

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/17/2024 1:11:20 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello!

I moved to Tucson, AZ 3 years ago because of the strong climbing community and wealth of public lands to explore. I believe that any community like ours which lives and plays in public lands appreciates the importance of stewardship for those lands and acts responsibly to minimize our impact on the environment and ecology. Here on the Coronado National Forest, the climbing community has made great contributions to the Forest and Wilderness Areas by conducting trail maintenance, improving public connections to wilderness resources, and building an infrastructure of climbing opportunities that inspires tourism, camping, and other fee-generating activities on the Forest.

I am concerned that any regulation of the equipment we rely on to be safe would result in significant danger to our community members' health as well as the strength of the community as a whole. Without being able to rely on safe, maintained anchors, climbing would become a exponentially riskier activity. Putting obstacles between a community and the way that they safely and responsibly engage with the Forest and Wilderness area would undermine the purpose of public lands and threaten to undo the hard work generations have contributed to make the Coronado Forest a climbing destination for citizens across the country.

I believe strongly that the best thing for both the community and the Forest is to maintain current access and opportunities for expansion. There is a symbiotic relationship between public land and those who use them. As long as we both take care of each other, we will continue to thrive. I and the other members of my community are committed to taking care of this Forest and Wilderness. But if we cannot enjoy it through the activity upon which we've built our lives, we may be forced to take our stewardship elsewhere and leave the Forest to fend for itself.

For the sake of the health and happiness of our citizens and our precious protected landscapes, please do not make changes to our access and opportunities.

Thank you,
Neal