From: Gary Nielsen

To: <u>emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed. DW fees for NM State Parks

**Date:** Friday, March 1, 2024 2:42:07 PM

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## Sirs.

I humbly offer the following as a non-resident of your State who has enjoyed a variety of NM State Parks and hope to continue to so well into the future.

## To wit:

Canceling resident day-use fees while raising fees for all others is wrong when one considers the gravity of your annual funding shortfalls.

By all means raise the day rates... for all users. Certainly a resident rate would be less however to put the entire day use financial burden expressly on out of towners may just create a situation where the park's ability to raise funding is decreased with those of us preferring to bypass those parks entirely. My experiences have been less than pleasant sadly with resident day use attendance. (The license plates are a give-away as to citizenship).

Trash, loud music and annoyances such as speeding has pushed a number of us away from the terrific NM State parks.

All other fees should be adjusted appropriately. I would also hope you reconsider canceling annual fees. Camping is enjoyable when the sites are maintained. I hope your efforts succeed in fostering additional funds for continued use by all.

Sincerely, Gary Nielsen