

SAR - KP - Interests - Private Property Rights

Comment # Comment

0023147-001

We are writing this letter to inform you that we are against any expansion of Primrose Campground. The Forest Service Plan has proposed expanding campgrounds to accommodate the growth of tourists. Primrose campground is listed as one of the campgrounds to expand. The Primrose campground turnoff is located around Mile 17 of the Seward Highway. The campground is at the end of a residential road. The road leading to the campground is not a Forest Service Road.

We are strongly opposed to expansion of any kind to the Primrose Campground by the Forest Service. The campground is a relatively small campground. Yet, the area is also frequently used in the summer by hikers that use the Primrose Trailhead, by boaters using the boat ramp, travelers taking pit stops, tourists taking pictures, as well as locals enjoying the area.

All this traffic passes in front of our homes and has been growing steadily over the past few years. Vacationers, tourists and campers are not staying within the campground and trailhead area, but invading private property. We have to put up with their blatant disregard for our right to privacy. If the Forest Service expands the campground, it is disregarding the rights of the residents that live on Primrose Road.

Here are a few examples of our private property rights being violated by travelers: littering, stealing, children and dogs running loose, using our driveway as a turn around, trespassing on our property. In the summer, we are bombarded on a daily basis. We have to put up with their blatant disregard for our right to privacy.

This is our neighborhood; we walk, jog and bike on the road. We constantly have to tell drivers to slow down (that problem will be worse if the road is paved). The dust on the road is another problem, the majority of the summer traffic on the road is heading to the campground area. You can't walk, jog or bike on the road when dust is heavy. Traffic comes and goes at all hours. The residents are the ones that clean up the litter along the road and lakeside outside the bounds of the campground; litter left behind by travelers.

Why does the Forest Service have money to expand, but doesn't have the money to maintain what already exists? Please put up a sign at the campground that states:

1. Stay within confines of Forest Service Area. Don't trespass on private property.
2. Watch your speed. This is a residential area.
3. Respect privacy of residents. Don't ask residents for use of their phones, etc.
4. Supervise your children.
5. All dogs must be leashed. No dumping off animals, take them to the pound.

We have reached our limits, the Forest Service should not expand the negative social and environmental impact by enlarging the area and bringing still more people into the Primrose area. We don't want them! Before there was a campground or trailhead

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in the area, there were residents. It's time to start considering them.

Please don't get us wrong. We don't want to pit residents against travelers, campers and/or tourists, but that is what it is coming to when an area is overloaded with more activity than is acceptable. The Forest Service should not expect us to bear more of the burden to accommodate the influx of tourists than we already do. The Forest Service has plenty of land. Build another campground, if you feel its needed, with access from a Forest Service road or expand another campground in which the Forest Service has its own access that does bother local residents and one in which they can maintain. If new trails are need, please do not use Primrose Road to access them; build them with access from the highway or from a Forest Service Road.