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Comments: I have heard that there is a provision in the draft assessment that all bolting in caves must have a permit. I have been unable to find it in my search. However if there is some such provision I would oppose it. The caves on the Tongass can be dangerous and vertical. Usually cavers do not like to use bolts, but occasionally they are a necessary safeguard for exploration. In fact having to leave the cave to obtain a permit under certain circumstances could endanger the cavers. A cave rescue caused by not protecting a drop could actually cause more bolts to be employed during the rescue. I do not believe this has been a large problem and think this is unnecessarily restrictive. I have been in many caves on the Tongass and can only think of a couple of places where a bolt was used. Those bolts made entering the cave safer, and I don't believe the general public would ever know where they were put, because they are not visible from the entrance.