Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/5/2024 9:49:17 PM First name: Chris Last name: Grosh Organization: Title:

Comments: Banning climbing bolts in wilderness areas may undermine the legitimate and historical pursuit of climbing. Bolts, when responsibly placed, offer a safer alternative to traditional gear, reducing the impact on fragile ecosystems. They promote sustainable climbing practices, preventing unnecessary damage to the environment, as climbers stick to established routes. Additionally, fostering a culture of responsible climbing education would be more effective than an outright ban, preserving both the natural beauty and the spirit of adventure in wilderness areas.