

To whom it may concern:

The following Alternate cost proposal for the NM State Parks is designed to continue with Annual Day use and Annual Camping Passes which along with camping fees is the public's main contention to the proposed fee changes.

Day use fees for residents and non-residents make it much easier for State Parks employees to control visitation and parks access. If as proposed, having no fees for residents and double current fees for out of state visitors I believe will lead to numerous rule violations, especially with camping fees more than double the current amount for all visitors. In order to control these violations will require an increase in manpower that will take the cost savings away. By increasing fees for primitive camping to the Alternate proposal will more closely align the fee structure for residents and non-residents and hopefully lessen the animosity that might/will develop towards other campers and the State Parks itself. Also, at Elephant Butte, primitive camping is exactly that, bathrooms are in many cases more than ½ mile away, why should anyone pay \$20 a night for that?

Of course, Annual camping and day use passes are part of a solution for increased revenue and simplicity in the use of our State Parks. In my conversations with State Park employees about the proposed changes, all agreed that it is much easier for Park staff to do business with the public with these passes in place. Doubling the Day use pass would align our state with Colorado as far as fees are concerned. Doubling the Annual Camping Pass would also equal Colorado. A few things that Colorado also does is Disabled Vets have free camping and visitation, and if 64 and older, a lifetime camping pass is only \$175. Something to consider when our state income tax is 4.9%, Colorado's is 4.4% and Arizona (which has a day use pass) is 2.5%.

Changes to the fee structure are overdue, however trying to lesson the impact it will have on our citizens and visitors is worthy and the Alternate proposal does it in a fair and equitable way, and the new Mexico State Park's division actually benefit's from extra revenue that it will receive.

FEE TYPE	CURRENT COST	PROPOSED COST	ALTERNATE COST	REVENUE IMPACT
DAY USE RESIDENT	\$5 per vehicle	free for residents	\$5 per vehicle	-\$862,500 +\$862,500
DAY USE NON-RESIDENT	\$10 per vehicle	\$10 per vehicle	\$10 per vehicle	+\$575,000
PRIMITIVE CAMPING	\$8 per vehicle	\$20 per vehicle	\$10 per vehicle	+\$1,728,000 +\$288,000
DEVELOPED CAMPING	\$10 per vehicle	\$20 per vehicle	\$12 per vehicle	+\$2,048,000 +\$409,600
UTILITIES WATER etc,	\$4 per day	\$10 per day	\$6 per day	+\$700,000 +\$233,334
DUMP STATION	FREE	\$10 per use	\$5 per use	+\$250,000 +\$125,000
ANNUAL DAY USE PASS	\$40	ELIMINATE	\$80	-\$295,400 +\$590,000
ANNUAL CAMPING PASS	\$100-\$225	ELIMINATE	\$200-\$450	-\$450,000 +\$914,000
LIVING DESERT ENTRANCE FEE	\$0.50-\$5.00	\$1.00 to \$10	\$1.00 to \$10	+\$107,253

FEE TYPE	CURRENT COST	PROPOSED COST	ALTERNATE COST	REVENUE IMPACT
VESSEL REGISTRATION FEE	\$28.50-\$66.00	\$75.00-\$180.00	\$75.00-\$180.00	+\$1,525,601
VESSEL LAUNCH FEE	FREE	\$5.00	FREE	+\$100,000 -\$100,000
PROPOSED COST REVENUE INCREASE				\$5,418,954
PROPOSED ALTERNATE COST REVENUE INCREASE				\$5,630,288