From: <u>Jim Lehmer</u>

To: emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD

Subject: [EXTERNAL] NM State parks fees study...

Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 2:39:01 PM

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I live in Raton and get an annual pass every year. Sugarite is 10 minutes from my house, Cimarron an hour, Eagle Nest, not even 90 minutes. Those are my primary parks, and I am a hiker and snow shoer (my daughter is a birder, hence Eagle Nest).

I actually brag about the \$20/year fee being the best bargain in the country (esp. if you buy on the 1st so you get "13 months"). I don't mind it, and I personally would prefer to see it kept if the extra income from keeping it went to improving the parks - trails, infrastructure, etc. - instead of just "maintaining" the parks.

Our state parks are gems! I say let's polish them even more! :)

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Jim

Solvitur ambulando