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Climbing in North Carolina National Forest

Dear Sirs:

I am an outdoors person and climber, who has been visiting the National Forests in North Carolina for 52 years. In those years, I have worked for the North Carolina Outward Bound School, Camp Merriwood, and other guide services. I have 'put up' 50+ climbing routes over the years.

The outdoors is a sanctuary, where I and others can find much that sustains us.

I have always taken it as obligatory that I and others respect and treat the National Forests with care and good stewardship. Leave no trash; destroy no vegetation; respect animals and their needs. In climbing, leave as few traces of our presence as possible.

And, at the same time, establish climbing routes that are safe and well protected, in so far as that is possible. Use of bolts is limited to necessary safety; no bolts are placed as 'convenient,' when alternative use of protection is possible.

I am dedicated to protecting and nurturing the National Forests. I will continue to educate those with whom I visit the Forests to adopt similar awareness and practice.

I hope that decisions made to manage the Forests do not limit or reduce outdoors people and climbers access.

I appreciate your time to read this note. If you would want more information, please do contact me.

Sincerely,

Peter Young, PhD

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