

**From:** [Steve Patterson](#)  
**To:** [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NM State Park Fee Study  
**Date:** Friday, March 1, 2024 1:57:24 PM

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It is my opinion that the elimination of day use fees for NM residents will create several undesirable outcomes:

1. NM State Parks understandably needs to increase revenues to fulfill the mission statement. Eliminating a fee that neighboring states charge simply does not make sense.
2. The number of L.E. contacts will increase with the request to show identification to prove NM residency. There will be issues that arise from this. As a retired Officer I can tell you without doubt that conflict will arise with demanding ID . Do not assume that all visitors carry ID or can even prove citizenship let alone residency.
3. Lack of day use fees will encourage "flash mobs" (for lack of a better term) where juveniles, in particular, will hit the park to party.
4. Charging a day use fee would allow the elimination of the proposed launch fees for motorized and paddle craft. Launch fees are extremely hard to enforce as the visitor is typically out on the lake.

Respectfully Submitted  
Steve Patterson

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