

From: [Carol Christianson](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Fee Study Rule Changes
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 5:19:55 AM

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Hello,

I have been a resident of NM since 1982 (41 years) and have enjoyed the use of the State Park system since that time. I tent camped until 2000 and then purchased a small pull-trailer for trips from my home in Santa Fe. I am now 65 years old and have more time to enjoy the parks in the system. The State Parks have changed considerably in those 41 years and I completely agree that prices need to go up, even if it does not mean more services at various parks. I agree with charging out of state park visitors a higher fee (as they do in OR and CO and many other states). I also support having the day use fees waived for NM residents. Many NM residents cannot afford camping equipment or are physically challenged, but they CAN enjoy visiting parks close to their rural homes during the day.

I have purchased the yearly pass twice and find it to be a wonderful way to plan trips within the state. Having the pass encourages me to get out and enjoy the parks more. That pass could also cost a bit more and I would still purchase it, but PLEASE do not get rid of it! As a NM resident, I and many others who live on a fixed income need to be careful with how we spend our money for recreation. With the costs of gasoline consistently rising we need to know that we can afford to visit the parks for a reasonable fee...and the pass makes this possible. I need to know that I can get out of town and not have it cost a fortune. Hotels are out of the question financially, and they aren't located in the natural surroundings that I love to be in when I wake up.

Thank you for inviting public comment. Feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Carol Christianson
Santa Fe, NM