

OAR 736-015-0015  
Public Comments Received  
January 1, 2021 Through  
January 6, 2021

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** Rod Evers <rocknrod.is.retired@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 1, 2021 4:13 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** reservation feedback

Good afternoon

It has been a tough year, but we must look forward to the future. I am retired and like to plan my camping well in advance. I get it if you have to cancel due to the current health situation but to just come out and cancel everything for the year was rather harsh. I believe the situation should be reviewed and updated on a daily or weekly basis.

I believe that we should go back to the nine(9) month in advance reservation system. This allows for advance planning. Some people have to plan well in advance for camping based on their company policies for vacations. By allowing them to book early they can secure their spot on the company's schedule and have a piece of mind about their yearly plans. And if for some reason you(OPRD) have to cancel, then at least we can make other plans and may have the option to cancel our vacation time from work.

Having a thirty(30) day window is not a desirable option. First of all, you have a massive amount of people trying to make reservation for a number of limited spots(mostly weekends)in a short period of time. Secondly, you do not have a "harsh" enough system in place to capture those people that habitually make reservations and then cancel or shorten their reservation(i.e. make a reservation for two weeks then shorten it to the week or days they really want). And thirdly, once the restrictions are lifted, you get that large surge of people who want to go camping and crowd the parks.

Camping is an outlet for the restrictions that are in place for our every day life now. People want to get away. No wonder camping trailers and equipment are on a huge buying curve.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my thoughts

*Rod Evers*

503-704-2503



Please consider the impact to the environment before printing this email.



Sent from my iPad

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Friday, January 1, 2021 6:04 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Julie
Last Name	Stacy
Email	Jstacy@loandepot.com
Public Comment	<p>Hi. I would like to comment on the reservation rules. As an avid camper, with a very busy work schedule....we are very disappointed that the campgrounds we visited this past year in 2020 were pretty much 100% reserved however the people that reserved the spots never showed up....this was the case in 6 campgrounds that we tried camping in this summer/ fall..... there is a huge problem with people reserving spots and doing a no show.... we were not able to take their spots and they did not come for over 2 - 5 nights but had reserved ahead of time.... there needs to be some sort of rule that says if the person that made the reservation does not show within 24 hours of the designated reservation.....they forfeit their spot. Also the campgrounds need to keep at least 20% of the sites that are available first come first serve. Many people are not able to plan 9 months in advance let alone 18 months ahead....this is a ridiculous time frame to plan a camping trip 18 months in advance....people will continue to book so they have reservations at several campgrounds, but there is no penalty for a no show...and they will tie up sites that others cannot use! Please review this as if you were wanting to go camping on a last minute trip. There is no opportunities for people that have a very limited schedule. This should not be about money, but making camping available for everyone and not just people whom get on the web to book multiple sites that they possibly may or may not show up to throughout the year. There needs to be a penalty of sorts so they stop over reserving sites they never show up to. This was true of the past 3 years and not just 2020 however this past year was the worst year ever. Please think responsibly when making these decisions as we need your help for all campers not just those paying 9-18 months ahead. Thank you for listening.</p>

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**Submission ID:** 2a31f8be-30db-4e3f-b39d-23504ccfc01e

**Record ID:** 575

**MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 2, 2021 5:48 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	David
Last Name	Newlyn
Email	newlyns@comcast.net
Public Comment	We support any increased fees that you need but not the flexible reservation windows. Please don't make it too confusing. Some sites would be open but not all sites, it already sounds confusing, especially for families and friends trying to reserve and camp together. We support keeping a standard reservation window. Thanks, David and Kathie Newlyn Longtime Oregon State Park campers

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**Submission ID:** 2001a213-0de4-4588-b385-da0f999e04af

**Record ID:** 576

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 9:32 AM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Maureen
Last Name	Nelson
Email	nelsonzoo@comcast.net
Public Comment	Hello, We love the Oregon State Park campsites and are looking forward to getting back out there and camping! Please, please, please extend the window for reservations up to a year in advance! As it is now, it is difficult to arrange work/vacation time in order to be able to go. And as I look for available camp sites, most everything is already reserved by those who can book on a moment's notice! I think 18 months is too far out as many sites could be reserved but not actually occupied but then also not available to other campers. A 9-12 month window allows for flexibility in planning. In addition, for planning purposes, I think all the parks should be opened at the same time and have the same reservation fees. Residents of Oregon should be given priority as well. Thank you, Maureen Nelson

