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

Subject: [EXTERNAL] proposed State Park fee increases

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Some proposals are reasonable, some are NOT. \$20 for a primitive site is NOT REASONABLE!

And I (along with a lot of other people) would like to know how the proposed increased revenues will be used. Gee, I can't even remember when Conchas last opened the Central Campground! The state park's excuse has always been that they can't find enough help to take care of it. So one remedy might be to pay the help better, or to put in employee housing so that workers don't have to commute so far from the nearest towns. Will these proposed increases remedy that?

You guys pay rangers to go to the ONLY Conchas campground that even HAS lake access, Cove Campground (the ground of which incidentally is COMPLETELY covered in goose and harass the ONLY camper who has a couple small dogs off-leash for a few minutes to enjoy swimming in the lake. There were NO OTHER CAMPERS at the campground! And also, incidentally or not, the QR code on the dumpsters that says "scan QR code to pay" is FAKE! Got me enrolled in a scam that took \$1.95, then \$1.00 from my debit card balance, and had we not notified the bank when we did, would have taken \$50 the next day. It's called Starrler.com, by the way, in case anyone would care to look it up, and then pull the fake QR code signs off the dumpsters. Had to have my debit card cancelled and replaced. This all happened on February 22nd, but I had seen the QR codes taped to the dumpsters on previous visits to the campground, so it had been around for quite some time. Gee, if the QR codes weren't affiliated with the State Parks, think maybe some SP employee would have NOTICED? Instead of insisting that the two small dogs splashing in the lake, belonging to the ONLY visitors at the campground, be put on leashes! Priorities, guys!

I also happen to believe that making non-residents pay much more than NM residents is unwise, and will backfire. The non-residents spend money in New Mexico apart from at the state parks: they shop and eat here too. Drive them elsewhere with too-high fees, and NM will quite possibly lose more revenue that they would gain by the proposed price increases.

My 2 cents.

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