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First name: Bradford

Last name: Wilson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it May Concern,

It is wrong to classify fixed anchors and fixed equipment as "installations" as defined per section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(c)).

Rock Climbing is a legitimate recreational activity in wilderness areas, and bolts used for rock climbing are absolutely necessary. Bolts used in rock climbing facilitate the activity, increase personal safety, and decrease the use of natural anchors (ex. trees with rappel slings / chains being left over many years) on the cliff or on top of the cliff.

The use of power-drills is prohibited in the wilderness. This makes rock climbers use hand drills when it is necessary to place a bolt in the wilderness. This is sufficient regulation of rock climbing in wilderness.

It was gazing up to the John Muir Wilderness at the Keeler Needle and Mt Whitney when I was 16 when I was first inspired by the natural landscape and I was drawn to climb these peaks. It is my climbing hobby that has taught me important life lessons such as being a steward of the land, employing and teaching others about leave no trace ethics. It is rock climbing that draws me to visit and spend time in the wilderness for personal pleasure year after year. I am 41 now.

I believe that if bolts are treated as "installations" as defined per section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(c)) in the wilderness, this will negatively regulate current and future generations of climbers from truly experiencing the freedom found in wilderness while increasing risk to the climbers, and rescue personnel throughout the country.

Respectfully,

Brad Wilson