

**From:** [Sharon Rivera](#)  
**To:** [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] State Park Fee Proposal  
**Date:** Monday, March 18, 2024 5:06:26 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE ANNUAL PASSES.

Everyone agrees the park fees have not had an increase and it is understandable that an increase is long overdue.

We believe that the fee structure that is introduced will be chaotic and would require more park personnel. Most people cannot afford the fees introduced. Understanding that the analysts looked at fees for other states nearby, our state is 3rd in highest poverty rate. It is not comparing apples to apples, so to speak.

Our small communities near state parks rely on the income generation from the tourism. Many people will not be able to afford to make multiple trips to our state parks which could conceivably hurt our small businesses and communities.

We beg you to reconsider the fees.

All the people I have spoken with all agree we have no problem with rate increases.

Propose:

Take the existing fees and double each.

Sell a annual pass for kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, etc.

Thank you so much for your consideration in this matter.

Tony and Sharon Rivera