**Submission ID:** fe8b035e-bc75-4c0c-a1c3-bc8a42ee82fa

**Record ID:** 578

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** Sally Peterson <jwpeter@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** PROPOSAL Campground Reservations

To Whom IT May Concern:

We just wanted to voice our concern regarding reservation changes to Oregon State Parks. After reading the proposed changes we feel that the current time change for reservations has worked well for a very long time. That one adverse event doesn't warrant a change in current policy. A slight adjustment in reservation fees may be warranted and a set reservation fee should be added to all non-resident reservations. In addition, the sooner normalized reservations timeframes can be reinstated the more quickly the park system will be able to normal revenue flows. The 18 month reservation window is way too far out both for the parks and for the campers – please leave that at 9 months in advance.

Sincerely,

John (503.708.0782 cell) and Sally (503.706.1060 cell) Peterson  
Lifelong Oregon State Park Users

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** GAUTHIER Katie \* OPRD  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 8:09 AM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** FW: State Parks Reservation Rulemaking Input

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**From:** Kenneth Kudrna <K\_Kudrna@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2021 9:32 PM  
**To:** GAUTHIER Katie \* OPRD <Katie.Gauthier@oregon.gov>  
**Subject:** State Parks Reservation Rulemaking Input

Thank you for giving campground users the opportunity to give input. My concerns and/or suggestions follow.

**-LEAD TIME:** Since I don't know the reasoning behind a potential 18 month reservation lead time, I can only discuss the negative side of the issue. One such negative occurs when the camping outing is to be scheduled around events occurring in the area of the campground. Such events would include community celebrations, rally's, and ethnic celebrations as examples. The dates of such might not be known that far in advance. Negative impact also occurs when a longer trip includes multiple location stays where the reservation windows might range between six months and ten or eleven months. It is frustrating to have a trip planned except for a hole in the middle that you must wait to fill not knowing if there will even be availability. I am guessing that such long lead time would cause considerable change and cancellation activity as well. Until creditable reason for such a change is presented I can only hope you leave it at nine months. It works!

**-RESERVATION FEE:** Please don't make it confusing. If a price increase is justified, so be it, but make all parks the same. I can however see potential justification for variable daily rates. Weekend days could be higher and less in demand parks could lower lower daily rates. Private campgrounds do that to incentivize certain dates.

**-OUT OF STATE VISITORS:** We have been in parks where nearly half of all license plates were from other than Oregon. The best example of such was last July at Nehalem Bay State Park where Washington was literally more common than Oregon. Either institute higher out of state rates or delay the start of their reservation window or both.

**-CANCELLATIONS:** This may or may not be a big issue. It is however a given that people (number not known) reserve an earlier start date than they plan on using just to get into the system earlier and cancel front end days. This may have already been dealt with by you to some extent.

Thank you to all park staff and volunteers for their service. Again, thank you for this opportunity and look forward to seeing you Wednesday night.

Ken Kudrna

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** James Rickards <jrickards61910@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 4:04 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Comments regarding proposed changes to online campground reservations

To whom it may concern,

Please consider going back to 9 month reservations for the Oregon State campgrounds. Camping at Oregon State Parks has been a family tradition that I'm trying to pass on to my family. As a working husband and father, it's very difficult for me to plan our family camping trip this summer. Most employers need/desire more than 30 days advance notice when their employees would like to take vacation. I find it extremely difficult to plan my camping trip dates this summer because I can't know until July, if my campsite/campground has availability in August. Nine month reservations were a great tool for me, in that I could know if I've got the desired campground/campsite before telling my boss my vacation dates. As it stands with 30 days, I need to tell my boss my vacation dates and hope in July the desired campground/campsite for August has availability. Further, I'm renting a camper for the trip in August, and I've placed a deposit on a vehicle, hoping my desired campsites are available in August. I've got a lot of anxiety right now with a deposit on a camper, and commitment to exact vacation dates with my employer.

