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Title:

Comments: I am writing to strongly oppose the bolt prohibition. As a rock climber and outdoor enthusiast, as well as a public health professional, I know the impact that policy has on individual and societal wellbeing. What concerns me the most about this prohibition is that hundreds of thousands of climbers across the world use fixed protection to enable us to recreate safely, and as a community we maintain these fixed pieces of protection and replace them when deemed unsafe. With this bolt prohibition, this would limit our ability to participate in our sport safety and create a bottleneck of climbers using approved routes, further creating negative impact on the environment. Climbers engage in stewardship events, maintain trails, replace bolts, donate to climate initiatives, and are consummate advocates for our sport. This policy change would set us back in all the work we've done over decades to create a safe and sustainable way to enjoy and share the outdoors. I worry about my children being able to play outdoors the way I have been able to and I hope that climber and outdoor user group input can be considered.