

Application Process for Fixed Anchor Activity at QMSP

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:

The Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department (OTRD) and Quartz Mountain State Park (QMSP) requires approval of a Fixed Anchor Application prior to the placement or removal of fixed anchors in QMSP. QMSP management in association with the Quartz Bolting Committee (QBC) of the Wichita Mountains Climbing Coalition, Inc. (WMCC) have developed these guidelines to minimize negative impacts to QMSP resources while allowing limited development of quality fixed gear routes in what is considered a mature climbing area. This process is part of a comprehensive management plan for rock climbing designed to insure that the activity is subject to fines and penalties as specified by the State of Oklahoma.

HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR A PERMIT TO PLACE OR REMOVE FIXED ANCHORS?

Any person desiring to place or remove fixed anchors (bolts, pitons, etc.) in QMSP must complete a Fixed Anchor Application form, unless it is a 1 for 1 replacement. Applications are available online at www.wichitamountains.org. Please read the Review Criteria, fill out and sign the Application form and waiver, and email the completed form to abc.wmcc@gmail.com.

Only one application per person may be submitted during a review period (quarterly) for new routes. Applicants must be 18 years old or older.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED?

QMSP Management, assisted by the QBC, will meet four times a year (quarterly) to review applications. You will be notified by email within two weeks of the review date as to whether the application is approved or not approved.

The review process will be expedited if possible.

WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED?

If approved, you will receive a permit outlining the terms and conditions for placing, replacing, or removing, the authorized fixed anchors. The permit must be obtained before you install or remove any gear. The permit expires six months from the date of issue.

ARE SOME AREAS OF BALDY CLIMBING AREA CLOSED TO ANY FIXED ANCHORS?

NO. But please be aware of policies and traditions regarding retrobolting and use of convenience anchors.

General Rules and Review Criteria for Fixed Anchors at QMSP & WMWR

Quality Routes:

New fixed gear routes will be evaluated using a high standard. Only quality new fixed gear routes that add to the climbing experience and do not infringe on existing lines will be approved.

Resource Impacts:

New fixed gear routes will be evaluated on the potential degree of impact to Refuge resources. Of main concern are areas with: (1.) Existing high density of fixed anchors (2.) Sensitive plants and wildlife (3.) Fragile rock.

Visual Impacts:

Bolt hangers and fixed chains must blend in with the natural color of the rock. Use commercially made camouflaged hangers or paint the hardware the color of the rock. Large, obtrusive bolts; (rings, etc.) should not be used for lead bolts, but may be appropriate for belays. Anchors should be designed to eliminate the need for nylon slings. Perma-draws are considered fixed anchors.

Convenience Bolting:

Equipping new routes with fixed anchors should be done out of necessity (i.e. fixed anchors are the only means by which the route can offer protection). Generally, fixed anchors should not be placed near adequate natural protection. Convenience bolting is not appropriate for the Refuge or Baldy Climbing Area. Rappel anchors may be appropriate in cases where rappelling the route results in less trail erosion or resource impact than down climbing or hiking off of the "back-side".

Retro-Bolting:

The essential character of routes, as established by the first free ascent, should be preserved. This means existing traditional climbs will remain so. Generally, retro-bolting will only be approved to replace bolt for bolt in the same location.

Climbing Styles:

New fixed gear routes will not be evaluated on the basis of climbing styles. Local climbing ethics support diverse values and attitudes regarding the role of fixed anchors as well as the "process" of placing those fixed anchors.

Route Alterations:

Gardening, chipping, gluing, removing vegetation, cutting trees, and prying off rock is prohibited. Be "resource sensitive" when developing new routes. Tread lightly and be aware of environmental impacts. Use good judgment!

Route Height:

Generally routes under thirty (30') feet will be evaluated as top-rope problems only.

Power-Drills:

Power Drills are prohibited in the Charons Garden Wilderness Area.

