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First name: McKenzie
Last name: Dale
Organization:
Title:
Comments: As an EMT and volunteer member of the Inyo County Search and Rescue team I am STRONGLY opposed to the regulation and prohibition of fixed anchors and bolts within wilderness and the National Parks. My reasons are the following:

- Prohibition of fixed anchors WILL RESULT IN MORE ACCIDENTS AND DEATHS. There are already many accidents that occur each year due to the failure of outdated fixed anchors, and the inability to keep this equipment safely maintained will mean more people will get hurt.

- Fixed bolts are already placed spareingly only when there is no suitable natural alternative. Fixed bolts are placed to elimate the possibility of a catastrophic fall. The removal of fixed bolts will not stop people from climbing. It just means that more PEOPLE WILL TAKE GREATER RISKS of life-threatening falls while climbing.This risk is unnecessary and can be prevented by the placement of fixed bolts.

- As a volunteer member of a search and rescue team who responds to many incidents which occur on National Forest land I am upset by the idea that more people will end up having accidents which I will have to respond to. It is also unclear whether Search and Rescue teams will be permitted to place fixed anchors. There are situations where placing a fixed anchor is the only solution to gaining access to a patient or removing a boulder from a crushed patient. It would be extremely unfortunate to be FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN ILLEGALLY PLACING A BOLT OR SAVING A HUMAN LIFE.

- There will be a significant increase in trash slings, webbing, and tat left hanging all over the rocks if fixed bolts are no longer permitted. People will still climb and rappell, they will just be forced to use materials they can leave behind instead which WILL RESULT IN MORE TRASH IN THE MOUNTAINS.

This is an absolutely absurd and dangerous proposal to remove the option of fixed anchors. Thank you for considering my opinion.

~ McKenzie Dale