From: <u>Tom OBrien</u>

To: <u>emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New Mexico State Parks Fees Proposal

**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 3:52:57 PM

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Dear New Mexico Advisory Board,

I am writing to you in response to the proposed changes in the fees for New Mexico State Parks.

I am a senior New Mexico resident.

I currently have an annual senior resident N.M. State Parks Pass.

I am aware that the N.M. State Parks have a definite need to increase their funding in order to maintain the quality of service which the public has become accustomed to enjoy and appreciate.

I would respectfully ask that you please consider my suggestions and proposed changes to the fee schedule.

I am asking you to please continue the Annual State Parks Pass. I will be willing to pay an increased amount.

Instead of the \$100 annual senior resident fee, I think an annual amount of \$200 to \$225 would be feasible for me. Limit the occupants to 2 (per permit). Additional people to pay extra.

I think that an annual Non Resident camping permit should also be allowed at an increased rate which would be feasible.

I'm suggesting a fee of maybe \$325-\$375.

For those Residents and Non Resident campers who do not possess an annual pass, I would suggest a nominal fee of maybe \$5 per person per day (applicable to any age individuals) who use the State Parks facilities on a daily basis. A fee for All individuals.

I would be willing to pay an annual fee of maybe \$20 for non motorized watercraft and possibly \$75 for motorized watercraft.

I am proposing these increases as reasonable solutions and viable alternatives to the Fee Schedule which was proposed .

I want to clarify that I am not suggesting that these increases be implemented in addition to the proposed changes in fees, but rather that they be adopted as reasonable replacements for the proposed changes in fees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tom Tomas