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First name: Benjamin

Last name: Riley

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I started climbing when I was nine years old in my local gym. I quickly fell in love with the sport and asked my dad if he would find me a Boy Scout troop that went on climbing trips. I joined a troop with an adult leader, Andy Miller, who was the climbing director for our scouting region. I eventually became a Boy Scout certified climbing director and worked at two scout camps as their climbing tower director. Andy, my climbing mentor, was like a father to me growing up. He helped me on the journey to earning the Eagle Scout award, and even now, Andy is still one of my closest friends. Someone I never would have met if climbing access had been restricted in my area or the other climbing areas around the country we visited. Now as a 29 year old, I have a love and appreciation for the outdoors that began through rock climbing and the BSA. I implore you, do not limit safe access to these areas by restricting the use of bolts on public land. Please find my issues with the proposal below and thank you for your consideration.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.