From: <u>Vincent Hernandez</u>

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

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Park passes, increased camping fees

**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:03:18 PM

## CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

We are from Florida and have been delighted if not enchanted to make New Mexico and New Mexico state parks our home base for our southwestern adventure for the last couple of years. The annual camping pass has made our stays here affordable. We have visited most of the parks and have many favorites. We have established relationships with numerous local merchants all the way from Columbus to Farmington. If the annual camping pass is done away with and overnight camping fees are increased to the rumored \$40 we simply won't be able to stay here. It wouldn't be simply digging a little deeper into our pockets or using a credit card. The money just isn't there.

It was difficult to find a physician here to take my work related injury case from Florida. I finally found one in Albuquerque. I like the doctor and must make frequent visits. I have another temporary primary care physician in Santa Fe. I am not sure of where we might go. Arizona has a lot of Bureau of Land Management property where camping is free but we are elderly, most of the areas are remote and none of them are secure. What would we do in an emergency? We would have to leave our trailer unattended while we get groceries or go sightseeing. We are simply at a loss.

Please do us the favor of a brief response to let us know our concerns have been noted. Words of encouragement or some suggestions would be helpful.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vincent and Venessa Hernandez