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Comments: Hello USFW,

I want to comment on the ability for climbers to safely and conservatively install bolts and fixed anchors on rocks in wilderness areas. Climbers have been relying on this permanent hardware to climb safely in the outdoors for many generations of climbers. This equipment has become more efficient and minimalist over the years. This hardware is necessary for climbers to protect themselves on route and avoid large, unprotected swaths of rock than could potentially lead to huge dangerous falls.

Keeping climbers safe means keeping USFW, EMT, and SAR teams safe, too. By allowing climbers to protect climbs, there is less risk for dangerous accidents that require emergency response. This saves time, resources, and lives.

Climbers have also historically participated in conservation of the lands on which they climb. By supporting their safety and access to their recreation, we are encouraging them to practice LNT, to protect and advocate for their local crags, and to be better stewards overall to the environment. Support climbers so they can support the parks!

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you will help climbers to climb safely in wilderness areas by allowing them to continue to safely and conservatively bolt rocks. The relationship between climbers, rangers, and the conservation community at large can continue to flourish if we all work together and look out for each other.

Sincere thanks,
Amanda Campbell