

# Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

September 16, 2020

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Agenda Item: 3d Information  
Topic: Out-of-State State Park Rate adjustments  
Presented by: Chris Havel

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To encourage local recreation, OPRD Director Lisa Sumption used the authority delegated by the Commission to increase site rental rates for people with out-of-state home addresses. While the business case cited for setting the rate range did not include managing high levels of out-of-state demand, this use does comply with the underlying statutory authority. People with out-of-state addresses started paying more for new campsite reservations and first-come, first-served stays starting Monday, August 10. The increase did not affect existing reservations, or people who began their stay before that date.

The increase added up to 30% to the nightly cost to camp in a state park for nonresidents. A schedule is attached. Including lodging tax, the average cost for a full-service RV site is currently \$33 per night for people living in Oregon, and an average of \$42 for nonresidents. The average tent rate is currently \$19 per night and will increase to \$23 for nonresidents.

The surcharge will remain in effect the rest of 2020. A decision about rates for 2021 will be made this autumn, before making expanding the advance reservation window. The advance reservation window is normally 9 months, but is currently limited to 30 days due to ongoing uncertainty related to travel restrictions.

The change encourages recreation close to home in two ways: first, by prompting late summer and autumn visitors from out of state to consider whether long-distance travel is in their interests right now, and secondly, where a nonresident opts not to travel, it potentially frees up space at a normally-full campground for a local camper. While not the primary motivation, the surcharge could generate up to \$500,000 through the end of the year to hire staff and pay for cleaning supplies and other park operations.

Since the increase puts Oregon's traditionally underpriced campsites closer to the market average, it is possible the rate increase will initially have a small effect on decisions made by visitors from out of state. Other park systems currently charge nonresidents more through one means or another, and this temporary measure will prompt a policy question about rate structures going forward.

While the Commission provided the Director with authority to vary rates within a set range, and this rate increase stays within those bounds, this agenda item seeks the Commission's concurrence with the decision.

**Prior Action by Commission:** Approval of campsite rate range by adopting Oregon Administrative Rule 736-015-0006 through Item 9b, September 19, 2018.

**Action Requested:** Concurrence with Director's use of delegated authority to set campsite rental rates according to rule.

**Attachments:** Agenda item 9b from 9/19/2018; adjusted rate table.

**Prepared by:** Chris Havel

Agenda Item 3d Attachment 1: Out-of-state rates

	<b>Oregon</b>	<b>Out-of State</b>
Electric	\$24-35	\$32-44
Electric with Cable	\$34-36	\$42-43
Full	\$26-38	\$34-46
Full with Cable	\$36-38	\$44-46
Tent	\$17-22	\$22-25
Primitive	\$10-11	\$13-15
Fly-in	\$11	\$14
Boater Camp	\$5	\$7
Hiker/biker & bivouac	\$7-8	\$9 -10
Horse Campsite	\$17-58	\$22-69

Yurts	\$46-54	\$55-70
Pet Friendly Yurts	\$56-64	\$65-80
Deluxe Yurts	\$82	\$100
Pet Friendly Deluxe Yurts	\$92	\$110
Totem Cabins (Emigrant Springs)	\$26	\$34
Rustic Cabins	\$43-52	\$55-68
Pet Friendly Rustic Cabins	\$53-62	\$65-78
Deluxe Cabins	\$89-98	\$110-113
Pet Friendly Deluxe Cabins	\$99-108	\$120-123
Tepees	\$46	\$60
Group Tent Camp	\$71-78	\$91-100
Group Tent Rate per Person after 25	\$3	\$3
Group RV Camp	\$102-110	\$122-131
Group RV Rate per RV Unit after 10	\$10-11	\$10-11
Boat Slip	\$10	\$10
Extra Vehicle	\$7	\$7

**Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission**

**September 19, 2018**

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Agenda Item: 9b Action  
Topic: Request to adopt rulemaking- Flexible Fees (736-015-0006, 736-015-0020, 736-015-0040)  
Presented by: Katie Gauthier, Legislative & Policy Coordinator

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**Background:**

Under HB 2318 passed during the 2017 legislative session, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission is directed to develop rules to set a reasonable range of rates for fees. The director will then have authority to vary fees within those ranges.

Flexible fee rates give the agency the ability to adjust fees in higher demand areas and while keeping rates lower in other parts of the state. Specific rates for each site will be posted on the website and in the park. This flexibility will be used in a targeted way, with slightly higher rates at the busiest parks and discounts at parks with extra capacity.

The proposed rule would eliminate the type I and II designations currently in rule. Currently in rule, it states Type I sites are at selected high use campgrounds and all remaining campgrounds will be set at the Type II campsite rate. These designations have created questions and confusion for park users. Staff anticipate recommending park designations in policy where they could be more clearly articulated.

The fee ranges vary between \$5 and \$20 based on site type. For meeting facilities, the fee range would be \$50. Attachment C includes a table with current rates and proposed new ranges.

**Public comment:**

Public comment on the proposed rule change opened August 1 and will close September 10. A hearing on the proposed rule will occur on August 28. All comments will be posted on our rulemaking website after comment period closes and a summary provided at the commission meeting.

**Prior Action by Commission:** In February 2018, the Commission approved opening rulemaking.

**Action Requested:** Staff recommends adopting amendments 736-015-0006, 736-015-0020 and, 736-015-0040 implementing a flexible rate range for certain sites at state parks.