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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Parking, Highway, and Road Safety

Additional Actions:

Install educational signage at the major parking areas, most importantly the new Mondo Beyondo parking area.

-Signs would include maps of current trail systems, crag names, bathroom locations within the canyon, rescue litter locations, and best practices, such as LNT principles

Install donation boxes at trailheads to help the continuation of maintenance of facilities

Create an alternate parking area for the French Cattle Ranch crag with an established bridge across the river, as the current approach is not sustainable. Otherwise, completely block climbers from using the current alternative access parking/path.

Install yellow pedestrian signage along the highway

Install brown arrowed vault toilet signage along the highway

Trails and Climbing Access

Additional Actions:

Create signage to install at trail junctions to help users find the correct crag

Remove and rehab all trails to all closed crags

Staging Areas

Additional Actions:

Where possible, construct a clear delineation between cliff-side trail construction and hardened staging areas to prevent trail erosion

Camping

Additional Actions:

Re-open the campground at the end of the fish hatchery road or consider alternative sites for an additional campground within, or close to, Ten Sleep Canyon climbing

Health and Human Safety

Additional Actions:

Install Wag-Bag dispensers that are stocked through donations, and partner organizations. Climbers will continue to leave waste near the climbing walls to avoid hiking out and driving to a nearby vault toilet

Install rescue litter(s) within the canyon that can be accessed easily during an emergency situation

-Note their locations on all maps and signage

Ensure all new development and bolting is done with modern, stainless steel climbing hardware

- This not being managed in a climbing management plan will allow developers to continue the use of cheap hardware store bolts and perpetuate otherwise unnecessary maintenance
- Work with the BCC, and cite their Best Practices document as an appendix

Geological Resources and Current and Future Route Development

In reference to Proposed Action 3:

This Climbing Management Plan must define manufacturing and illegal development with unambiguous language. Please refer to the BCC's "Best Practices Document" for a more comprehensive definition and cite it as an Appendix. Terms such as follows must be outlined:

-It is accepted and often necessary for the safety and quality of climbing to soften sharp edges, lips and teeth with a file or hammer. The goal here is to make the feature less sharp or dangerous and more comfortable to use generally, not to change the nature of the hold to where it is more possible or easier to use. Removing sharp edges will prevent abrasion of the rope and possible damage to the climber and equipment upon contact.

-Cleaning a route of excessive dirt, vegetation, and pebbles is necessary for the safety and quality of the climb. Surface dirt and debris should be brushed or blown from climbing features where possible. It is accepted to remove loose or unconsolidated ash, dirt, pebbles, and sand from the route, including inside of pockets, cracks, ledge systems, and other holds.

-Manufacturing, chipping, creating or placement of artificial holds is not authorized. Adhesive may only be used to restore a broken hold on an established route. Although a certain amount of "comfortization" is required on rock, especially the sharp dolomite in the Bighorns, excessive comfortization of holds, or manufacturing of new holds, is unethical and prohibited.

Manufacturing and chipping of new holds on a route is unacceptable.

-A drillbit should ONLY ever be used for drilling holes for protection bolts and anchors.

-A drill should NEVER be used to "comfortize" a hold.

-Holds should NEVER be purposefully "expanded" by a drill or any other tools (Ex. Deepening a "mono", or creating a 3 finger pocket from a 2 finger pocket, etc.)

-Holds should NEVER be comfortized with the use of sika/glue.

In reference to Proposed Action 5:

Currently almost every crag accessed from the old highway has limited access and parking. Consider cleaning up the language used here to better define how development and climbing will be managed in these areas

Additional Actions:

Manage the climbing development within Ten Sleep Canyon

Remove the Proposed Action of a voluntary form and implement a mandatory permit form for any new development

Limit the number of new routes a single developer can add to the canyon on a per year basis to allow for better diversity within the canyon

Implement clear disciplinary actions directly associated with violating the definitions of illegal manufacturing of routes and holds

-Disciplinary actions will include removal of routes, revocation of development privileges, fines, criminal charges

Limit the period in which new development may occur to allow climbing rangers the ability to properly track development

Remove any route that was not approved through the permitting process

Install educational signage at trailhead and parking kiosks showing hold manufacturing and explaining it's negative impact