

From: [Donald Tressler](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Cc: [Donald Tressler](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 2:13:23 PM

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

This is the 5th winter I have been a Snow Bird, leaving cold Colorado winters to come to southern New Mexico in my RV. In that time I have used RV Parks in Elephant Butte and Las Cruces, and State Parks in Elephant Butte, Cabela Lake, Percha Dam and Leasburg Dam.

There are pluses and minuses between using the private RV Parks and the State Parks.

One of the pluses for the State Parks has been the very low cost. I have certainly realized that the cost has been too low and needs to be raised. The current cost for me including the annual pass, the State Parks fee and Reserve America has totaled about \$180 a month. I was expecting and perhaps hoping the fees would be raised that would make double that cost, or about \$360 a month. At that price I would probably continue to use New Mexico State Parks in future winter escapes.

There are about 12 private RV Parks in the T or C area. I have used some and found them very satisfactory. There I don't have to move every 2 weeks. And there cost is extremely low. If the cost is more than double for the State Parks over what I have paid in the past I will use the private RV Parks in the future.

If you go to the fee structure in the proposal my guess is your camping numbers will be reduced by more than 50 percent. I have only been here during the cold months and it appears that many campers are Snow Birds like me. If you wanted to attract Snow Birds in the future I suggest instead of dropping an annual camping pass, you replace it with a 6 month camping pass. That would mean that Snow Birds would only buy one 6 month pass a year. Those who use the Parks throughout the year would have to buy two 6 month passes.

It appears likely that you will raise your fees much more than I will find acceptable so I do want to thank the State of New Mexico for providing a pleasant place for me to spend winters for 5 years.