

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/26/2024 11:13:05 AM

First name: William

Last name: Alexander

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I oppose the PARC Act for the following reasons:

- Drilling permanent bolts will cause damage to and scarring of rock faces in Wilderness Areas.
- Sport-bolted routes publicized on social media are likely to create new social trails and other recreation-related impacts deep in our Wilderness Areas.
- The PARC Act would open the door to other special interest groups that want to carve out special uses in Wilderness Areas for their own sports.
- The PARC Act usurps the NPS and USFS authority to manage lands based on the needs of each park and its unique environment.
- It's worth valuing the protection of wilderness for everyone over a specific group's desire for sport.
- I feel that if you can't safely climb a rock wall in the Wilderness without fixed bolts, leave it unclimbed; leave it for future climbers who are able to do so.
- Does everything have to be climbed? Does any generation of climbers have the right to climb anything or everything, or by ANY means. I believe NO on all fronts.
- The sheer number of climbers has now made that user group an "issue" for land managers and environmental concerns. Once a small group activity that went mostly unnoticed, except for accidents that occurred, the true impacts of climbing, whether it be bolting routes, bouldering, climbing big walls or expeditioning, have come to light through the numbers of participants now engaging all aspects..... "Bolt it and they will come" is no longer a parody from a Hollywood film, but a reality.
- The belief that climbers can best manage themselves is false narrative as looking at the impacts which have occurred and are occurring, climbers don't engage care until the damage is a problem for they themselves, or their personal interests are satisfied. Which is a point typically well beyond what any passing by would not notice.
- _ The Wilderness should not be a place that becomes "comfortized" by the trammeling of human endeavors and ambitions, the creation of human structures and essentially, "permanent installations" of human manufactured accessories for recreation, but rather a place one comes to experience life on a basic level and to learn appreciation and respect for that and not the conquest of it. A place where one risks fear, the unknown and the possibility of death. Entering the wilderness is optional in today's world. Leave human kinds' development of it, in any way, OUT.
- William Alexander.