

Dear official,

I am deeply alarmed and troubled by the efforts of your agency to drastically reduce the discounts afforded to senior citizens and the disabled at Forest Service campgrounds managed by private concessionaires. These passes/discounts have been on the books for close to five decades, guaranteeing these particular user groups receive discounts to enjoy the public lands.

This is a complete breach of faith for the Forest Service to change the terms/guidelines of these passes after they have been purchased under a different understanding and agreement by current pass holders. Back door efforts like this are a great way to increase public distrust of our federal land managers. We cannot afford to do this in the 21st Century.

As I understand it, the new policy contained within the proposed directives would also take away the privileges afforded to these user groups at day-use sites. These passes/discounts are guaranteed under law. Any new policy should and must be in compliance with this law. Why private concessionaires are being allowed and/or encouraged to dictate new policy is beyond me.

Lastly, these are public lands facilities and campgrounds built by the tax dollars of the people and reserved for the people of this country to use. Your continued com modification of the public resource is grossly misguided, immoral, and illegal. The further turning over of the resource to private companies to manage and manipulate the resource is incredibly indicative of the failure and incompetency of our federal land agencies to manage the public lands for the American people, as mandated by Congress.

I strongly urge you to strike down these outrageous corporate driven considerations and do what you are supposed to do: manage and preserve the public resource in such a way that all current and future Americans can AFFORD and enjoy the public lands for generations to come.

Thank you.

Brett Haverstick