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Organization:

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Comments:

I am a member of the Carolina Mountain Club, volunteer to do trail maintenance on the Seniard Ridge trail in the Pisgah Ranger District, and became a "trail ambassador" for Max Patch last year. The trail ambassador program was created to try to help train visitors to Max Patch to leave no trace. Unfortunately it is like whistling in the breeze, so to speak. As a member of the public wanting to volunteer to do what I can to help preserve the activities in our National Forest I quickly realized that there are some things the Forest Service needs to address at Max Patch before volunteers can be effective. I admit that I am perplexed as to why the toilet/parking problem doesn't seem to be already in the works. As volunteers we collect data regarding the trash, the number of fire pits, the toilet paper, the destruction of fencing, etc. on the top of Max Patch. For goodness sake, there is even feminine personal hygiene debris which seems to me to be a possible public health issue! I am wondering how many years it takes to analyze the problem before the Forest Service can do anything about it. I think there are some aggressive steps needed to address the maintenance needed on Max Patch that has been deferred too long and is at a crisis right now!