

Chaco Culture National Historical Park U.S. Department of the Interior PO Box 280 Nageezi, NM 87037 www.nps.gov/chcu

## Chaco Culture National Historical Park News Release

Release Date: November 2014 Contact: Christine Czazasty 505-786-7014 x 263 Date: 11/17/14

## Chaco Culture National Historical Park Proposes Entrance Fee Increase

Nageezi, NM – Chaco Culture National Historical Park is seeking input to discuss possible fee increases. The current park entrance fees of \$8.00 per vehicle, \$4.00 per motorcycle and \$4.00 per bicycle have been in place since 1998. The proposed entrance fees for Chaco Culture National Historical Park would be \$20.00 per vehicle; \$15.00 per motorcycle; \$10.00 per bicycle. The fees would likely be phased in over a three year period with the entrance fee increasing to \$12 in the spring of 2015; \$16 in 2016 and \$20 in 2017.

Entrance fees are not charged to holders of the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual, Senior, Access or Military Passes. These passes may be obtained at the Park.

We are committed to keeping the park affordable but we also want to provide visitors with the best possible experience," said Chaco Culture National Historical Park Superintendent Larry Turk. "The money from entrance fees is used to provide enhanced visitor services." Past projects funded include upgrading the campground restrooms, producing the park film and creating models of the archaeological sites for display and for use in programs. Current projects include establishing a new trail and designing and fabricating new visitor center exhibits. The new revenue from the proposed fee increase would be used to expand visitor programs and services, upgrade the trails at the Pueblo Bonito and Chetro Ketl great houses, and to renovate the amphitheater and observatory.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park is seeking comment about the proposed entrance fee increase through January 31, 2015. Public opinion is being collected at the National Park Service Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/chaco\_fees. Following the comment period feedback will determine how, or if, a fee increase would be implemented.