I hope this email can contribute to meaningful discussion on the proposed changes to the campground reservation system. Thank you for the consideration.

r/

James Rickards

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** Barb <bhs722@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 4:11 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Changes in camping reservations

I have read that a change might be made to allow reservations up to 18 months prior to arrival date. I expected a change to the time frame, but thought it would probably be shortened since it was stated by OPRD that having nine months of reservations to deal with when the closures happened was very difficult.

My thought is a 4 or 6 month advance reservation time would be much easier for campers to plan for. The previous 9 month rule was a stretch for many to plan that far ahead and to go beyond that seems would make for more cancellations and changes overall.

Thanks for allowing us to send input.

Barb Smith - long time camper :-)

**MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:39 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	David
Last Name	Tooze
Email	dmtooze@gmail.com
Public Comment	Don't forget who your customers are. Too much of what you have been doing had been for your convenience, not to accommodate your customer base! With regard to reservations, customers need certainty. We need to be able to make reservations in advance with st least 6 months to plan. Your present 30 day system is a joke.

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**Submission ID:** 646acaca-c769-476c-901c-18b478a4f0dc

**Record ID:** 581

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 1:03 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Penny
Last Name	Close
Email	wcendeavor@aol.com
Public Comment	<p>I would like to thank you for taking, and considering, public comment regarding the proposed reservation rules. My husband and I regularly use the online reservation system to make camping reservations on the Oregon Coast. We live in Oregon and enjoy camping at Fort Stevens in the summer and fishing for salmon in the Columbia River. Even with a 9 month reservation window, it is still sometimes difficult to secure a reservation in advance. Because of this, I am opposed to opening the reservation window to 18 months in advance. I believe this would make it more difficult to secure a reservation as reservations would be tied up for an extended period only to, possibly, be cancelled at the last minute. This leaves families scrambling at the last minute to make plans etc. I am not opposed to increasing fees to run Oregon State Parks but I do implore you to leave the reservation window to no more than 9 months in advance. Thank you!</p>

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**Submission ID:** 6b6c4b58-c2db-4f2a-aaa3-cdc1a34d102d

**Record ID:** 583

**MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 10:37 AM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Kati
Last Name	Tomlinson
Email	Kttomlin@gmail.com
Public Comment	I think that Oregon residents should have a longer. Of time to make reservations. 30 days is virtually impossible for most people to plan. It might work better to have the shorter time apply to out-of-state visitors as they do take a lot of the spots at the Oregon campgrounds. I am a long-term Oregon resident since the late 60s and this change is not in the best interest of the population of Oregon. I do agree with a surcharge for out-of-state visitors as well as California parks are much more expensive now to go to.

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**Submission ID:** d3b29680-20c1-4d84-ac26-0ddb5f88360c

**Record ID:** 588

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 2:22 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Roger
Last Name	Gibson
Email	rogergib@comcast.net
Public Comment	<p>Hi there, thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed changes! My thoughts below will address three areas of your changes: 1) Overall thoughts on this change - 2) Reservation Windows - 3) Transaction Fees &amp; Deposits - Overall thoughts: I cannot see how making these changes, will increase flexibility. To me, in order to nimbly respond, blanket rules allows for uniformity, and then everyone will have the same experience/expectation. If there are different rules for different parks/facilities, that will only cause confusion, in any changing conditions. Also, OSP will have to do many more website updates, to keep people informed of all the variants. This seems to be unneeded extra work by OSP, and if one does not take the extra time to research, they may be turned away and angry when they arrive at their destination and it's not open for whatever reason. Also, this will likely increase phone calls and inquiries to OSP. Reservation Windows: Under your 'clean copy' of proposed rules, it says - "A person may make a reservation a maximum of eighteen months prior to the arrival date". But on your 'main page' and in your 'presentation opening' it says in part: "Changing reservation windows to allow for same day reservations through 18 months, with some, but not all sites would be open the entire window and making changes to group camping notification requirements". Since there are really two statement regarding the 18 months, may I ask, which verbiage is correct? More importantly, an 18-month reservation window is extremely hard to plan for. This will cause untold hardship on all Oregonian campers, as well as out of state visitors. It is currently hard enough to plan camping trips 9 months in advance, so,18 months is nearly impossible. I see a lot more cancelations for campers, if an 18 month reservation window is adopted. This will equate to more cancellation fees &amp; deposits going into into the coffers for someone, OSP or Reserve America. I really hope I am wrong on this thought, and this 18 month proposal is not meant to increase revenue, because I do not see any up-side. Also, if different Oregon State Parks have different reservation windows, this will cause confusion to all campers, and again, will cause more work for website updates and inquires to call centers. Transaction Fees &amp; Deposits: This paragraph does not make any sense to me, so I have copied/pasted it here - "Transaction Fees and Deposits: (a) The department will charge an \$0-15 non-refundable transaction fee for each reservation. Exact fee amounts will be detailed on the department's website which is available seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Fees will vary based on costs incurred by the department for reservation services. Changes in fees authorized by the director will be posted on the website a minimum of 30 days prior to the effective date" I must be missing something. How can fees &amp; costs vary, when the same reservation company (Reserve America) is used to make all of Oregon State Parks reservations? Also, if there is carte blanc for fees &amp; deposits, at the discretion of the director, it seems apparent, that higher fees &amp; deposits will absolutely become the norm. May I ask you to please explain? Thanks again for allowing comments! Sincerely, Roger Gibson</p>

