Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 11:46:36 PM

First name: Paul Last name: Peterson Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'd like to express that I appreciate the consideration of demon Climbing as an appropriate activity and wilderness areas. I'd also like to express my concern of allowing for local rangers to decide on a case by case basis, whether fixed anchors are appropriate. I personally worked on public lands, and I currently live in Chattanooga Tennessee. I understand how regulation on public lands affect climber. I also have seen in Chattanooga, a community that has a resilient climbing scene, climber have worked in organized with local governments and land management agencies to preserve wilderness areas, broader public access, and also access for climbers, and I know, for a fact climbers are best suited for making decisions about climbing anchors.

Public land belong to climbers. Climbes are assets For good stewardship and care of public land. I believe policies maintaining, conservation and regulating impact are important, I have also seen how local rangers working on case by case basis, do not have the skills or qualifications to fulfill their duty of both providing safety and access to climbers. Collectively, national and local climbing communities will be infinitely more resourced and wise about these decisions than individual local rangers. In fact, what I have witness more often than not around decisions of local rangers is tension and resentment and conflict as a result climbers experiencing differing and arbitrary practices of access and ethic., I would highly recommend that governing agencies and local communities were collectively towards conservation and minimizing impact on lands in appropriate ways, I would also highly recommend that local Rangers avoid making decisions they aren't qualified to make, and use the resource of Climbing, communities and organizations and coalitions in a collaborative way for policies around ethics and maintenance of climbing anchors.