From:	Lindsey Evans
To:	emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Comment on State Parks" Proposed Fee Chages
Date:	Tuesday, March 12, 2024 3:00:24 PM

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I've reviewed the table on the State Parks' proposed fee changes and I wanted to provide feedback. I see that in the proposed cost changes you used an inflation rate of about 3% over 25 years for most of the proposed cost changes given in the table.. Which is a reasonable adjustment over the past 25 years. Given that, here are my comments.

1. For primitive camping the proposed cost increase is \$20 from \$8. This works out to a cost factor increase of 2.5 which is about a 3.7% inflation rate over 25 years. Approximately 25% more than a 3% inflation rate. Just pointing this out, and maybe \$15 cost could be considered.

2. Eliminating the Annual Camping Pass seems to be an extreme measure, yet it is understandable. However, my comment is along the lines of estimated revenue impact. From your records on annual camping passes you know what the revenue loss is from eliminating the annual camping pass, about a half a million. You show having only daily camping passes, gives an estimated revenue of about 2 million. Did you do a 95% confidence estimate on this estimate? I would believe it is a fairly large spread in confidence over the next few years. If estimated revenue for developed camping falls short of estimates how does that impact Parks' budgets? This leads to point #3.

3. Why due away with the Annual Day pass and the daily Day Use pass? SInce the State Parks relies heavily on revenue it makes me wonder why do away with day use charges. Maybe keep day use at the current rate of \$5 and increase the Annual Day USe Pass from \$40 to \$60 which is about a 1.6% inflation rate over 25 years.

5. In doing away with the Annual Camping Pass, which I'm sure will be a tough reality for folks who have camped many years at the State Parks. Would it not be reasonable to offer a camping pass booklet of say 10 days of camping at a reduced cost, like 10 days for \$160. This works out to about a 2% inflation rate over 25 years.

It is an unfortunate reality that fee changes at the State Parks are necessary and I do hope the changes meet your revenue needs. New Mexico State Parks have been under budget for a long time.

Lindsey Evans