

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 1:45:35 AM

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Comments: The plan to classify climbing anchors, bolts, slings, and pitons as installations is unnecessary. Currently areas where climbing or new route development does make sense is banned from new development and climbing. This policy should be continued. This has allowed the exploration of the vertical wilderness and does not require additional red tape. Additionally, naming these as installations will allow groups who do not support climbing to sue for the removal (like the fire lookout post in Washington state that was designated as a Historical Structure).

The policies detailed in the NPS/USFS plans are not enforceable or manageable with the current staffing and climbing knowledge of the NPS/USFS. Again, ban climbing and development where it makes sense. It is unnecessary to review all climbing anchors, bolts, and slings.

This will change the relationship between the agency and climbers. Today, climbers promote the protection of natural resources and are one of the biggest advocates for the NPS and USFS. This will push climbers back into the dark and information about new routes will not be shared outside the climbing community. This will not stop new routes in wilderness areas.

Please reconsider these policies because they are not in the best interest of the agencies and climbers.

Darrell Jensen & Mary Sue Brenner