

Public to pay more for Little Sahara

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SALT LAKE CITY — The Bureau of Land Management will charge the public more to visit the Little Sahara Recreation Area beginning Thursday.

The 60,000-acre sand dune complex in Juab County has long been a popular spot for off-highway vehicles.

The new fees are \$18 per vehicle for an overnight camping permit, \$120 for an annual permit and \$65 for a second vehicle.

Revenue from the increases will cover costs ranging from law enforcement to pumping toilets.

Aaron Curtis, the recreation leader for Utah's BLM office, says Little Sahara hasn't seen a fee increase since 2003.

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Reader comments

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However | 7:33 a.m. March 31, 2010

Costs should be lower now than they were 3-4 years ago, so why raise fees?

Dave | 9:07 a.m. March 31, 2010

@However:

I'm not sure what country you live in, but inflation has made it so that nearly everything I pay for has gone up.

Kindly explain to me you think costs are down in the last 3-4 years.'

@ "Dave | 9:07 a.m." | 1:35 p.m. March 31, 2010

Dave | 9:07 a.m.

Costs should go down because they are not building any new campground facilities at Little Sahara like they were a few years ago. They are just maintaining what they have.

I have to question part of the story...

They say the fee increase is going to pump toilets, etc. Well they have flush toilets and running water in the bathrooms where I camp at Little Sahara for our annual father-and-sons outing.

They may have a few non-flush toilets, but if they do they should close them and cut that expense.

That may mean they have to close in winter, but they don't get many visitors in the winter anyway. They could require vehicles in winter to have their own facilities (which most winter users already have). Nobody's going to rough it in a tent or something in winter conditions just to enjoy the sand.

If you charge more, maybe you could leave the water on to the bathrooms in winter too (so you don't have to pump the secondary toilets).

Just an idea.