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Comments:

After more than 35 years immersed in the realm of climbing within our National Forests, my journey has forged an inseparable bond between my experiences and a deep love for, care of, and support for the national forests in our country. As a committed climber, my reliance on bolts, anchors, and other protective measures has been crucial in ensuring my safety.

Now, as discussions arise about restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands, I find it important to voice my concerns. This approach seems unenforceable and has the potential to create confusion among both land managers and fellow climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policies should strive to maintain opportunities for new anchors, allowing for flexibility unless thorough analyses determine that climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources. This ensures a balanced approach that considers the needs of climbers while responsibly safeguarding the environment.