From: Williams, Jean Marie - (williams)
To: emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feedback on proposed fee changes for New Mexico State Parks

**Date:** Friday, March 1, 2024 5:40:46 PM

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## To Whom It May Concern:

I am an Arizona resident who has enjoyed camping in New Mexico's beautiful state parks for over 40 years. Prior to retiring from teaching, I camped 2 1/2 months out of the year and now camp 4 1/2 months. Besides the beauty of NM and the ease of traveling there, a major draw has been that your camping is priced reasonably. I see, however, the need to raise prices, but hope that you can still keep prices affordable and that you reconsider the recommendation to eliminate the annual camping pass. I did not discover it until 3-4 years ago, but have bought one two out of the last three years. The pass has been the draw to route my travels through NM and to spend less time in other western states. Deleting the annual pass might deter other individuals such as myself from spending as much time camping in NM. I hope you have considered not only the revenue loss from the annual passes and other camping fees, but also the loss of revenue brought into the state from purchases such as gas, groceries, restaurants, general shopping, entertainment, and RV/car repair (e.g, spent \$8,500 for RV repair in Albuquerque on my last trip). I know these are complex and difficult decisions, and am hopeful that my comments will be viewed as constructive versus critical.

Sincerely, Jean M. Williams