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Organization:

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Comments: To whom it concerns,

I have been an advocate and conformist for outdoor recreation for a decade now. In my experience, having the privilege to explore the heights of the backcountry and appreciate sheer wilderness are moments unparalleled to anything else. I have been able to collect so many memories due to the safety of thoughtfully placed hardware along such routes and areas.

I understand both sides of this issue and can sympathize with both. As time moves on, old routes require upkeep. Climbers themselves are some of the most self-sufficient and resourceful stewards when it comes to outdoor recreation. These advocates do a fine job maintaining routes with wilderness preservation as a top priority.

Route hardware can also be seen a beneficial for some of our softer rock that flake more easily. A well placed bolt can provide years of use without affecting the spirit of the rock.

I do believe that we all have a common goal and motivation on this issue. As a lover of all things outdoors I want nothing more than to enjoy to wilderness and keep it wild. In the nature of this conflict I pled to keep modern hardware in use. Perhaps we can redirect our energy from eliminating bolts to education proper use and placement so that generations to come can experience life as I so gratefully have been able to.