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Comments: Tonto Forest Plan comments

Hello,

I have read parts of the Tonto Forest Plan and I would like to submit some comments in regard to the climbing and fixed anchor policy section.

It is important that fixed anchors be allowed without a permitting process on the Tonto National Forest. This is an activity allowed by precedent on the Tonto and other National Forests and should be continued. Rock climbing is an accepted use of public lands and fixed anchors are critical for safety of climbing activities. They also reduce damage to natural resources by minimizing impacts on vegetation and preventing erosion.

There are many well known and important climbing areas on the Tonto that use existing anchors and require fixed anchors to be maintained and occasionally added for safety and new climbs. Isolation Canyon and Queen Creek Canyon are incredible resources to the climbing community and these and other areas greatly benefit from freedom to place and replace fixed anchors.

The climbing community, especially those experienced climbers who install fixed anchors are knowledgeable and very respectful of cultural and natural resources and should be allowed to continue installing fixed anchors on the Tonto NF.

Thank you for considering my comments.

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