

From: [M. O'Connor](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feedback in regard to raising park fees in New Mexico
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10:59:12 AM

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Hello,

I heard about this issue from a coworker and caught a short news story this morning. I was disappointed to read of such a short window to provide feedback and the deadline being tomorrow.

I am totally 100% against any increased fees across the board.

I already find the existing fees to be extremely burdensome and a significant barrier to planning any trips. I can never find a camping spot anywhere desirable to go. The campsites I typically see are maintained by extremely strict people and those places are terrible, crowded and stink. I can rarely find a trail that's not packed with other hikers and on top of this I have only met a park ranger at Valle Caldera in their wonderful gift shop.

Additionally to provide more context, I believe it should be my right to access the wilderness as a resident and citizen of New Mexico and the United States for free. I am already being taxed to death with very little to show for my taxes.

Clearly our parks immediately need a lobbyist in DC and in the Roundhouse to secure more funding from the excessive amount of taxes we already pay. Go get it there, I am not willing to comply with any more money grabs regardless of the justifications.

You are welcome to contact me if you have any questions regarding this opinion at:

Thank you,
Morgan O'Connor