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Title:

Comments: I am writing as a concerned citizen, military veteran and forest service supporter, please do not ban the use of fixed climbing gear (like bolts and anchors) on forest service land. The use of fixed climbing gear makes the sport safer and more accessible! It's also the main reason my friends and I get out to forest service protected areas.

I would offer an example from a university class on conservation, duck hunters have been huge supporters in the fight to protect marsh lands in the USA-equally, climbers are huge advocates and supporters of protecting areas that have great climbing! Currently in SLC we are fight the installation of a gondola in Little Cottonwood Canyon because it would not only destroy historic climbing but it would destroy critical habit for birds and more solitary animals (it cuts paths into generally untouched tracks of land).

Especially with climbing becoming an Olympic sport, more people are going to be participating than ever beforethe safer and more accessible we can make it, the less accidents will occur. Also, frankly, it's an opportunity to engage more people in environmental LNT ethos and get more money from the forest service. Climbers will throw down to climb, how about you make it a permitted activity that has an extra fee (for bolt maintenance) and that requires a waiver? People would pay for it, I would pay for it.