

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/24/2024 10:53:26 PM

First name: Melanie

Last name: Leung

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am submitting a comment in response to the proposal for new bolting policies that affects the installation of fixed anchors at climbing areas. I strongly believe that the safety involved with sport climbing is largely reliant on having well-maintained and strategically placed gear on climbing walls that allow climbers to stay within designated wilderness use areas while also being able to safely use and rappel off anchors. A policy preventing such gear installation could drastically encourage less-experienced climbers to go off-trail and venture off into less designated wilderness use areas, and also could lead to more climbing accidents related to anchor failure. Please reconsider this policy change if you are interested in maintaining the safety of sport climbing and the preservation of these outdoor spaces to be used responsibly.