

Access Fund Survey Report : NPS Fixed Anchors in Wilderness

Viewed	Started	Completed	Completion Rate	Drop Outs (After Starting)	Average Time to Complete Survey
2095	1558	1033	66.3%	525	18 minutes

The draft National Park Service (NPS) Director's Order #41 acknowledges that "climbing is in many cases a legitimate and appropriate use of wilderness."

Are you comfortable with this language?

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Yes, I recommend that the NPS keep it as is	777	58.60%					
2. No, climbing is always a legitimate use of wilderness	474	35.75%					
3. No, climbing that requires the use of bolts is not appropriate	10	0.75%					
4. No, I don't like this language for a different reason	65	4.90%					
Total	1326	100%					

Mean : **1.520**

Confidence Interval @ 95% : **[1.479 - 1.560]**

Standard Deviation : **0.748**

Standard Error : **0.021**

How should local management plans authorize new anchors in wilderness?

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Climbers should be able to place anchors wherever they want	33	3.10%					
2. Climbers can self-regulate, the NPS should stay out of it	337	31.70%					

3.	Programmatically by zone	89	8.37%	
4.	Programmatically by zone and case-by-case in sensitive areas	529	49.76%	
5.	Route-by-route	63	5.93%	
6.	New bolts should be prohibited	9	0.85%	
7.	Any new fixed anchor (including pitons, nuts and slings) should be prohibited	3	0.28%	
Total		1063	100%	

Mean : 3.274

Confidence Interval @ 95% : [3.207 - 3.340]

Standard Deviation : 1.106

Standard Error : 0.034

How should local management plans authorize the replacement or removal of anchors in wilderness?

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Climbers should be able to remove and replace anchors as needed without prior authorization	339	31.89%					
2. Climbers can self-regulate, the NPS should stay out of it	297	27.94%					
3. Programmatically by zone	67	6.30%					
4. Programmatically by zone and case-by-case in sensitive areas	296	27.85%					
5. Route-by-route	58	5.46%					
6. New replacement bolts should be prohibited	3	0.28%					
7. Any new replacement of a fixed anchor (pitons, nuts, slings) should be prohibited	3	0.28%					

Total	1063	100%
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Mean : **2.490**

Confidence Interval @ 95% : **[2.408 - 2.572]**

Standard Deviation : **1.365**

Standard Error : **0.042**

When should the prior authorization requirement be triggered?

	Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1.	As soon as the full NPS Director's Order is final	24	2.34%					
2.	Only once each local park has developed an authorization process in a plan (thus preventing a de facto ban if the Park takes years to finalize its permitting protocols)	242	23.61%					
3.	It's more appropriate that authorization "may" be required for the placement of new fixed anchors, thus the timing of the rule will depend on local conditions (ie, need for a plan and fixed anchor regulation)	448	43.71%					
4.	There shouldn't be a prior authorization requirement	311	30.34%					
Total		1025	100%					

Mean : **3.020**

Confidence Interval @ 95% : **[2.972 - 3.069]**

Standard Deviation : **0.796**

Standard Error : **0.025**

What forms of climbing protection should be governed by this draft NPS policy? Select all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Bolts	820	42.44%					
2. Fixed pitons	528	27.33%					
3. Removable pitons	205	10.61%					
4. Slings	211	10.92%					
5. "Fixed" cams or stoppers	168	8.70%					
Total	1932	100%					

Mean : 2.161

Confidence Interval @ 95% : [2.102 - 2.220]

Standard Deviation : 1.313

Standard Error : 0.030

What level of bolt placement is appropriate in wilderness?

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. No limit on bolts, sport climbing is fine	193	18.63%					
2. The occasional sport route is OK, as long as it doesn't impair park resources	347	33.49%					
3. Enough bolts to protect "traditional face climbing" like old-school Joshua Tree routes	244	23.55%					
4. Bolts should be rare but appropriate to protect otherwise naturally-protected terrain	224	21.62%					
5. Bolts should be used for emergency purposes only	13	1.25%					
6. No bolts in wilderness	15	1.45%					

Total	1036	100%
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Mean : 2.577

Confidence Interval @ 95% : [2.508 - 2.647]

Standard Deviation : 1.140

Standard Error : 0.035

What age group do you belong to?

	Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1.	under 18	3	0.29%					
2.	18-25	104	10.13%					
3.	25-29	188	18.31%					
4.	30-45	423	41.19%					
5.	46-65	286	27.85%					
6.	65+	23	2.24%					

Total	1027	100%
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Mean : 3.929

Confidence Interval @ 95% : [3.868 - 3.989]

Standard Deviation : 0.989

Standard Error : 0.031






What type of climber are you? Check all applicable types below.

	Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1.	Trad	921	22.87%					
2.	Sport	846	21.01%					
3.	Boulder	538	13.36%					
4.	Gym	642	15.94%					
5.	Bigwall	286	7.10%					
6.	Mountaineering/Alpine	496	12.32%					
7.	Ice	298	7.40%					

Total	4027	100%
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Mean : **3.299** Confidence Interval @ 95% : **[3.239 - 3.359]** Standard Deviation : **1.942** Standard Error : **0.031**



How often do you climb?

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Obsessively	373	36.32%					
2. Weekend warrior	355	34.57%					
3. When I can	283	27.56%					
4. I'm retired	14	1.36%					
5. I don't climb	2	0.19%					

Total	1027	100%
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Mean : **1.945** Confidence Interval @ 95% : **[1.894 - 1.997]** Standard Deviation : **0.842** Standard Error : **0.026**

Have you ever placed a bolt before?

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Yes	435	42.77%					
2. No	582	57.23%					

Total	1017	100%
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Mean : **1.572** Confidence Interval @ 95% : **[1.542 - 1.603]** Standard Deviation : **0.495** Standard Error : **0.016**