

From: [Elaine Padilla](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Fee Changes
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 6:08:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good evening,

I would like to state my opposition to the proposed fee changes. I am in no way opposed to increased fees as I understand the need to recoup the cost of overhead and increasing costs for daily operations. My opposition is mainly the elimination of annual passes for Elephant Butte Lake. I wouldn't be opposed to an increase in the price of the annual pass. Even if it were to double. \$80 to visit the lake during the season for my family would be about \$5 each time. My fear stems from the thought of the lines that would exist during the peak season and holidays. Imagine the lines on Memorial Day and 4th of July. The annual pass allows us to skip having to wait in line. Also, having visitors have to get in a line would require more of the booths be open and would require hiring more staff. How does that help the bottom line? Even having to have a person ensuring day passes would take time. Time away from being on the water. As a NM resident my whole life, visiting the parks is a lifelong tradition.

I would recommend:

Non-Residents cannot purchase an annual pass but Residents should be able to.

Increased fees for day passes and camping to both residents and non residents.

Increase to licenses fees

Increases day use fees

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Elaine Padilla