

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided): Date comment received:

Rachael Riley August 6, 2024 09:26 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

rach2fer@gmail.com

Location (if provided): Vancouver, WA

Public comment:

I live in Vancouver, WA and often camp nearby in Oregon. I think you should give a local rate to us Washingtonians.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided): Date comment received:

Lyla Rayyan August 6, 2024 09:38 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

lylamr@gmail.com

Location (if provided): Vancouver, WA

Public comment:

As a resident of southwest Washington, a lot of Oregon still feels like home to me. I think it's unfortunate to force neighbors to pay more just because of the side of the river we live on, when this entire area is meant to enjoyed equally. Could the resident benefits be similar to a snow park pass that includes Or, wa, and parts of northern CA?



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided): Date comment received:

Sandra Sanders August 6, 2024 11:36 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

Sandi 927@yahoo.com

Location (if provided): EUGENE, OR

Public comment:

You must keep the rates reasonable for the public - the increases are too much. Camping provides healthy activities for families and individuals and allows for stress relief in this crazy world. It also needs to remain an activity which moderate income families can afford. It also gives children information about the environment and makes environmental protections mean something to them. The increased rates for the extra car/motorcycle seem excessive. As seniors we frequently have to move from tents to yurts and the prices that you are raising yurt prices to will make them inaccessible to many.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided): Date comment received:

Celeste Fasano August 6, 2024 01:35 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

sissy cf@yahoo.com

Location (if provided): Salem, OR

Public comment:

Hello.

I think this will disproportionately affect the lower income class of people who often only have outdoor activities too look forward to and afford in the summer. A lot of what you are saying you need to charge more for are volunteers working anyways and not actually requiring more \$ from the parks department. I strongly disagree with raising rates for parking and camping.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided): Date comment received:

V F August 6, 2024 02:09 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

vitarobbins@gmail.com

Location (if provided): Walton, OR

Public comment:

I disagree with the proposed rate increase for day use fees. This rate increase would unfairly target low income families and hinder them from enjoying our beautiful state. It would also add to the already staggering amount of fees and taxes the middle class already pays to live in this state. The citizens of Oregon have the right to enjoy the state they live in without having to pay to park. Children should be able to enjoy and learn about everything Oregon has to offer and this increase would keep them from experiencing the beauty of our state.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

Date comment received:

Maria Gonzalez

August 7, 2024 09:21 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

carmengo2012@gmail.com

Location (if provided): Salem, OR

Public comment:

I think the big elephant in the room that we are not even addressing is the reservation system. Since probably most people reserve a campsite before going there, the real price is the campsite price plus \$8, and if you camp 3 days in a different location then it's the real price plus \$24.

My suggestion. Do not use an outside agency to manage the reservation system. The park system should make the initial investment for the software development of a reservation site, perhaps with a grant from the legislature, then hire staff to maintain the system. The prices can be as follows:

- \$5 for each reservation of up to a week of camping, regardless of how many days is reserved at any given park. So \$5 for a reservation of 1-7 days in 1-7 parks. It will cost \$5 for each week or portion thereof.
- Full refund minus the reservation fee if canceling 2 days before, half a refund if canceling 1 day before, no refund but a penalty if not cancelling at all and not showing up. In that case a penalty of \$5 will have to be paid at the next reservation.
- Cancelations at any time should give other people the opportunity to find a free campsite, even the same day later in the day. That should increase the usage. I believe that every single time that we have camped in the past two years there has been empty sites around us in popular campgrounds, there's just no incentives for people to cancel the same day, that has to change.

If we are able to cut down the outrageous reservation fees and give people an incentive to cancel anytime, we will increase the revenue for the parks and serve the public better. You can increase the fees as proposed and do what I suggest in addition to it.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided):

HEATHER LARSON

Date comment received:

August 10, 2024 01:12 PM

Commenter email (if provided):

hmaylarson@gmail.com

Location (if provided): Gold Hill, OR

Public comment:

While I would be fine with an increase to the yearly Day Use Pass, I disagree with both the raise to a daily pass and having variable rates. There are many people who like myself are single with no children. I have never thought it to be worth it to purchase the annual pass as there is only one park within hours of me that has a Day Use Fee.

If I took a trip to the coast and discovered it was going to cost me 7-15 dollars to eat at a picnic table and go on a short walk on the sand I would do exactly what I did one time in California when a beach trip was going to cost me \$20. I would turn around and leave. I firmly believe an increase from the five dollar parking pass would do nothing but upset people and decrease visitation.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Commenter name (if provided): Date comment received:

Deb Good August 11, 2024 10:26 AM

Commenter email (if provided):

zgoodenuf@msn.com

Location (if provided): Dallas, OR

Public comment:

My comment on day use and camping fee increases:

I have raised my 3 children in Oregon on the west coastal side. We enjoyed MANY weekend camping excursions without any advance reservations or day use fees. From 1989-2007. Now, for the last 10 years, at least, there is no way I can get a weekend camping reservation at any of the state or federal campgrounds in Western Oregon from April to September. These sites are now booked as soon as booking opens, usually as early as December of the year before!

I believe this is due primarily to **out of state bookings**.

I would like to see large blocks of availability reserved for Oregonians only and fees kept at their current levels. We already pay taxes, local, state, and federal. Plus, a percentage of lottery funds are. I believe, allocated for Parks and Recreation.

<u>Until transparency in financial expenditures for the parks and recreation department becomes a reality, I vote NO on higher fees.</u>