

From: [J. Oguin](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed changes
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:53:20 AM

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

This report laments the lack of revenue to create/maintain the infrastructure in the state parks and on the other hand it proposes slashing nearly 1 million in funds in the name of “Equity”. The equity agenda is clearly explained in Option 7 where it proposes eliminating day use fees in the name of Equity and making up the revenue shortfall of nearly 1 million dollars onto the backs of the campers and boaters. Apparently, the authors of this report have the biased opinion that people who camp and own boats have an abundance of money and because the majority of day use fees come from local residents, they are **all** poor and therefore entitled to a free ride. The authors also ignore that by making day use free, they have created **Inequity** by making it much easier for locals to enjoy the state parks that are paid for by the campers and boaters – essentially making locals the preferred clientele.

OPTION 1: ELIMINATION OF ANNUAL CAMPING PASSES. I oppose this. The report does present valid reasons, but these are solvable by software changes on Reserve America’s side, enforcement of state park rules and increasing the cost. People should not be allowed to bounce from SP to SP as a lifestyle and I do support eliminating the ACP for non-residents.

The theme throughout the report is one of complaining about the workload of enforcing policies and to that I say cowboy up and do the job. One of the major issues I regularly see is when there are obvious “no-shows” at a campsite and there is no effort to open the site back up. SP policy is clear that you will lose your site if steps are not taken to contact SP, yet there is zero enforcement. Also, the idea that ACP users are keeping others from enjoying the SP is a lie unless you believe that people should not be allowed to enjoy the SP and they are able.

OPTION 2: BOAT REGISTRATION FEES ADJUSTMENTS. The idea to charge non-motorized watercraft a \$5 launch fee is outrageous and is not justified. A paddle boat needs no infrastructure from a state park other than a spot to park a vehicle and the water to place it in. Hikers, bikers, picnickers and shore fisherman cause far greater impact to the state parks than does the kayaker. Trails are the result of boots and tires beating the ground. Trash from picnickers and fisherman litter the shore and need labor to clean up. This is nothing more than a money grab to offset the \$850k shortfall created by eliminating the day use fees in the name of Equity.

OPTION 7: ELIMINATE DAY USE FEE FOR NEW MEXICO RESIDENTS. I oppose eliminating day use fees and the ADU pass. These are critical for revenue. I support increasing rates to allow for improvements. Provide reduced rate ADU to those that can prove a financial hardship.