

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/19/2024 9:24:12 PM

First name: Matthew

Last name: Stasiak

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To: United States Forest Service

This bill is incompatible with rock climbing in our national parks. Rock climbing on our national forests is a legitimate use of the land. Rock climbing has been around much longer than the 1964 Wilderness Act. This legislation will have a terrible affect on rock climbing as we know it. The current system in place for climbing in the wilderness is working well. I really can't see how rock climbing is a priority when considering our impact on the countries most beautiful places. Impacts from rock climbing are minimal. For example, the bolts installed on a cliff are virtually invisible to non climbing visitors. A 3/8in bolt hundreds or thousands of feet up a cliff has no effect on any visitors experienc, except for the climbers who need them to ascend the cliff safely.

Using USFS budget (our tax dollars) to pay to have climbs, existing and proposed, and bolts evaluated for compliance and suitability, is a poor allocation of funds. With all the other issues the USFS has, such as resource damage from over crowding, aging and dilapidated employee housing, and retaining skilled employees, the USFS should be concentrating on over dilemmas.

Thank you

Matthew Stasiak