

From: [Dawn Pasternacki](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NM state parks fee proposal
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 12:32:49 PM

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Good day,

I have been reading about the proposed state park fee increases in NM. My husband and I just retired. We have been looking forward to being able to go camping frequently while enjoying our retirement. We have so many memories of going to the lake with family and friends. I was raised in NM and this is what we did every year for our vacations. I carried on this tradition with my husband and 2 children. We had hoped to make more memories doing the same, but now with our grandchildren. The price increases you are proposing will make this cost prohibitive for us. The increases you are looking at making is to increase revenue. I strongly believe that tripling the fees are going to have the opposite effect. People will no longer be able to afford to go to our state parks. Especially people on a fixed income and seniors.

Cancelling the day usage fees for NM residents will loose the state parks almost \$900,000. I believe that charge should stay in place and an increased amount for out of state travelers should be implemented.

I feel it is ridiculous to charge a dump fee. That should be included in the camping fee.

Charging a launch fee is overreaching as well. What happens to people who have a boat and jet skis'. We have both. Does that mean we will have to pay for our boat and our 2 skis? It's mind boggling.

People are having a hard time paying their everyday bills and it's going to come down to "Do I buy groceries and pay for my medications", or do I go without to go camping for a week. I think we both know the answer to that.

I am imploring you to not do away with annual passes. This will hurt the seniors, who are on a fixed income, the most. It would make more sense to raise the price of them a bit, maybe up to \$200 for seniors, and possibly to \$250 for the general public that are not supporting themselves on a fixed income. We enjoy our state parks and lakes and hate the thought of not being able to afford to go to them anymore.

Can you not look for supplemental income for our state parks from the government? They are generating a ton of money from the legal sale of cannabis. Why can't a portion of that help support our parks.

I respectfully request you to truly reconsider the proposed increases. Please keep our state parks affordable for NM residents to continue to enjoy.

Respectfully,

Dawn Pasternacki

Placitas, NM