

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 5:22:35 PM

First name: Patrick

Last name: Anon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Sir,

As a responsible outdoor enthusiast, I am against changing/restricting the historical access to healthy environments. It is unclear what motivates changing existing policies since climbers are a group of people that are typically very responsible stewards of the land (as opposed to many others who have access).

By restricting access to all wilderness lands there would have to be a police state set up to enforce these new laws which does nothing to provide a satisfying state for anyone.

This creates a few issues:

- The lawful climbers would lose access and safety measures (newer protection)

- The unlawful climbers would join the ranks of other intruders who openly taunt limited law enforcement

- The cost of implementation would create an 'industry' of policers who would need more money each year

This is not an issue of creating no trace ... most climbing routes are not visible from nearby trails and more hikers than not like to see the thrill of climbers on the wall for that vicarious thrill. I have never seen a crag littered that a fellow climber didn't take the initiative to clean up.

If the purpose of the wilderness areas is not to recreate in a responsible manner, what is it intended for then? It seems that in a time where more people are trying to get healthy outside, more lands are being restricted thereby increasing hostility and congestion.