

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/15/2024 4:19:40 PM

First name: Natalie

Last name: Fry

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear forest service,

I am writing to urge you to reconsider the proposed section 2355 to forest service manual 2300. This proposal will make it difficult, if not impossible, for organizations like CASA to maintain bolts on pre-existing climbing routes in Arizona. As a Tucsonian climber, I am concerned about this proposal as the majority of our outdoor climbing opportunities are in spaces that would be impacted by this proposal.

Climbing has been the door to me and my friends spending more time in nature. This has led us to learn more about our environment and how to be stewards of the land. All of the climbers I know take our responsibility to the environment seriously and make sure to leave no trace. Protection of the natural world doesn't mean leaving it alone completely, we have to care for it and be a part of it. Please reconsider this proposal for the sake of removing unnecessary barriers between people and nature, and allow people's recreation in nature to be their teacher.

However, my concern is not that people won't be able to outdoors anymore, my concern is that people will continue to climb on pre-existing routes that can no longer be properly maintained and get hurt. You must reconsider this proposal for the safety of our climbing community.

Sincerely,
Natalie Fry