From: <u>Joe Valdez</u>

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

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fee structure and Park Rules

Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 6:19:40 AM

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As a citizen of NM and outdoorsman. My family and I venture out to our state parks. There is much to enjoy in NM.

And reviewing the proposed fee recommendation. I do agree we must do something in order to maintain and improve our state parks.

First, elimination of day use fee for NM residents. This is a great idea for NM residents who live and support our states parks. And allows them to continue to get out and support businesses that earn a living off residents who use the parks.

As for raising camping and utilities. I believe this is a necessity. I have camped at state parks. And many times have been disappointed in the parks utilities and facilities.

Restroom and showers closed. Due to maintenance service. I would rather pay a little extra to insure these facilities are maintained for proper use.

As for out of state fees being increased. Of course; why? I spend time camping at our state parks like Navajo Lake.

The camping areas are filled with large RV's. That pull extra small autos for getting around. They occupy additional space.

And large RV's not only stay longer. They use more of the needed utilities and facilities. I often see garbage bins filled to over flowing. Because of the long term stays. So, by all means fees for out of state usage fees need to be increased!

As for doing away with annual passes. Maybe we should look at creating a monthly pass with a price increase that is purchased directly from the state parks you are visiting!

Instead of passes purchased for the entire United State parks. That way we generate revenues solly for our state.

I am in support of such measures. To help improve and maintain quality camping and attract tourists to our state parks!

Thank you for allowing this citizen to voice my opinion.

Sincerely,

Joe Valdez