

From: [Ted Lewis](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Park fees
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024 7:05:17 AM

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My partner and I spent the night at the Desert Cove camping area of Elephant Butte SP on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. Although a few of the campers were parked so that we could not see license plates, most were visible. We saw only two New Mexico campers in the whole Desert Cove area, and many appeared to have dug in, perhaps using the entire two weeks allowed. When commercial RV parks in the area are charging upwards of \$40 per night, why shouldn't they pay \$225 for camping an entire year? The state taxpayers are subsidizing snowbird housing at the expense of business to local RV parks while local businesses such as restaurants and stores would probably see the same amount of business if the visitors were staying elsewhere. On the east side of the state, Brantley Lake SP is booked solid, probably with oilfield workers. Therefore, I support the recommendations to bring the parks up to date with fees and regulations.

Sent from my iPhone