

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/20/2023 4:46:03 PM

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Comments: Please support the Protect America's Rock Climbing Act and ensure that federal agencies continue to allow maintenance, installation and usage of fixed anchors in wilderness areas. Climbers have recreated in wilderness areas long before the wilderness act was ever passed, and for decades, appropriate recreational use of wilderness areas has been allowed. Moreover, if federal agencies restrict the usage of fixed anchors by either: preventing maintenance of existing fixed anchors, removing existing fixed anchors, or preventing the installation of new fixed anchors without an appropriate application process; there is not only a safety risk (which will predictably lead to increased injuries, fatalities and rescues for which tax payers will pay the lion's share) but also there will be an environmental impact where climbers will be faced with the decision to leave behind gear or trust their lives to aging unmaintained anchors.

There are non-profit organizations in place like the Access Fund, ASCA American Safe Climbing Association and the American Alpine Club who operate with a network of hundreds of LCOs and land managers already. Those groups can advise on the interests of a rapidly growing recreational user group who depends on safe fixed anchors in wilderness areas. Please support the PARC act and preserve the decades long legacy and history of North American rock climbing and alpinism for current and future generations