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Organization: Arizona Climbing Guides

Title: Presedent Comments: Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments on the use of bolts policy that is currently being drafted. As a local Arizona climbing guide company, we see the impacts and benefits of the climbing user group on public lands. No user group is un-impactful, and all have a responsibility to take care of the land they enjoy. There are few user groups that are more self policing, and aware of these potential impacts than climbers.

The bolting policy would greatly effect climbers, and make it impossible to introduce new comers to the sport. Most areas that consist of a single rope length require fixed anchors at the top of the climb. These climbs create a risk managed situation for climbers to practice for the bigger cliffs, and they are essential for beginners. Climbing has only grown in popularity, and continues to grow every year. The policies that would be implemented would create a dangerous situation for people learning, and would encourage people to cause greater impacts by scrambling to the tops of cliffs, and using trees and other vegetation as anchors. It is also un-enforceable, and will create chaos for land managers, law enforcement, and the climbing world. There must be more involvement from climbers in shaping these policies. This is no longer a fringe activity, and we deserve our voices to be apart of shaping the future of pubic land use. Thank you again for considering out input.