



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **California State Parks Foundation Statement on State Parks Fee Increases**

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – Today the Department of Parks and Recreation announced day use fee increases for California’s state parks. As of August 17<sup>th</sup> gate fees will be increased \$2 to \$5 in parks where day use fees are charged (current prices range from \$6 to \$10). Camping fees will increase \$10 to \$21 a night (reservations made prior to that date will be honored at the lower price).

*Statement by Elizabeth Goldstein, President, CSPF*

“Given this time of fiscal crisis for state parks, we hope that paying more at most parks and beaches is something that park visitors will be willing to do. We understand many Californians are also feeling the financial pinch of this economy, but state parks continue to be one of the most affordable recreation and vacation outlets for our state’s residents and visitors alike.

CSPF is not opposed to modest fee increases, as long as they don’t have the effect of preventing Californians from visiting their state parks. New revenues from fee increases require that Californians continue to visit and use their state parks. Otherwise, there will be no net gain to the state.

We recognize that the fee increases are intended to help offset the loss of other state revenue. However, fee increases alone cannot save 100 state parks from closures. At best, they may help the state bring in a little more revenue than is already being collected. It is imperative that a more permanent, long-term solution be put in place to save our state park system.”

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### *About SOS*

The Save Our State Parks (SOS) Campaign is a statewide, grassroots campaign to keep California’s magnificent state parks open. In partnership with organizations, businesses, local governments, and individuals around the state, the California State Parks Foundation is leading SOS Campaign activities and generating awareness and action about budget proposals that would result in unacceptable park closures. For more information visit [www.savestateparks.org/](http://www.savestateparks.org/)

### *About CSPF*

With our 100,000 members, the California State Parks Foundation (CSPF) is the only statewide independent nonprofit membership organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing and advocating for California’s magnificent state parks. CSPF is committed to improving the quality of life for all Californians by expanding access to the natural beauty, rich culture and history, and recreational and educational opportunities offered by California’s 279 state parks—the largest state park system in the United States. For more information about California’s state parks, visit [www.calparks.org](http://www.calparks.org).