Quartz Mountain State Park

Fixed Anchor Application

Personal Information:										Notes: Answer all questions to the best of your ability. Print your answers. List "n/a" or "-" for non-applicable questions. Practice "Leave No Trace" Climbing! Climb Smart! Climb SAFE! Respect Park Staff !
Last Name:		First Name:		Age:						
Address:		City:		State:		Zip Code:				
Hm. Phone #:		Wk. Phone #:		Fax #:						
This application is for (Check the appropriate box):										
Replacement (existing route):		Existing Route Name:		Rating:						
Proposed (new route):		Proposed Route Name:		Rating:						
Removal (existing fixed anchor):		Comments:								
New Fixed Anchor Information:		Specs:				Numbers				
Lead Bolt/Pin Type:		Length:		Dia:		# of lead Bolts/Pins:				
Anchor Bolt Type:		Length:		Dia:		# of anchor Bolts:				
Hanger Type (if applicable):		Total # of Fixed Anchors to be placed or added:								
Will the proposed route be equipped with a rappel anchor?				Will anchor chains be installed?						
<i>Remember: Bolt hangers & fixed chains must blend in with the rock!</i>				Do adj. routes have fixed anchors?						
This form is true to the best of my knowledge:										
Applicant's Signature:				Date:						
Route Information (Be specific & please use legend symbols):										
Route Location:				Route Height:						
Topo Legend & Area Quick Reference:	Write a brief narrative and draw a detailed topo of your proposed route below. If applicable include names of and distances from adjacent routes. Circle the appropriate area from the quick reference list. List trail head & other landmarks such as the names of formations and walls. (write on back of application if necessary).									
Bolt X	<div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">Trail Head: _____</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">← Dist. = _____ →</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">Left Adj. Route: _____</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">Right Adj. Route: _____</div>									
Piton P										
Tree T										
Face 										
Crack _____										
(1) Entrance Boulders										
(2) Backside Boulders										
(3) Backside										
(4) Snakeshead/S Wall										
(5) Headwall										
(6) Sea of Screams										
(7) South America										
(8) Atlantic										
(9) Grunt Chamber										
(10) Watch Me Wall										
(11) Forgotten Arches										
(12) Cedar Valley										
For official use only (Do not write in area below):										
Approve		Not Approve		Quartz Bolting Comm. Signature:		Date:				
Approve		Not Approve		Quartz Bolting Comm. Signature:		Date:				
Approve		Not Approve		Quartz Bolting Comm. Signature:		Date:				

Quartz Mountain State Park

Liability Waiver and Release Regarding Fixed Anchor Placement

Liability Waiver and Release Regarding Fixed Anchor Placement:

In making this Application for Fixed Anchor Placement, I expressly understand and agree that the Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department (OTRD), Quartz Mountain State Park (QMSP), and Wichita Mountains Climbers Coalition, Inc. (WMCC), and their respective employees, representatives, agents, assigns, officers, and directors, and all persons acting by, through, under or in concert with any of them, are not responsible for and make no representations or warranties regarding the suitability for use, safety or reliability of any fixed anchors or other hardware, currently existing or installed in the future, on any climbing route in QMSP. Moreover, I understand and agree that OTRD, QMSP and WMCC make no representations or warranties regarding the degree of hazard or danger involved, or lack thereof, on any rock climbing route in QMSP.

I further understand and agree that if my Application for Fixed Anchor Placement is granted, such grant of permission applies only to the physical placement of that fixed anchor and does not confer approval or express any opinion as to the quality or safety of that placement or to the quality or safety of the climbing route to be established. The permission to place fixed anchor points at specified sites is based solely on a determination that the affect of the activity will not result in significant negative impact to QMSP resources. Moreover, I understand and agree that the grant of permission to place a fixed anchor does not certify that am qualified to place fixed anchors or have the experience and expertise to place fixed anchors properly.

I have made this Application for Fixed Anchor Placement solely of my own desire. Should this Application be granted, I will not be carrying out any activities pursuant to said grant of permission as an agent or representative of OTRD, QMSP and/or WMCC. I understand that through I may be granted permission to place fixed anchors; I am not obligated to exercise this privilege.

I further understand that rock climbing activities are inherently hazardous and that I am personally responsible for my own safety while climbing or placing fixed anchors to a grant of permission. I hereby release, covenant not to sue, and forever discharge OTRD, QMSP, and WMCC, and their respective employees, representatives, agents, assigns, officers and directors, and all persons acting by, through, under or in concert with any of them, from any and all claims, including without limitation those for personal injury and or death arising from my activities in connection with the grant of permission to install fixed anchors in QMSP.

By signing below I certify that I am 18 years old or older and that I agree to the terms of this Liability Waiver and Release Regarding Fixed Anchor Placement.

Signed:

Signature:		Date:	
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(Additional space for route description)