From: Bryan Camus

To: <u>emnrd-parkscomments</u>, <u>EMNRD</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Mexico State Parks Fees Study

**Date:** Saturday, March 2, 2024 7:14:10 AM

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## Dear Sir/Madam,

About the proposed changes to the state parks fees, while I agree that the fees need to be increased, I do not think the current proposal is in everyone's best interest. Removing the daily fees completely for state residents would seem to cause popular parks to be overrun without compensation for the increased traffic and associated costs. The daily fee is not an onerous cost and also serves to create a sense of ownership.

I especially oppose removing the annual pass but not increasing its cost. At its current price, I would call it a steal and support an adjustment.

Finally, I did not see anything regarding senior citizens or those on fixed or low incomes. I am hopeful that a senior citizen discount remains in place and a number of "free admission days" such as done by our national parks (but in a greater quantity) would provide access to those with limited funds.

Thank you for your time, Bryan Rio Rancho, NM

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Bryan J. Camus bicamus@gmail.com