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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear US Forest Service,

I trust this message finds you well. I am writing to express my deep appreciation for the invaluable work that the US Forest Service undertakes in managing and preserving our nation's forested lands. The commitment to balancing conservation and recreational use is evident and commendable.

I am reaching out today to advocate for the legitimacy of climbing as a recreational activity on Forest Service lands. Climbing provides a unique connection with nature, fostering a profound appreciation for the environment. It also promotes physical fitness and mental well-being among enthusiasts.

I'd like to draw attention to the importance of fixed anchors in climbing. Fixed anchors play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of climbers while minimizing environmental impact. They offer a secure means of attachment, reducing the necessity for climbers to create new, potentially harmful anchors in the rock or soil. By utilizing fixed anchors, climbers can navigate routes more safely, diminishing the risk of accidents and injuries.

In addition, fixed anchors contribute to the protection of fragile ecosystems. By establishing designated climbing routes with fixed anchors, we can concentrate human impact on specific areas, leaving the majority of the forest untouched. This approach aligns with the US Forest Service's mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests while allowing for responsible recreational use.

Understanding the delicate balance that the US Forest Service strives to maintain, I believe that a thoughtful approach to climbing, coupled with the use of fixed anchors, can contribute positively to this equilibrium. Responsible climbing enthusiasts can act as stewards of the land, promoting environmental awareness and instilling a sense of responsibility for the preservation of our forested landscapes.

I appreciate your time and consideration on this matter. I am confident that, together, we can find solutions that allow climbing to coexist harmoniously with the principles of conservation that the US Forest Service upholds.

Thank you for your dedication to the stewardship and enjoyment of our nation's forests.

Sincerely,

John Cameron Caldwell