From: john carver

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

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Draconian rule changes will hurt NM seniors and poor New Mexicans

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 9:54:26 AM

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I am a 71 year old NM resident who has purchased an annual pass for many years. I have camped in almost every NM State Park. I live on a fixed income and these proposed new fees will eliminate my access to future camping. For example, I have booked a 14 day camp at Heron lake this May that cost me \$68. Under these new rules It would cost me more than \$420. That's nearly half my monthly income! If you want to raise rates, I would suggest that you hit up the rich Texans who clog up our campgrounds with their half million dollar motor homes and don't pay taxes in NM. These new rates will make camping in NM only accessible to the wealthy. NM is the third poorest state in the U.S. Under these new rules, you might as well put up a sign at park entrances saying "Only Rich Texans Welcome" NM State Parks will become just like Red River and Ruidoso.