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**To:** [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)  
**Cc:** [aesill@comcast.net](mailto:aesill@comcast.net)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on proposed state park fees  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:28:09 AM

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My wife and I encourage you to reduce the proposed state park fee increases, especially for senior citizens. We are retired and on a fixed income and enjoy camping. The proposed fees would severely impact our ability to enjoy the outdoors.

While some fee increases may be justified, eliminating the annual pass and charging \$50 per night for a site with water, electric, and sewer or \$40 per night for a site with water and electric is excessive.

We suggest the following changes to your proposed fees:

- Continuing to offer an annual pass with a reduced rate for New Mexico seniors.
- Eliminating the annual pass for out of state residents.
- Continuing to charge a daily admission fee for those without a pass with one rate for residents and a higher rate for non-residents.
- Reducing the proposed camping and utility fees for residents with an annual pass.
- Since NM has a budget surplus, work with the legislature to increase funding for our parks.

Your incorporation of these changes would allow us to continue to enjoy our state parks. The proposed fees would greatly diminish our ability to enjoy our state parks.

Thanks for your consideration.

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