

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/18/2026 6:49:39 PM

First name: Jonathon

Last name: Giuffria

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Climbing in wilderness areas is super important to me and my friends. It's a unique way to experience the raw and wild nature of our beautiful public lands. Being a local of Las Vegas, Red Rock Conservation Area and its associated climbing area bring me joy throughout the fall, winter, and spring. Many of the historic and truly epic routes are located in wilderness area. In the Spring Mountains just north of town lie world class limestone climbing located in USFS land, and this serves as our refuge during summer. Preserving access to climbers while maintaining the character and spirit of wild land is something we all want - we just need to get aligned on the mechanics. Climbers are well educated in LNT and respect our public lands WAY more than the average Joe. Ain't trynna hate, but it's true. We generally don't litter. We get places using our feet and hands, not OHVs. We'll rip up an invasive plant if we see it, regardless of being prompted. And if all we leave is an anchor or two in our wake, we think that we're the least of public lands' worries. While we're generally known as being broke, we do contribute to the local, and oftentimes rural, economies surrounding the crag. We deserve a say.

I support the recognition that climbing is an appropriate Wilderness activity and that fixed anchors, critical pieces of the climbing safety system, are allowable in Wilderness. I also support provisions to allow climbers to place or replace fixed anchors without authorization in the event of an emergency. I appreciate that the policy protects existing climbing routes that were developed before the PARC Act was passed into law. Legacy Wilderness climbs should remain available in order to preserve America's rich climbing legacy.

Please improve policies to expedite timely replacement of fixed anchors in order to avoid unnecessary barriers to climber safety. New routes can enhance the climbing experience and should be allowed on National Forest lands, consistent with existing regulations, even where no climbing management plan has been adopted. Please provide a clear path for new route exploration at areas that lack plans that specifically address climbing.