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Paria Canyon/Coyote Buttes Vermilion Cliffs National Monument Fee Increase Proposal

The current fee structure has been in place since 1997, excluding the addition of the \$5.00 lottery application fee in May 2007. There has been a steady increase in visitor use, and a corresponding increase in operational costs. The increase in visitation has resulted in additional revenue, which so far has been used successfully to offset operational costs. The BLM projection is that total revenue will exceed expenditures within the next couple of years, eliminating project funding used to maintain trailheads, sign repair and replacement, and public service upgrades.

Visitors will directly benefit from these fee increases. The operational costs of sustaining the facilities and settings necessary for the visitor's desired outcomes are being met by existing revenues with the small surplus being used for proposed projects such as upgrading and expanding the trailheads, campgrounds, and providing navigation guides and flood education. Continued improvements will not be possible without additional revenue.

Proposed Changes to Individual Special Recreation Permit Fee Structure

Permit Area	Type of Fee	Existing Fee	New Fee	Effective Date
Coyote Buttes North	Fee (lottery)	\$5 per application	No Change	N/A
Coyote Buttes North	Fee Increase	\$5 per person per day	\$7 per person per day	Oct. 1, 2008
Coyote Buttes South	N/A	\$5 per person per day	No Change	N/A
Paria Canyon Overnight	N/A	\$5 per person per day	No Change	N/A
Paria Canyon Day-Use	Fee Increase	\$5 per person per day	\$6 per person per day	Oct. 1, 2008

Comments will be accepted until Friday, June 27, 2008. Send comments by mail to: Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Strip District Office, Attn: Judy Culver, Outdoor Recreation Planner, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah, 84790 or by e-mail to: asfoweb_az@blm.gov. Include Paria Canyon/Coyote Buttes Fee Proposal in the subject line and type comments into the body of the e-mail or send an attachment in Microsoft (doc.) or similar format.