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Comments: I would like to express my disappointment in hearing that USFS is threatening two of the safest types of climbing throughout the entire wilderness of the USA. The use of top rope anchors and bolts for ascending sport climbing routes are absolutely essential to the sport of climbing, and banning or restricting these bolting practices will have a seriously detrimental impact on this sport as well as the sport of highlining; amongst others. In addition, trad gear is too costly, and the learning curve too high for everyone to be able to switch to traditional climbing methods only. Removing the logical progression from top rope to sport to trad will in essence make climbing as a whole more dangerous. You would be taking away all of our safety and effectively stanching growth/existence of the sport.

Climbers and Highliners are some of the most respectful humans with regard to wilderness practices such as leave no trace. Many of us already live by the motto that we do not bolt a route or an anchor unless it cannot be safely climbed/used in a purely LNT manner. The USA is currently one of a few countries with such a diverse selection of rock types and exposure, from coast to coast. It would be a shame to loose or challenge the opportunity to experience the beauty of the wilderness of North America through the unique view of a climber. As a nation leading the world in climbing culture, safety, and climbing companies, I am shocked that I even have to write this letter right now... I thought it was a joke, and now I am crying.