From: Lonnie Estep

To: <u>emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD</u>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Propsed Camping Fees
Date: Friday, March 8, 2024 4:27:09 PM

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In my opinion the proposed Camping Fees are too drastic. Reasons to follow.

ANNUAL CAMPING PERMITS- Make camping more affordable for seniors on a fixed income and for families to get their kids out of the house and enjoy an affordable vacation.

UTILITIES- The increase from \$4.00 a night to \$10.00 is 2 ½ times what is currently being paid. The average household electric bill in NM is \$140.00 per month or \$4,66 per day for a 30 day month.

DUMP STATION FEE- \$10.00 per use is not something many people will pay. They will just dump their holding tanks on the side of the road creating a Bio-Hazard. The state will have to pay to clean up this mess. Which will cost the state much more money than the dumping fees will ever generate. How could these dumping fees ever be enforced? NON MOTORIZED LAUNCHING FEE- People will just launch their non motorized vessels away from the boat ramps. Is this going to apply to inflatable toys that kids play on?

I have been camping at Sims Mesa Campground since the early 1980's. Have seen many great improvements there. One thing to consider is loss of revenue due to designating sites as small or large group sites when they are in reality just double sites. These sites remain vacant most of the time because of this. Site M7 is \$45.00 a night. Sites M4 and M9 are \$90.00 a night. If they were charged as double sites they would be in use much more frequently and generating income for the state.

My kids, Grandkid and now Great Grandkids use state parks frequently. Please do not price us out.

Thank
You

Lonnie
Estep

O9 Vista Del Rio Peralta

NM 87042 1-505-239-6665