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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing to express my concerns about proposed climbing management policies that would restrict new route development on non-Wilderness lands. As an avid climber and a father of young climbers, I urge you to reconsider this policy for the following reason:

Restricting new anchors to "existing climbing opportunities" is simply unenforceable. Our public lands offer endless possibilities for new route exploration, and climbers cannot reasonably be confined to specific predetermined areas. Attempting to enforce such a vague policy would create unnecessary confusion and frustration for both land managers and recreational climbers.

Rather than imposing blanket restrictions, new route development should be managed through careful analysis to determine if climbing should be limited in specific areas, for example to protect sensitive cultural sites or endangered species habitat. This balanced approach allows for protection of resources while maintaining opportunities for climbers to explore new terrain.

I encourage the Forest Service to reject unworkable blanket bans in favor of nuanced management tailored to the needs of each unique area. America's climbing community can continue to establish new routes in a responsible manner if provided the opportunity.

Thank you for considering this perspective as you finalize climbing management policies. I am happy to discuss these concerns further and lend my expertise as an experienced climber.

Sincerely,
John Phamvan