

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 10:18:43 PM

First name: Jacob

Last name: Deeter

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The desire to recreate in wilderness areas will not wane when rock-climbing becomes less accessible. It will, however, increase usage in areas of the landscape that are far more fragile than rock. For these reasons, it is counterproductive to the goals and purposes of public land managers to push a policy of the this matter. Additionally, when scope is broadened to the negative impacts this policy has on safety, culture, and economy, it should be clear that the intentions of this policy will not be met.

Simply put, the purpose of public land management organizations should be to maintain usage of the land in a sustainable manner. One of the ways land management organizations such as the USFS or NPS do this is by concentrating use into specific, durable areas that are less susceptible to environmental impacts. An example of this concentration method is the maintenance of public trails, and the encouragement for users to stay on said trails. Prohibiting the use of bolts will impede access to rock-climbing in wilderness areas; therefore, obstructing use of a durable natural surface, and redirect all traffic to more fragile terrain such as soils and vegetation.