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First name: Eric

Last name: Rowe

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would strongly urge the national forest service to reconsider this proposal. As written it would effectively eliminate the sport of rock climbing from the country's national parks, or at the very least make it significantly more dangerous.

Bolts have a very small visual impact on the rock and do not disrupt the "wilderness character" of these natural places any more than existing trails/ railings/ parking lots. Existing rules prohibiting the use of powered drills serve as a natural safeguard against "over bolting" with most climbing routes featuring the smallest number of bolts possible for safe climbing.

While the concept of approving individual bolts may make sense on the surface, there are no resources allocated with in this proposal to make that happen in a timely and pro-recreation manner.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.

Climbing is a storied and historic form of recreation in the United States, and many of the pioneers of our forest and parks systems including John Muir were themselves climbers. To turn our backs on this history of adventure and exploration would be tragic, and a great loss to our country.