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Comments: Good Morning,

I am writing to voice opposition to the proposed rule as drafted. If implemented, more people will die from climbing accidents; climbing recreation will be less accessible; and NPS will be required to carry out more rescue missions due to increased frequency, severity, and complexity of accidents. The technology (modern bolts) and technical expertise (modern bolting practices) exist to prevent this with minimal impact to the rock face. This would be like banning seatbelts for race car drivers.

It is possible to implement rules that allow for discreet use of climbing hardware or other rules to mitigate the human impact on the environment without jeopardizing safety.

If the GOV underlying concern is really about the amount (and impact) of human traffic in wilderness areas, then alternative approaches (e.g., permits) should be explored before curtailing critical safety measures.

Bottom line is that if this rule is implemented as written, people (sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers) will die as a result. Many more will suffer from life changing injuries. Is that the legacy you want?