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Comments: As a board member and representative of Northern Arizona Climbers Coalition (a local climbers organization focused on access, stewardship, and relationship building with land managers), I am writing in objection of this forest management plan; my concerns focus on three areas:

1 - I am concerned around the language stating that "Permanent fixed anchors or bolts for rock climbing and rappelling should be allowed...for approved routes." Though I appreciate the forest plan stating bolts are allowed, I do not see where the plan includes a description of the procedure to obtain route approval and without an understanding of this have grave concerns over the undue limitation this will place on the potential for new routes (especially, at a time of astronomical growth in climbing when more routes are needed to meet the recreational demand).

2 - I object to the fact that fixed anchors are referred to as "illegal infrastructure." Fixed anchors or bolts have long been recognized and accepted on National Forests throughout the country for over 20 years. Again, with the growth of climbing we need more inclusion of this already accepted activity and referring to anything as illegal infrastructure is far from inclusive (especially when what makes a given bolt illegal is not made clear).

3 - The inability or unwillingness to grandfather in previously installed bolts is dangerous. Established climbing routes will continue to see use and thus need to be maintained (ie - a common practice of removing worn bolts and replacing them with new upgraded hardware. This is referred to as rebolting); without recognizing the hardware that exists or being able to maintain established routes I fear injuries will occur unnecessarily.

Overall, though I appreciate the steps taken during this entire process to be more inclusive of rock climbing on the Tonto National Forest; I still feel it has a some distance to go to be the forest plan that recognizes & treats climbing in such a way that it will last the lifespan of the plan. I look forward to working together.