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Title:

Comments: Eroding the protections placed by the Wilderness Act to appease a single user group is a fight foreseen by those who wrote the act. I am a climber and wilderness steward. Climbing without fixed anchors is not only possible but also a major wilderness value that climbers with the skill and knowledge seek out. Places for that wild experience are becoming extinct and only remain in wilderness as modern invasive bolting has increased exponentially. Drilling holes into the landscape for the sake of the current whim of modern sport climbers sets a serious risk of further weakening and eroding our most protected wild places. Climbers should have to play by the same rules as all other user groups. Nothing in the USFS or NPS proposals is unfair or out of the ordinary when evaluating impacts in Wilderness Areas. The rhetoric coming from these climbing "advocacy" organizations is concerning to say the least. Their own social media accounts show that the climbing community is not in line with their desire to weaken and re-interpret the Wilderness Act. There should absolutely be restrictions. Wilderness has more purpose than recreation. It is an enduring resource.