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Comments: The MRA process adds an unnecessary burden on government agencies as well as climbers. With no additional funding it is unreasonable to expect already overworked and underfunded park employees to review and enforce additional regulations. These regulations will also be extremely difficult to enforce; it requires special experience to even move through the terrain that this legislation effects. This would also seriously damage the relationship that climbers and officials have been developing. In climbing's nascent days they were at odds with park officials. These days have passed and most climbers would prefer to have good relationships with authorities. If this legislation were to pass in it's current state some climbers may be prompted to go rouge and act outside the law. This would not be justified, but this legislation seems unreasonably strict. To ban bolts with labored exception would go against longstanding tradition within wilderness. Climbing is aligned with wilderness - many climbs within wilderness pre-date becoming designated wilderness. Those who pursue climbing, especially in wilderness, are pursuing the very essence of wilderness. They pursue self reliance, autonomy, untrammeled nature, beauty, and connection with the natural world. Most wilderness visitors are also positively effected by climbing. There may be some that find the sight of climbing anchors unsavory (if they can even spot them - most climbing hardware is extremely difficult to see), but they are much fewer than those that are captivated by the sight of people pursuing progress on vertical rock faces. Before learning to climb I found myself inspired by the beauty and noble pursuit of witnessing people climbing features I could not dream of being on.

There are some kooks with power drills ready to establish climbs in with questionable ethics, but climbers in general tend to be environmentalists that want to climb in good style. Good style means altering the rock as little as possible, placing minimal protection and immersing oneself in wilderness.

It may be time for more climbing regulation, but a wholesale ban with exception will do neither the park service or climbers any good. I implore the park service to reconsider the proposed legislation and go back to the drawing board to complete amore reasonable guidelines.