

WILDERNESS:
Comments are due by
the end of the week

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Other areas are at risk of the same impacts if the trend in visitor growth continues.”

In public meetings conducted last month, including one in Sisters, Forest Service personnel explained that the proposed reservation system would be similar to one already in place at two popular Willamette National Forest wilderness sites, the Obsidian Trail and Pamela Lake.

At those locations, potential forest users must contact a private contractor to obtain one of a pre-determined, limited number of permits for wilderness use in that specific area for a specific date. Permits for one wilderness trail would not be valid at another site, even if in the same forest or wilderness.

Five possible variants for the strategies project have been made public. Generally, the proposals differ based on perceived or recorded user



PHOTO BY CRAIG EISENBEIS

A Forest Service proposal may severely restrict public access to wilderness areas in Sisters Country.

impact on specific sites. At one extreme, all wilderness entry would be subject to limited permit use; in other proposed options, only some of the more highly used areas would be impacted. One option also includes the possibility of no new restrictions on wilderness use.

Those wishing to comment on the project must do so by the end of this week. They may comment after the deadline, but failure to meet the deadline leaves the commenter without “standing for administrative review.” The

Forest Service notice also specifies that “comments posted after the close of a designated comment period may not be able to be given full consideration.”

In order to provide comment, those interested are invited to contact Beth Peer, at Deschutes National Forest, 63095 Deschutes Market Rd., Bend, OR, 97701 or at bpeer@fs.fed.us. Further information can also be obtained at www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=50578. The deadline for comments is May 20.

REALTORS: Event
is a national one
for business

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was the official greeter upon the arrival of the volunteers. Charlotte, a newly rescued goat, was let out of her safe area to meet the crew while showing off her likeable personality.

“You can pick a charity of choice across your community, and anybody that has an interest in animal care, this would be the place to volunteer,” Satko said. “And since we were here last year and had so much fun, we’re back. Their family of rescued animals has grown, so our

group will be splitting up into courtyard/barn beautification teams.”

The teams scooped poop, cleaned bunny cages and water troughs. They watered trees, cleaned the cow, goat, horse, and sheep pastures, removed old hay and cleaned all sheds. The crew also helped with sagebrush removal and fence repair.

“It was an awesome day,” said HFS founder Robine Botts. “I’m so grateful for the outpouring of support from the Keller Williams RED Day team. I am thrilled they choose us again.”

At the end of the day all the volunteers got together for a picnic at The Good Life Brewery with food provided by Pioneer Ranch.

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