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emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD
[EXTERNAL] Park Plan
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I appreciate you reaching out for comments.

My comments are:

*Elimination of day use fees for NM residents: I think the fees should stay the same. If we stop charging there will be more "damage" of areas due to overuse. With no fee I think it would make it less appealing to me.

Definitely charge non residents a higher fee. In Utah, the fee is almost double for non residents.

We should be charging double or maybe triple to out of state residents.

* Eliminating annual pass: NO for NM residents. We are paying for these state parks with our state tax money, we should be able to get the pass and use it to enjoy NM. Eliminate it for out of state residents. Most states don't even allow non residents to get a pass and if they do, it is very, very expensive. Make the out of state people pay to camp in our parks at a higher rate, a much higher rate. As it is now, it is highly advertised that NM has cheap annual passes to non residents in most camping forums. No other state lets me camp for that price. Keep the NM annual pass for residents only, but discontinue or highly increase the pass for out of state campers!!! This would also help with many people from out of state living in the parks and just moving every 14 days, back and forth. I have talked to several people who do this. Lets keep our parks for recreational use only, instead of a trailer park. It is not fun to go camping and see people who you know live from state park to state park, usually from other states. Maybe change the maximum stay to 7 days to help with this problem. Plus, I have paid state tax all my life here, being a native. And now that I am retired I am starting to explore the state just in time for my benefit to be eliminated??? Not fair to those of us who are from NM. Please do not take away NM resident annual state park pass.

*Increase fees, well, maybe some. But the burden should be on out of state users. NM residents should be able to camp and visit their state parks without a huge financial burden. **WE** are paying taxes and we should be the ones who get to enjoy our parks. Many times the parks are booked months in advance and then when visiting, half or more of the spots are open and unused for days at a time. When we have visited nearby out of state parks, the fees are extremely high compared to NM for us, being out of state residents. Let's raise the fees for out of state visitors and leave it about the same for NM residents.

*Boat fees: I have no comment since I don't use these.

*Fees for living desert,etc. Maybe a slight raise, but again, make the out of state visitors pay more.

Thank you for considering my opinion.