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Comments: Please read the following reasons as to why the Bolt Prohibition would affect climbers worldwide.

This is taken from the Access Fund and I firmly stand by their reasonings as to why this would be a grave error.

Climbing has personally been a part of my life for years and the community it brings is one that I have never experienced previously. But beyond the community itself, the sport is a clear picture of freedom, adventure, and the ultimate respect for the natural world. It is inherently incredibly risky and taking away climbers abilities to make decisions how they deem fit will prevent people from being able to enjoy massive natural features in a safe and effective way. Please reconsider this proposal.

Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. Following existing climbing policies that allow judicious use of fixed anchors for more than a half century will do more to protect Wilderness character while providing for primitive and unconfined Wilderness climbing.

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.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, a responsibility undertaken by the climbing community. Critical safety decisions often must be made in the moment and any authorization process should not impede those decisions. Fixed anchor maintenance needs to be managed in a way that incentivizes safe anchor replacement and does not risk the removal of climbing routes.

Prohibiting fixed anchors obstructs appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas. Land managers need to allow climbers to explore Wilderness in a way that permits in-the-moment decisions that are necessary when navigating complex vertical terrain.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten America's rich climbing legacy and could erase some of the world's greatest climbing achievements. Climbing management policy needs to protect existing routes from removal.