**Submission ID:** 11908f3b-29e3-4865-8244-3f97aa741e58



**MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 6:59 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Wendy
Last Name	Schlichting
Email	Theschlichtingfamily@gmail.com
Public Comment	As a consumer I need to have consistency with a booking period across all parks. I also think the indie should be greater than 90 days as most people have to request time off of work far in advance. I am ok with the fees varying by parks and cancellation process. I think the longer you have a reservation the more it should cost you to cancel.

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**Submission ID:** f4d3e19f-9766-4395-986c-2ad5a9f70aec

**Record ID:** 593

## MARSHALL Janelle \* OPRD

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 7:46 PM  
**To:** PUBLICCOMMENT \* OPRD  
**Subject:** Reservations Rulemaking Public Comment  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

First Name	Beth
Last Name	Faulhaber
Email	beth_faulhaber@hotmail.com
Public Comment	<p>Hello, I am an avid State Park camper with the majority of my multiple visits a year being at the beach or Eastern Oregon. In addition to weekend beach State Park camping trips, my family, for 30+ years has gone to Wallowa Lake each year during the annual Chief Joseph Days in Joseph, OR. I am concerned about your proposed window reservation time. 18 months seems way too far in advance, and I am particularly concerned with your statements that not all sites would be open during reservation windows and that neither the maximum or minimum ends of the range will necessarily be made available at any given time. I understand that you had serious budget issues when you had refund camping reservations during the closures last spring, but having inconsistent reservation windows is not the path to budget stability. People have jobs, they can't last minute request vacations, in fact a lot of businesses require employees to put in vacation requests (particularly for summer) a year in advance. Having a confusing and complicated and inconsistent reservation window will frustrate your campers and have them exploring private campgrounds that are more user friendly. I don't see any advantage to the random flexibility you are proposing, only disadvantages. 9 months seemed a doable window for reservations, if you are wanting it to be longer my suggesting would be 11 or 13 months.....Our family, along with many others I know who have annual trips/reunions at State Parks during the same dates each year would NOT be able to do 12 month windows since we would be camping at the same time needing to make reservations for the following year. For reservation windows, I think reservation windows should be 1 day to 11 months or 1 day to 13 months; I think there needs to be reservation window consistency for all parks, and campsites within those parks....I think anything less would be a disservice to park users, and long term a negative for your State Parks budget. In terms of the reservation transaction fee, I don't see why it would need to increase, and I don't see a need or good argument for it to be flexible....it is what it is and \$8 seems reasonable. I am really hopeful that long-time loyal park users, as well as new park users, and the ease of reservation booking in a logical uncomplicated way for the good of park users is at the fore front when decisions are made. Thank you for your time, Beth Faulhaber</p>

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**Submission ID:** dd29653d-5dde-424e-9936-ec2f80efa240

**Record ID:** 595