

From: [Matthew Earthman](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] State Parks Fee Study Comments
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 5:23:11 AM

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Good morning,

I reviewed the executive summary for the proposed fee changes for NM State Parks. I am a New Mexico resident and long-time user of the parks, and understand the need to increase fees to support the program, but wanted to provide comments on the proposals.

I agree with proposal to eliminate the annual camping pass program; I am a holder myself but have seen that it can lead to mis-use by persons who are using the parks as a residence as opposed to recreation.

I believe the proposed overnight costs are in-line with other states, but the \$30/night fee for an electric/water site represents over a 100% increase...if we have to pay reservation fees on top of that it is definitely going to make me less inclined to use our parks, especially given the aging showering facilities, etc. We will likely pursue other privately-owned options or just head to a Army Corps operated lake where I know I'll have hot water in the showers.

I am strongly opposed to the non-motorized vessel launching fee unless additional information or criteria is provided. If I have to pay \$5 to use each of my family's 3 inflatable paddle boards that will be cost-prohibitive and frankly seems ridiculous. I've never seen any fee like that in any of the western states I have visited.

Thanks,
Matthew Earthman
Albuquerque, NM