

From: [Chris Wiechert](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NM State Parks Fee Changes-Concerns
Date: Friday, March 29, 2024 10:51:44 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in response to the fee changes proposed to the New Mexico State parks system. I am an angler from Durango, Colorado and frequent the San Juan River often. I fish the river 2-3 times per week almost every week. Eliminating the annual pass and implementing a \$10 day use fee would potentially mean the \$40 I spent for the yearly pass will now cost me \$1,560! This is an astronomical figure that would most likely drive me away from wanting to fish the San Juan. And as a result, the money on gas/food/supplies I would normally spend in New Mexico when I'm fishing the San Juan, would be spent elsewhere (most likely in Colorado). I think the more prudent approach is increasing the annual non-resident pass (for example, to \$60). This would offset the added financial pressure caused by inflation, while also being fair to the non-resident fisherman who heavily support the economy in the Aztec/Navajo Dam area.

Thank you,

Christopher Wiechert