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First name: Benjamin Last name: Smedley Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USFS,

Please do not prohibit fixed anchors and bolts in America's Wilderness areas. Rock climbing is a part of the history and legacy of many of the National Parks this policy would affect the ability of many to safely rock climb in areas like Yosemite, Rocky Mountain, and Zion. I am a passionate rock climber, but a conservative and safe climber. Removing longstanding established routes of bolts would prevent me from enjoying these national parks in the way I love most and make it more dangerous for me to try and continue climbing.

Please understand that fixed anchors and bolts are an essential piece of a climber's safety system. Leaving these anchors in place eliminates the need to potentially deface other parts of nature to set up a temporary anchor. Alternates to fixed anchors are also less safe and harder to maintain. Creating new guidance policies that prohibit and remove climbing bolts after decades of allowing this is unreasonable.

I love climbing at National Parks. It is how I escape crowds and feel as though I am truly exploring America's wilderness, as opposed to milling about with large crowds of people as if I'm in an amusement park. Please choose to keep rock climbing safe and accessible. Don't erase this legacy of recreation from America's most beautiful land.