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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello! I am a citizen in Carbondale, CO. I am an avid outdoor enthusiast and regularly participate in ski/snowboarding, snowmobiling, xc skiing, hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, river rafting and am a search and rescue volunteer. I often end up in Wilderness areas, and they are spectacular places.

I'm in support of this directive, especially as written that it does not harm or force removal of existing climbing areas and routes. I think it is equally important to not give climbing a "blank check" to develop new routes in wilderness as bolted routes are permanent additions to a landscape specifically designated as wilderness. Honoring existing routes while providing a mechanism to update equipment is necessary from a safety and historical standpoint, while requiring new routes to be authorized before construction is imperative. I can't use a bike in wilderness, and a mechanical drill should be treated the same.

I value the untouched nature of wilderness, and it's imperative that it be protected for all future generations. Carve out exceptions is not a way to ensure an untouched wilderness experience. Plenty of climbers are capable of climbing without fixed protection.

I believe that wilderness and national parks/ forest service land are in two distinct camps, and allowing climbing routes to be made in national parks is allowed and generally looked favorably upon, and what the park system was designed for, to allow access to the outdoor areas possessing excellent natural characteristics. Wilderness should be reserved from human impact and mitigating any potential impacts such as trail construction to ensure access for all humans.

Thank you for considering these comments.