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First name: Stephanie

Last name: Browne-Schlack

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please reconsider your climbing management plan. Climbing is a well-established activity in the outdoors in the US. There are thousands of climbs in Tucson alone. Climbing allows individuals to challenge themselves in both physical and mental capacities. Fixed anchors are an important part of climbing from a safety perspective on sport climbing routes. There are many already established routes and many guides to these routes (both in book form and online). Not allowing for the maintenance of these anchors poses safety risks to climbers who choose to climb these routes and may not realize the conditions of the anchors. Also, in some instances where natural anchors can be built as alternatives, these natural anchors will use rocks/trees or other natural resources and can cause erosion to these resources that could have been avoided with fixed anchors. Where climbing takes place close to trails, fixed anchors can be painted to blend into rocks so they aren't as obvious from a distance. These new policies are also likely to be hard to police. As there are hundreds of thousand existing climbs in the US. Also, new climbs at existing climbing areas make sense.

Our local climbing organization works to do erosion maintenance on trails, replaces fixes anchors that need replacing, as well as provide education nights to the local climbing community. While in general a climbing management plan makes sense, such plans should be put together with input from the Access Fund and other local climbing organizations who have knowledge of the likely impact, reasonableness and enforceability of a management plan.

Climbing is a great stress relief, physical, mental, and social activity. I spend most weekends climbing and it is an good opportunity to get outside and to be in the moment as well as to support others.