

From: myvoice@oneclickpolitics.com
To: emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Proposed Fee Structure Needs to be Reassessed
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 11:36:10 AM

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Re: The Proposed Fee Structure Needs to be Reassessed

Dear Public Comment,

The proposed changes to the Fee Structure and Park Rules have forgotten about New Mexicans. Most of those being affected by these changes have not been able to attend the public rules hearings. Despite a surplus of 3.48 billion dollars for 2024, the state is proposing increased fees that essentially act as use taxes, burdening citizens who can least afford it. The proposed changes could negatively impact the economies of local communities if the number of visitors or visits to state parks declines. The study by EMNRD was conducted in isolation, lacking external input, which limited its perspective and failed to consider the viewpoints of veterans, campers, boaters, and paddle craft users. These fees would disproportionately affect low- and middle-income families and senior citizens who rely on affordable access to state parks and recreational activities. The decision to raise fees contradicts the principles of fairness and equity, especially considering the state's healthy financial position. I understand that incremental fee increases may be warranted. However, it should NOT be on the backs of the tax payers of New Mexico. Start with making increases to out of state users. Research how other states charge more to out of state users! Thank you for your service to the citizens of the state and I respectfully request you keep the citizens in mind and do not approve the proposed rule changes.

Sincerely,
Ms. Kim Clark
ropingirl@hotmail.com
112 Rosedale Road Silver City, NM 88061 Constituent

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