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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Bolts are an important part of climber safety. Bolts are essential to keep people safe when descending or ascending routes where protection is thin or non-existent.

Climbing has never been a more popular sport. Back in the day, people that climbed were experienced and if they were new, they knew where to go to learn. Now, with the influx of TikTok and YouTube, people are going to climb to new places for social media clicks not simply for the joy or challenge of the route or rock.

As more people go to more places, people need to spread out to new locations. If you do not allow those with experience to rebolt or place bolts for safety, you risk increasing the need for emergency services as people get themselves into dangerous situations for themselves and other people around them.

As with most decisions in life, hindsight is 20/20. Had these policies been in place years ago, then restrictions would be a pattern. Since the restrictions were not in place, changing patterns now would likely amount to life-threatening situations you would likely have to manage. I think allowing bolts and rebolting is the cheaper and safer alternative.

I have climbed many routes in the high alpine, in national parks, and around the world. Finding a bolt is often a welcome respite, especially in places that can lead to a death fall. Often it is the easiest routes that lack the best protection.

As my children go out to climb, I would hate to have them injured by the lack of foresight of our national organizations. I am not a fan of copious bolting. I am a fan of bolting for safety and in a way that does not disturb or mar the landscape. Please allow bolting and rebolting.