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Organization:

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Comments: I want to see bolts in the national wildernesses!

Firstly, I love my local wildernesses as much as the next outdoors enthusiast. I also want them protected from development such as bridges and roads. However, rock climbing bolts are essential to the sport. They create safe and reliable anchors to use, they are small enough that they are barely visible from more than 50 feet away, and they help promote Leave No Trace. Lets be honest, you have to agree that unless a climbing bolt is shining in direct sunlight you cannot see them from far away. Even then, there are ways around that. The bolts can be painted black, or a color similar to the local rock, to help keep them out of sight. Also, when rappelling off the top of a mountain without an anchor, the only option is to leave behind some sort of gear to rappel off of. I would much rather see two reliable bolts placed in the rock than a bunch of either mystery gear or abandoned gear at the top of a mountain.

Rock climbing is becoming a mainstream sport as much as mountain biking is. The bolts are simple, minimalistic, and barely visible and are critical to the safety of the sport.