



## **The High Cost of a Park Giveaway: What It Means for New Mexico**

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President Trump's plan to transfer national parks to state control would devastate New Mexico's economy, overwhelm its budget, and dismantle the systems that keep public lands running.

Here's what New Mexico stands to lose:

### **\$177 Million in Economic Output**

In 2023, 2.3 million visitors to New Mexico's national parks spent an estimated \$142 million, supporting:

- 1,860 jobs
- \$55.9 million in labor income
- \$177 million in economic output in the New Mexico economy

Reduced visitation from degraded services, lost NPS branding, and higher state fees would hit small businesses and rural economies hard.

### **\$230 Million in Deferred Maintenance**

New Mexico's national parks face a \$230 million maintenance backlog. Under state control, New Mexico would inherit this cost without access to federal repair funding like the \$1.3 billion per year from the Great American Outdoors Act.

### **Millions in Annual Operating Costs**

New Mexico funds state parks with a combination of usage fees, state appropriations, and federal grants like the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Under state control, New Mexico would have to increase entrance fees, take the money out of state budgets, or close parks to replace the \$35 million necessary to operate these parks.

### **319 New State Employees Needed**

New Mexico would need to hire approximately 319 new employees to match current NPS staffing levels.