

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/17/2024 3:48:22 AM

First name: Jia Young

Last name: Fu

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi,

I'm writing to express support for rock climbing in all its forms on our National Wilderness lands. Climbing predates the Wilderness Act and is an expression of love for the environment. I do not support USFS's incorrect interpretation of bolts as prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. This is a gross overreach and endangers climbers. Elimination of bolts will endanger climbers and encourage the use of other fixed anchors which create a greater impact on the rock. This drastic change in a "status quo" understanding of rock climbing and bolts as allowed uses is unreasonable and without justification. In particular, the USFS should allow bolted rappel stations on all climbs to allow for safe descent. Climbing is a beautiful thing and should be celebrated not attacked. Additionally the establishment of new routes is core to the enjoyment and exploration of our natural lands. The USFS should not implement policies that constructively restrict or hinder the ability of climbers to create new routes, including prohibition or regulating bolting.

Please do not implement this radical policy that will hurt climbing.

Thanks,

Jia Young