

## Low Impact Climbing

- Local climbers are committed to good stewardship of the park. To preserve the character and beauty of the park's rock formations and have minimum impacts on soils, vegetation, wildlife and other visitors, climbers and the park support "Leave No Trace" practices advocated by the Access Fund. "Leave No Trace" and "low impact climbing" practices. The cooperation of the entire climbing community is sought in observing them.
- Observe all park rules and closures. Check park bulletin boards for notices of possible restrictions posted to protect nesting birds and other wildlife and areas recovering from overuse. Off trail activities including climbing are not permitted in the San Lorenzo Headwaters Natural Preserve.
- Limit bolting. Before placing new bolts or replacing old ones, climbers must notify the park and receive approval. Please contact the park to initiate a bolting request.
- Help prevent erosion. Use only existing access trails. Please carry (rather than drag) crash pads. The park's topsoil is fragile and easily displaced from the steep slopes in much of the park.
- Protect park vegetation. The park is home to a variety of mosses, plants, and trees, which in turn provide food and shelter for wildlife. Vegetation is part of the beauty of the park. One of the challenges of climbing is to work around mosses, lichens and branches without damaging them.
- Avoid formations that are fragile. The chemically weathered "tafone" and "fretworks" formations found on this sandstone are unique and should not be damaged.
- Respect the integrity of the rock and the climb. Chipping or drilling holds damages the rock. Please do not remove loose rock, chip, sculpt, glue or deface.
- Consider not climbing when the rock is wet. This sandstone is more fragile when it is wet so climbing routes can be damaged if climbed during this time. Please allow two or three days after a heavy rain for the rock to dry before climbing.
- Avoid any rock feature that could be a petroglyph or pictograph. Avoid any climb that is known to have such features. Any suspected archaeological site found by a climber should be identified to a ranger.
- Consider visual impact. Chalk and brightly colored slings left on climbs intrude on other's views. Consider using a chalk ball and only leave slings or chains of subdued color and low contrast as permanent rappel anchors.
- Avoid overcrowding rocks. The more people, the more impact – solitude also suffers.
- Consider giving something back to your park. Pick up trash and help educate uninformed individuals. Consider participating in restoration, maintenance, and trail building projects. Promote an environmental ethic in your recreational pursuit.
- Each climber is an ambassador to the world for all climbers. Please help make climbers look good, take responsibility for the impact on park resources and other park users, and cooperate with park staff.

