Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/5/2024 3:25:13 PM First name: Sarah Last name: West Organization: Title:

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

We urge you to reconsider the recent Climbing Management Plans put forth by the NPS and USFS. This proposal will jeopardize climbers safety as well as take away a cherished hobby for a conscientious community who love and respect the great outdoors.

The Southern Arizona climbing community has been effectively collaborating with the Coronado National Forest for decades to improve forest lands and steward climbing areas via dozens of volunteer efforts including:

\* System trail maintenance

- \* Climbing area erosion control work
- \* Litter cleanup
- \* Graffiti removal
- \* Fixed anchor maintenance
- \* Raptor monitoring

Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and are not prohibited "installations" under the 1964 Wilderness Act. Following existing climbing policies that allow judicious use of fixed anchors for more than a half century will do more to protect Wilderness character while providing for primitive and unconfined Wilderness climbing. In essence it will keep climbers safe.

Please I beg you to not take away this amazing activity, and please do not make it more difficult and dangerous for climbers. It has made me a far more aware and responsible person for our earth, and has helped get us outside more than ever before. Thank you for your consideration.