this project. The Forest Supervisors listened to many of your concerns and are proposing to make a number of modifications to the final decision in order to address key concerns; please understand that not all concerns can be resolved. See the attached document for the detailed changes. If these changes resolve your objection, please respond within 7 business days (March 29, 2019) stating that the changes resolved all or parts of your objection and that you wish to formally withdraw all or parts your objection based on the resolution presented (please specify what was resolved and what was not resolved). If the proposed changes do not resolve your objection, please respond within 7 business days (March 29, 2019) stating that the changes do not resolve your objection and that you wish for your objection to remain as submitted.

If we do not hear from you within 7 business days (March 29, 2019), your objection will remain as submitted. We will respond to all objections in writing, in the near future. Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions...deb

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