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First name: Sam Last name: Bourret Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi,

I am a responsible climber and steward of the environment and usfs lands. I have been climbing for 20 years and it brings great joy to my life. Many people think climbing is an "extreme sport" similar to sky diving and dirt biking but I would beg to differ. I find climbing an exceptionally safe sport and that safety is often because of the use of fixed protection and anchors at climbing venues. These fixed anchors make climbing safe and accessible for a variety of people to enjoy the sport and foster responsible stewardship of the lands they climb on. Without these fixed anchors climbing becomes dangerous and questionable. I think responsible use of fixed anchors is a good idea but the status quo works often because of local climbing coalitions. If you are going to put red tape around the installation of fixed anchors it needs to occur in concert with local climbing coalitions. But I am writing this letter to advocate for the continued use of fixed anchors in usfs lands that contain climbing venues to ensure the access and safety that has allowed me to enjoy rock climbing.

Thanks, Sam Bourret