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## Tonto National Monument News Release

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### TONTO National Monument Proposes Entrance Fee Increase

ROOSEVELT, AZ – Tonto National Monument is seeking public comment on a proposal to raise entrance fees at the park in 2015.

This fee increase proposal is part of a larger National Park Service (NPS) initiative to standardize fees for park units offering similar visitor services and experiences. Current park entrance fees have been in place since 2001. Under this fee increase proposal the cost of entering the park would change from 3 dollars per person to 5 dollars per person.

Entrance fees are not charged to persons under 16 years of age or holders of the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Senior, Access or Military Passes. These passes may be obtained at the park.

“We are committed to keeping the monument affordable but we also want to provide visitors with the best possible experience,” said Tonto National Monument Superintendent Duane Hubbard. “The money from entrance fees is used to improve facilities, infrastructure, and visitor services.”

Projects completed at Tonto that were made possible by fee money include an outdoor amphitheater and a new audiovisual program that will be part of the new visitor center museum exhibits. Additional revenue raised by a fee increase would help provide additional services for visitors.

Tonto National Monument is a strong economic engine for the surrounding area. In 2013, more than 39,000 park visitors contributed almost 2.2 million to the local economy and supported 31 jobs related to tourism. For further information about the economic benefits of National Parks to local communities, see the full report at <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>

Comments regarding this fee increase proposal may be submitted electronically on the NPS *Planning, Environment, and Public Comment* (PEPC) website at:

[http://parkplanning.nps.gov/tont\\_fee\\_increase](http://parkplanning.nps.gov/tont_fee_increase)

Comments unable to be made on the PEPC website can be sent to: Superintendent, Tonto National Monument, Re: Fee Increase Proposal, 26260 N. AZ Hwy 188, Lot 2, Roosevelt, AZ 85545. Faxed comments may be sent to (928) 467-2353.

Feedback from these comments will determine how, or if a fee increase will be implemented. Deadline for comments is February 7, 2015.

[www.nps.gov/tont](http://www.nps.gov/tont)

*About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 401 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov), on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice](http://www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice), Twitter [www.twitter.com/natlparkservice](http://www.twitter.com/natlparkservice), and YouTube [www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice](http://www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice).*