

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 4:24:57 AM

First name: brian

Last name: stampe

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern.

I would like to voice my concern over the proposed climbing management changes in both wilderness and non-wilderness lands. I believe these proposals will ultimately be unenforceable and could severely limit the ability for climbers to climb safely. Climbing can be a dangerous sport and without the ability to provide impromptu safety measures, decisions made on the rock by the climbers climbing, one would take on considerably more risk. This increase in risk is not kind to the plethora of new climbers that come out each year. We need to provide safe climbing experiences for people. Furthermore, I do not believe this would be enforceable. Some rogue climbers will fight back by installing new anchors without permission. This would be a major headache for land managers and a waste of taxpayer dollars trying to manage.

We are currently in an obesity epidemic and climbing is one of the fastest growing sports in the USA with over 8 million climbers. I believe providing more, not fewer, safe climbing experiences could play no small role in helping us remain healthy and connected to nature.

I believe that anchors should be allowed to be installed, as they always have been, until there is a newly discovered cultural or environmental issue present that needs to be protected. And only after there is something discovered would fixed anchors be prohibited.

Thanks for your time and your care for our lands,

Brian