Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 8:19:52 PM

First name: Tyler Last name: Gustafson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Climbing has been a huge part of my life and has made me into the person I am today. Climbing allows me and others to explore our vast wilderness and with bolted anchors, allows us to do this safely. Bolts make climbing areas safer, period. They allow for safe rappels, safe anchoring situations and safe exploration of mountainous areas. Prohibiting bolting, both new and old would pose a HUGE safety risk to climbers. We would be forced to climb to the top of walls/mountains and have potentially unsafe descents. Or be forced to natural anchor (trees or rocks) to rappel off routes would could potentially break or fail causing disaster. Fixed anchors and bolts are an essential piece of safety equipment for all climbers! Bolts provide protection in places that are otherwise unprotectable. I believe it unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors when we have been climbing on fixed gear for decades. This policy also destroys rich climbing history that has been engrained into the climbing culture for decades. But mostly this policy makes it unsafe for many people to climb outdoors, I believe this policy would result in serious injuries and casualties.