

ROCC PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE MAY REPORT:

1. SAVE THE BLUES CAMPAIGN

The Forest Service is strongly considering establishing regulations for recreation use of the Blue Lakes/Blaine Basin area. (See headlines of the Plaindealer below)

Subject: Plaindealer - Feds propose restrictions on Blue Lakes recreation.

2. Erica Tucker with the San Juan Mt Association is working closely with us
 - A. sending us stickers, with the new sign up link, to put on our flyers that ROCC designed (Roze Evans) and printed
 - B. setting up the Blue Lakes Trail head tent again this summer
3. Forest Service indicated that they still want scoping comments. Here's what our committee has suggested as possible talking points:

To the Forest Service:

In response to your scoping for the regulation for Blue Lakes and after last summer's efforts to count and educate hikers and campers at the Blue Lakes trailhead, here are some suggestions:

1. Encourage designated -not dispersed camping - a permit system
2. Limit camping and hiking to 2 open areas about 1/2 mile north of the trailhead
3. Fence the current camping area just a short distance north of the trail head and put up "No Camping" signs where appropriate
4. If camping is allowed, it be limited to the timbered area that you encounter before reaching the lake
5. No camping by the lake because of safety issues of the water being contaminated. Water from Blue Lakes goes to Log Hill.
6. WAG bags or Biffy Bags and trash barrels
7. More rangers to monitor campers, hikers and designated parking
8. More signs to educate people on the Dos and Don'ts of responsible land stewardship
9. Build designated parking areas and when these spaces are full, no more parking is allowed. Put up signs that communicate the fines for illegal parking
10. The Forest Service should actively inform out of town tourist publications and websites of the rules for Blue Lakes