

From: [Re Hudson](#)
To: [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed rate increases totally disregard New Mexico residents and especially New Mexico seniors !!!
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 2:50:26 PM

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The proposed rate increases are apparently being made with total disregard for senior citizens and especially New Mexico senior citizens who enjoy camping at our state parks as these increases will make it unaffordable to many seniors who are on fixed and limited incomes that have already been devastated by inflation.

New Mexico always ranks high in negative comparison to other states and low on positive comparisons. Trying to justify these increases by comparing current New Mexico State park fees to our surrounding states is not comparable as our citizens income levels and ability to pay are much lower than surrounding states, especially our senior citizens. I do understand that fees may need to be adjusted, but hopefully with more regard for our state's citizens.

Questions and suggestions:

Why eliminate the "Day Pass" fee for New Mexico residents ??...

New Mexico citizens paying \$5.00 to visit one of the parks for a day is reasonable and has little effect on our citizens budgets and ability to visit a park.

But according to your figures this proposal will result in a revenue loss of \$862,500.

Proposal: KEEP THE NEW MEXICO RESIDENT FEE

.....Result: Plus + \$862,500 over current revenue proposal

RAISE THE OUT OF STATE FEE TO \$10.

.....Result: Plus + \$575,000 over current revenue proposal

Primitive Camping fees:

Adjust the proposed 150% rate increase to a 50% increase...

.....Result: Plus + \$576,00 over current revenue proposal

Developed Camping:

Adjust the proposed 100% rate increase to a 50% increase...

.....Result: Plus + \$1,024,000 over current revenue proposal

Utilities (water, electric):

Adjust the proposed 150% rate increase to a 50% increase...

....Result: Plus + \$233,333 over current revenue proposal

Dump Station Fee:

Do not install a dump fee...as is inherently inequitable as not based on any number of days camped or volume dispensed.

....Result: Minus - \$250,000 under current revenue proposal

Day Use Pass:

Don't eliminate the Resident Day Use pass...

....Result: Plus + \$295,000 over current revenue proposal

Annual Camping Pass:

Eliminate Out Of State Annual Camping Pass...

Keep in-state and in-state Senior Pass...increase fee 50%
as a positive Benefit for New Mexico Residents...

....Results: Plus + \$685,500 over current revenue proposal

Living Desert Fee:

As Proposed... same as current proposal...

....Results: Same + \$107,253 same as current proposal

NET RESULTS of the above proposal... a Plus of \$4,357,500 over current revenue:

The above proposal would actually increase the revenue more than the state's
proposal and drastically decrease some of the proposed rate increases without
negatively effecting New Mexico residents and especially seniors New Mexico as much.

Thank you for your consideration,

R Hudson