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Comments: On the proposed limitations or prohibitions of climbing bolts:

I am an avid outdoor climber of several decades and hope to be able to take my children to enjoy these beautiful places in the vertical, one day in the future. People who do not climb may feel they are doing nature a favor by limiting access to cliff faces and think that they are making things more pristine. I can understand that but I think it does a disservice to people. I think in general climbers are respectful and increase appreciation and valuation of these wilderness areas and are respectful stewards of them. No pristine wilderness remains unchanged in perpetuity, but we can be wise and responsible stewards and caretakers of them. I think these goals and values are consistent and compatible and we can enjoy and share and be caretakers interacting with the natural world, not by staying far away from it, necessarily, but by treading lightly and being aware and enjoying it. Vast wildernesses should not be totally isolated, or left for people who are interested in keeping all humans out. This would be the environmental attitude that is also anti-human. Which is a real danger that some environmental movements are falling into.

If there are layers of regulations and tribal approval to limit such access I believe this would essential have to same effect of discouraging to such an extent as to regulate climber access and recreation to shut it down entirely as far as vertical exploration of such areas.

Not a good look!

Thanks for your consideration,

Dr. Benjamin R. Eliason MD