From: <u>Tonya Iseminger</u>

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

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on proposed state park fee changes

**Date:** Tuesday, March 5, 2024 9:08:10 AM

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Hi EMNRD Parks team,

I understand and support raising fees for state park day and camping use. New Mexico's fees are some of the lowest in the nation despite the parks and facilities themselves being some of the best! And it's important to me that state workers get paid fairly as well. No complaints there.

## But please don't eliminate the annual state parks pass.

Instead, consider raising the price of the state parks pass to proportionally match the fee raises, and, if necessary, adjusting guidelines for use to address any additional issues with the annual pass that prompted the proposal to eliminate it.

Our family has gotten so much use out of the annual pass, and made so many memories because of it—it really motivated us to travel and see more New Mexico State Parks than we would have otherwise.

In fact, I'd not only argue for keeping the pass but using some of the revenue from raised fees to expand communications and marketing around New Mexico's State Parks. So many fellow New Mexicans have been surprised to hear about our state park adventures right here in their own back yards.

Happy to chat more about this if it's helpful, but to reiterate: please keep the annual state parks pass! And thanks for all the work the EMNRD team puts into its parks.

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