

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 10:30:06 PM

First name: Kenta

Last name: Nolin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hardware replacement should be able to be done without a lengthy review process, delays to changing dangerous bolts will put climbers lives at risk. This proposal adds unnecessary steps to a tested community directed process and does not benefit climbers and park goers. A ban on fixed anchors will just result in more temporary slings and rope being left behind to repel off of trees and damage the areas more. Instead of a blanket proposal that halts essential maintenance, I think the USFS and organizations like Access Fund should work together to address specific areas that need attention.

The USFS could organize a database on their website for area guidance, and make it available to local climbing organization so they can collaborate on a solution during trail days. This information would be valuable when a new route is created in an area to address trail creation to that route or when old bolts are replaced to consider how to reduce impact. An example of this type of database is badbolts.com where climbers report rusted and dangerous bolts and local climbing coalitions then use this information to replace the old bolts.

In conclusion, I believe the current proposal does more harm than good and a collaborative solution to address issues should take place by increasing informational resources to climbers that address USFS issues and concerns.