

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/19/2024 1:11:09 AM

First name: Stacey

Last name: Melnick

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have recently learned that the US Forest Service and National Park Service are considering prohibiting bolts and fixed anchor for rock climbing. People have enjoyed rock climbing safely in our national parks and forests for decades. Prohibiting the very tools that make this activity safe would be a travesty. Rock climbers have been this nation's greatest protectors of our national parks and forests - discouraging their safe use of public lands will only make it harder to manage these areas. I would hope that in these stressful times the governemtn would be looking to encourage the safe use of public lands. Prohibiting permament bolts and anchors will only make the sport of rock climbing less safe and encourage people to take bigger risks. Also, restricting the establishment of new routes to existing clmibing opportunities on a non-wilderness land isn't enforceable and will only cause confusion.