

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/18/2024 4:59:22 PM

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Comments: As a longtime Sierra Club member, I am shocked that the the Forest Service would consider prohibiting climbing bolts in wilderness areas. Climbers have been bolting (and rebolting) climbs in wilderness areas and other protected lands in an ecologically conscious way for many decades.

Bolts are essentially invisible and do not detract or distract from the wilderness experience.

What would be the result of a bolting ban or creating additional red tape?

- People will die and be seriously injured as old bolts or natural anchors fail.
- Rescue costs for public agencies will increase.
- A huge swath of Wilderness supporters will be lost.
- Fewer Wilderness users, justifying attempts for USFS and NPS budget cuts and removal of lands from Wilderness status.

Finally, bolts are as desirable as established trails and signage--they keep Wilderness users safe, and encourage them to stay on particular routes where use can be better managed.