

From: [Christy Derry](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] increases in costs
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 1:59:52 PM

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I'm a New Mexico senior resident on a fixed income. I camp frequently here. I understand the state hasn't increased fees in too long. So increase them. But please-don't remove an affordable way for seniors and low income folks in NM to enjoy camping in the outdoors. It keeps us healthy and teaches youth to appreciate and enjoy the outdoors which prolongs life expectancy. I'm a Registered Nurse and well aware of the importance of outdoor activities and exercise. This is not a state full of ultra wealthy people like Colorado and AZ. Many CANNOT afford \$183.00 for 3 nights camping, or anything close to it.

Local businesses will also be affected. Especially in the southern regions of NM.

My concern is the plan I heard during the Elephant Butte meeting will effectively keep me from doing much camping. Increasing by a factor of 3 makes it unaffordable. If this increase goes into effect-especially without any senior discounts-I will be forced to camp elsewhere-but not in the state parks.

I am also very concerned that the changes will be especially unaffordable for low income families effectively keeping them and their children from enjoying camping in this beautiful state. I have family in Colorado and Arizona that have been priced out of all but rare camping trips.

Of course the wealthy folks will not have a problem with these increases. And maybe State Park people don't care who can vs who cannot afford to camp here.

But I don't think it will serve N. M. well to price a majority of campers out of weekends or a few weeks per year enjoying the Enchanted State. Most of the campers I see are NOT big rig wealthy. We are small rig or tent campers and many are car campers.

Sincerely,
Christy Grabove

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)