

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION
PROPOSAL**

Park License and Trail Use Pass; Camping Permits and Rules

Chapter 41:03:03; 41:03:04

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	September 5-6, 2019	Spearfish
	Public Hearing	October 3, 2019	Chamberlain
	Finalization	October 3-4, 2019	Chamberlain

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

1. Increase certain Park entrance fees and camping fees:

	Current Fee	Proposed Increase	New Fee
Park Entrance License			
Annual	\$30	\$6	\$36
Second Vehicle	\$15	\$3	\$18
Transferable	\$65	\$15	\$80
Daily	\$6	\$2	\$8
CSP Motorcycle 7-Day	\$10	\$10	\$20
Camping Fees			
Prime*	\$21	\$5	\$26
Preferred Campgrounds*	\$19	\$4	\$23
Modern Campgrounds*	\$17	\$3	\$20
Basic Equestrian CG except CSP	\$13	\$5	\$18
Semi-modern Equestrian CG except CSP*	\$19	\$7	\$26
CSP Modern Campgrounds*	\$25	\$5	\$30
CSP Equestrian Campground*	\$35	\$5	\$40
CSP Camping Cabins	\$50	\$5	\$55
Camping Cabins except CSP	\$45	\$10	\$55
Firewood	\$5	\$1	\$6
*Fee includes \$4 for sites where electricity is available			

2. Remove group lodge designation for Mina Lake (\$205) and designate as a modern cabin (\$150)

3. Increase the fee from \$10 to \$15 for each day a vehicle is in a park and does not display a valid park entrance license. This amount may be applied to the purchase of an annual park entrance license.

4. Create a new state-wide fee for Designated Tent-Only Campsites with no electricity at \$15.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

- South Dakota’s State Park system is funded primarily through user generated fees and federal funding sources. These funding mechanisms comprise approximately 84% of the Parks and Recreation Division budget. The 7.5 million visits to the Parks system generate nearly \$239 million in direct spending and support approximately 5,000 jobs in South Dakota.
- Over the past 5-6 years, the Parks Division has been able to hold fees steady while providing the quality services and facilities our customers have come to expect. This is only sustainable for a period of time before increased expenses require fee adjustments. Increases in utilities, salaries, fleet rates and construction rates, as well as providing funding for repair projects attributable to 2019 spring flooding events, require additional revenues to support current service levels and maintain infrastructure.
- Consecutive late, wet springs have impacted early season park use and damaged infrastructure. As of July 1, 2019, flooding conditions made 10% of system wide campsites unavailable for reservation. 2019 revenues are down \$1,900,000 from 2018. Parking lots, camp sites, roads, boat ramps, electrical pedestals and comfort stations were inundated with water and in some cases covered with as much as five feet of water. In addition, several dams and one major bridge were impacted. Rehabilitation and replacement efforts for these items are estimated at over \$8,000,000 at this time.
- Additional revenue would provide funds needed for:
 1. Preventive maintenance of existing infrastructure
 2. Costs associated with 2019 flooding
 3. Operational increases in labor, utilities, fleet rates, etc.
- We would preserve the opportunity for the entry level camping family to get involved in the outdoors at a great value.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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