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First name: Sydney

Last name: Fair

Organization:

Title:

Comments: It is unfortunate to hear about the new proposed changes around fixed hardware in wilderness areas. Climbing equipment such as bolts and fixed anchors are essential part of climbing safety. They have been allowed by the wilderness act for quite some time. Why would we decide to change this now? What harm has these anchors done? For me climbing has been a way to explore the land and participate in outdoor recreation in a way that most people don't get the chance to. It's a challenge and one that has given me so much respect for nature. To take away the ability to establish routes and continue to use already established routes would take the sport of climbing away from so many people. It seems this has been a common theme of the national park service and forest service. First came permits to enter parks, be on trails, and to climb mountains. Now we are taking away the safety around rock climbing. How am I to enjoy my public lands? What happened to public lands?

Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issue and threaten America's rich climbing history. The accomplishments of Tommy Caldwell on the Dawn Wall and Alex Honnold on El Capitan would not have been possible without fixed anchors. Yes, i realize Honnold free soloed El Cap, but he would not have been able to do so without the support of anchors on his earlier climbs. Also how would we go about managing half dome? How are the railings of half dome any different than fixed anchors?

I guess I just don't understand what has changed. Fixed anchors have been allowed and managed for decades. Why do we feel the need to change this now? It just continues to prove how the government continues to get more restrictive in how we are allowed to act on our lands.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-wilderness lands is unenforceable and will only create confusion. Non-wilderness climbing management should maintain the opportunity for new anchors unless analysis determines climbing should be restricted to protect cultural or natural resources.

This new rule would greatly impact mine and I am sure many others mental and physical health. Climbing has been a mental fulfillment for me. It has given me a sense of accomplishment and has helped me mentally escape the stress of life. Not being able to climb at smith rock or even summiting Mt Washington would be hard to imagine. I have wanted to share my love for climbing with my daughter since her birth. We were able to have her climb in Moab this fall. Why take this away from us? Why take this away from generations to come?

Climbers have had a bad rap in the past, but the community of climbers that I am apart of has continuously respected nature and honored falcon closures. Why are we targeting this group when we have allowed for this gear to be present for decades?

Please don't take climbing away from us and please think about how many people this would impact.