

**Colorado RRAC: Attachment B
US Forest Service - Region 2
BLM - Colorado
Recreation Fee Proposals
Summary of Public Involvement**

Date:

Unit:

Proposal: New Fee _____ Fee Change X

Summary of Fee Proposals:

(for multi-fee structure, replace with other graphic if needed)

Site/Service	Current Price	Proposed Price
Arapaho National Rec. Area, HIRA	See table below	See table below

Public Participation (List of Potential) Activities:

Public Participation Tasks	Date(s)
Posted notice at (Unit Location) inviting comments on fee proposal.	02/04/08 - present - District office
Posted notice at (Field locations) inviting comments on fee proposal.	02/04/08 - present - ANRA sites
Published press releases announcing fee proposal in (Newspaper of Record).	01/31/08 phone interview with reporter from Sky-Hi Daily news.
Article published in the (Newspaper, etc) explaining benefits of fee revenues.	02/01/08 article published in Sky-Hi Daily news.
Internal memo sent out to (Unit) employees announcing proposed fee changes.	Announcement at District meeting, January, 2008
Posted information on fee proposal on (Unit's) web site.	Yes. Newsletter with fee proposal can be requested thru ANRA web page.
Posted Federal Register notice of proposed new fees (if appropriate) as per REA, Sec. 4 (b).	N/A
Letter sent to residents near the (Fee Area) announcing proposed new fee.	Newsletter explaining the proposal sent to extensive mailing list (approximately 700 recipients) Feb, 2008 (copy attached)
Briefed local Congressional Staff on fee proposal. Included Senators (List) offices and Congressional Representative (List) offices.	No
Briefed local County commissioners on fee proposal.	Not as of this writing (05/10/2008) We are considering meeting with County Commissioners later in May or June.

Personal contacts were made with (List) interested individuals about the fee proposal.	Colorado Division of Wildlife Staff
E-mails were sent to (List) individuals and organizations about the fee proposal.	No

ANRA Existing Fees	ANRA Proposed Fees
\$5 per vehicle for 1 day / \$2 non-motorized	
\$10 per vehicle for 3 days / \$5 non-mot.	\$10 per vehicle for 3 days / \$5 non-mot.
\$15 per vehicle for 7 days / \$10 non-mot.	
\$30 for ANRA annual pass *	\$25 for ANRA annual pass**
\$50 for combined ANRA/RMNP pass	\$50 for combined ANRA/RMNP pass
\$80 for Interagency pass	\$80 for Interagency pass
\$10 for senior pass for life	\$10 for senior pass for life
<p>* Purchasers of the ANRA annual, combined, and Interagency passes receive a wallet card that may be displayed in their vehicle. In addition, 4 free window stickers are available with proof of vehicle ownership for holder, spouse, and dependent children. Additional stickers may be obtained for \$1 each at the Sulphur Ranger District.</p> <p>Visitors under the age of 16 are free under existing as well as proposed fee systems.</p>	<p>** Purchasers of the ANRA annual, combined, and Interagency passes receive a wallet card that may be displayed in their vehicle. Holders of ANRA annual and combined passes may purchase up to 7 window stickers for \$2 each (proof of ownership required). Holders of Interagency passes who purchase their pass at the Sulphur Ranger District may receive 4 free window stickers and up to 3 additional stickers for \$2 each (proof of ownership required)</p>

Public Participation Results (include # of responses/category):

Method of Communication	Summary of Comments- as of (Date)
<p>Posted On-site Notices - (Location)</p>	<p>The following is a summary of all of the comments received relating to fees (both positive and negative). The actual record of comments is attached.</p> <p>02/01/2008 - Telephone comment: "Would the price of Senior passes change under this proposal?" Forest Service response: No, the price will remain \$10.00. The price of the Senior pass is determined at the national level.</p> <p>02/01/2008 - E-mail comment: "Any thought given to allowing free access for military?" Forest Service response: We do not have authority to grant exemptions to a class of people (except children under 16 and permanently disabled persons who hold the Access Pass). Access is free to veterans and their families on Veterans Day.</p> <p>02/16/2008 - E-mail comment: "Change in fees not in the interest of the public, especially the visitors from out of state to drop 1 day pass. Better to get their \$5 and have a happy visitor than having them head to Grand Lake and get nothing". Forest Service response: When fees were established in the ANRA in 2001, a one-day \$5 pass provided enough revenue to operate basic services. However, seven years later, in 2008, revenues have remained flat but costs have risen sharply. Eliminating the one-day pass and requiring purchase of the 3-day pass should result in a net increase in revenue and allow the Forest Service to continue to provide services. Thus, we believe the proposed change in fees is in the public interest.</p> <p>03/18/2008 - Written comment on Comment Form: "Sounds like a good idea to help raise additional funds. People who have more toys and vehicles should pay more." Forest service response: Part of the goal of the proposed fee changes is to create a more equitable system for annual pass holders. By charging \$2 for each additional vehicle or snowmobile, visitors who tend to occupy more parking space or use more services will pay a little more than those visitors who have fewer vehicles.</p> <p>05/03/2008 - E-mail comment: "Raising the minimal fee from</p>

	<p>\$5 to \$10 may reduce visitation, revenue" Forest service response: We expect some visitors will be deterred by the increase in the basic fee. But we believe this will be more than offset by the revenue generated by the remaining visitors who continue to go. We believe that \$10 is consistent with many similar parks and recreation areas and is within the normal range of fees.</p> <p>Same commenter: "Don't see point in reducing annual pass fee when stated reason for changing fee structure is to offset rising costs." Forest Service response: We believe more visitors will be attracted to the new lower price for the annual pass and will upgrade to it. Also, the \$2 price for each window sticker should make up any losses. Processing annual passes is more efficient than day passes so should result in reduced cost of administering the program.</p> <p>Same commenter: "How much of the fees collected by the ANRA stays in its budget?" Forest Service response: 95% of all fees collected are retained for use in the ANRA. 5% is sent to the Forest Service Regional Office where it is used to help fund special projects in fee areas. The ANRA has benefited from some of the 5% fund from time to time.</p> <p>Same commenter: Agree that users should bear the cost of the government facility or service rather than the general public as long as the policy does not discriminate." Forest service response: The basic policy is set by Congress. Our job is to implement FLREA in the most efficient and fair manner possible and to be good stewards of the public funds which include fees paid by visitors to the ANRA.</p>
Posted on-site notices - (Location)	See above
Press Releases & News Story of User Benefits	See above
Forest Web Site Posting	See above
Federal Register Notice	N/A
Letters to Neighbors	See above
Congressional Staff Briefing	N/A

County Commissioners Briefing	N/A
General Customer Contact Feedback	See above
E-mail Responses	See above

Note: Delete instructional information and insert appropriate site/project specific information in (parenthesis).