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To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] State Park Fee Changes Comments
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I would like to comment on the proposed State Park Fee Changes.

We all agree the State Park Fees need to be increased - the proposed changes feel like a big overreaction and need further review. I'm a Colorado resident that comes to NM for the Winters - I love the State Parks and frequent them. I estimated that I visited the parks around 50 times last year for a variety of recreation. The proposed fee changes would hugely impact my use of the park in both Expenses and well as the burden of having to purchase my daily pass...DAILY. There are days I will drive down to the park and see that the water conditions are unsafe for me to take my boat on the water - so that would result in a \$10 fee that I essentially only paid for a 5 min non-use visit. An Increased Park Pass appears to be a much better solution to the existing shortage of funds/fees.

Increasing the Primitive Camping Fees to the same rate as the Improved Sites is very confusing and seems targeted at a specific group of campers. I've spoken with a large number of residents and non-residents that love the Year Pass for primitive camping - to remove the yearly pass for a primitive camp site once again appears to be a change made without thought. Local residents of Elephant Butte love going down to the beach to spend the night - I've often commented on how they clean up after themselves and enjoy the beautiful resources we are given in New Mexico. The primitive sites are "PRIMITIVE"....it's no different than a FREE Camp Site in the National Forest. They do not have restrooms and wash facilities - they are Primitive. Yes - an increase in the Yearly pass is warranted to keep up with the times....but to change to a daily fee which is the same as the Improved Sites with all of the facilities is extreme.

Yes - we completely agree that the fees need to be increased, but this all seems like an overreaction and extreme. The burden you're placing on the Park Service is unreal by removing Yearly Passes for the Park Entrance as well as Primitive Camping. I'm not aware of any states going backwards and removing Yearly Passes - the Yearly pass is progressive and forwarding thinking. The Daily Pass will result in a large administrative fee for the parks to manage. Let not allow NM State go the other direction.

Thank You,
Tim Eagan