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Organization:

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Comments: Hello USFS/NPS,

My name is Sam Deacon and I am a climber and guide living in New England. As someone who participates in climbing, on both USFS and NPS lands, for the love of it and for a living, I'd like to take this opportunity to share my thoughts.

The upcoming "Bolt Prohibition" proposal is genuinely scaring me. Fixed anchors are an essential part of any climbers safety system. They are necessary for climbing to remain reasonably safe and accessible to recreationalist and guides alike. Bolts and fixed anchors have not been prohibited as fixed installations throughout the history of climbing in this country and the community's judicious use of fixed has made the climbing throughout America as clean and engaging as it is!

They have also given Americans another amazing way to recreate in these beautiful areas. This new proposal will obstruct people's right to safely explore these wilderness areas, and will create a safety crisis in said areas.

"It is unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors across the country when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades."

Something along the lines of offering a course teaching people how to fix anchors safely, respectfully, and in a way that follows existing guidelines will be a much better solution to the "issue" of over bolting/misplaced anchors.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments!

Sam Deacon