Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 6:54:50 PM First name: Devon Last name: Krum Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to advocate for the inclusion of rock climbing bolts and anchors within our National Forest. As stewards of these precious natural resources, it is imperative that we balance conservation efforts with facilitating access to outdoor recreational activities like rock climbing.

Rock climbing is not only a thrilling adventure sport but also fosters a deep appreciation for the natural beauty and geological wonders found within our national parks. By allowing the installation of properly managed and regulated bolts and anchors, we can ensure the safety of climbers while minimizing environmental impact. Furthermore, providing designated climbing areas with established routes can help alleviate the environmental damage caused by unauthorized climbing activities, such as erosion and vegetation destruction. By working closely with experienced climbers and conservation experts, we can develop guidelines and protocols to mitigate any potential ecological harm.

Moreover, permitting rock climbing bolting and anchoring can enhance visitor experiences, attracting a diverse range of outdoor enthusiasts and promoting physical fitness and mental well-being. This inclusive approach aligns with the National Forest Service mission to preserve and protect our natural and cultural heritage while also providing opportunities for public enjoyment and education.

In conclusion, I urge the National Forest Service to consider the benefits of allowing rock climbing bolts and anchors in designated areas within National Forest. Through careful planning, regulation, and collaboration, we can strike a balance between conservation and recreation, ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy and appreciate the wonders of our National Forests.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.