

From: [Richard Lueders](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fee Structure Revisions Proposal, Feedback
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 9:59:17 AM

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Thank you for giving advance notice of changes and asking for feedback.

It should be apparent that inflation in the last 3 years of 20%+ has had negative impact on the cost of operations. And Parks is proposing fee structure changes to "balance the budget."

However, two of your proposals are counterintuitive: eliminating Day Use fees and Annual Fees for residents? At least I would suggest these be maintained "as is." How does eliminating resident existing fees help the Parks financial situation?

As a side issue, the "Rex Smith Catchment Basin" in the Navajo Lake State Park is regarded as "Full" and no longer protects valuable fishing waters of the San Juan Quality Waters. We were fortunate last summer that there was adequate water levels in Navajo Lake that a 10 times normal flow was able to run for 30 days thus, flushing much sediment out of the Quality Waters restoring fish holding areas of the river.

All it takes with the Basin full and unable to stop the flow of sediment in the river and undoing all that was gained by the "Flush" is one heavy rain and sediment will fill the river, severely degrading the fish holding capabilities.

The Quality Waters of the Juan attracts thousands of out of state anglers and brings in millions of dollars to the State economy. It seems to me a high priority should be placed on preserving the quality of the fishery and this Basin be cleaned out ASAP.

Sincerely,
Richard Lueders, Albuquerque