

From: [SuzAnne Gil](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments/Concerns on "proposed" state park fee hikes
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 10:47:53 AM

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To whom it may concern:

The following comments address my concerns with the proposed state park fee hikes as presented to us by Mr. Jared Langenegger, on Monday, March 11th at Navajo Lake State Park.

1. We were told the parks are currently running with a 27% field personnel deficit and more monies are needed to recruit/retain personnel - Agreed, and this will not happen overnight
2. They want to eliminate the day use passes for residents to encourage more outdoor recreation and use of our state parks - **how is this increased number of people at our parks going to be safe when we already are experiencing problems with not having field personnel to respond to emergency situations or police the parks for safety?**
3. The proposed rate hikes are going to be a shock to your repeat customers - we realize you have not raised rates in 20 years, (shame on you), but these numbers need to be thought out a little more.
4. There are a few scenarios that were not taken into account. Houseboat owners who receive overnight parking privileges as part on their annual pass fee through the concessionaire, out of state houseboat owners who receive the same - we are already paying the concessionaire almost \$5,000.00 a year to keep our houseboat out there some houseboat owners pay a lot more than that. I do not know how much the concessionaire pays the state but maybe the agreement between the state and the concessionaire needs to be looked at. We are avid park users and are in agreement that the fees need to be raised to be brought within current inflation levels. We are not opposed to paying a higher annual day use fee and I do not believe most people will be either. We are opposed to elimination of the day use fee all together. We are opposed to such excessive camping hikes all at one time. We agree with the elimination of the annual camping pass. People should not be allowed to live at the parks. We still think veterans should receive some type of discount.

Why not keep the \$5 day use fee and use those monies to fund an outreach program to promote state park visitation and outdoor activities, implement an incremental rate hike for the camping over the course of a couple of years include water in this rate, increase the annual day use pass to \$100 which is more than doable for boat owners and once you have filled your vacancies and repaired the infrastructure that needs it then look at providing free access to all residents? By that time you can come up with a sustainable income source to fund you into the future.

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A concerned state park user,
[SuzAnne J Gil](#)

From: [Langenegger, Jared, EMNRD](#)
To: [SuzAnne Gil](#)
Cc: [Mason, Wendy, EMNRD](#); [Bobick, Joshua, EMNRD](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Boat launch fee proposal
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 3:59:38 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-0opu0tk0.png](#)

Good afternoon SuzAnne,

The proposed fee only applies to paddle craft. There is no proposed launch fee for motorized vessels or drift boats. This is a mistake on the reporters part and we are contacting them for a correction. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

Jared Langenegger, Field Operations Bureau Chief
NM State Parks Division

Cell: [575-420-1733](tel:575-420-1733)

“Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing” - Theodore Roosevelt



From: SuzAnne Gil <sjg2947@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 11:06
To: Langenegger, Jared, EMNRD <JaredR.Langenegger@emnrd.nm.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Boat launch fee proposal

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Hello Jared,

Could you address this please and thank you?

Here is another concern I have with the proposed state park fee changes:

There was an article published in the

Santa Fe New Mexican, Mar 12, 2024 by

Scott Wyland swyland@sfnewmexican.com, in his article he stated there would be 2 new fees:

A \$5 launching fee would be added for lake users who enter a park with a boat. A \$5
paddlecraft fee would be added for those using rafts or canoes.

This is not what we were told at the meeting. We were told only about the paddlecraft fee. I
see nothing about the \$5 boat launch fee on the website or in the proposal. Is this a mistake on
Mr. Wyland's part?

Concerned state park user,
SuzAnne J Gil

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SuzAnne J Gil