Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 3:49:03 PM First name: William Last name: Brammer Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a climber and outdoor enthusiast, I believe a complete ban on bolting in climbing areas will lead to less safe conditions, serve to detract climbers from areas, and in general be a disservice to outdoor enthusiasts, particularly climbers. Instead I encourage the USFS to work with climbing groups to ensure that bolts are properly installed, the unsafe bolts are removed, and to promote access to climbers while encouraging a leave no trace ethos. Borrowing from the manner in which local organizations work with the USFS, such as the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, to build maintain trails, especially the Appalachian Trail. With respect to climbing areas, I encourage the coordination and cooperation with like groups such as the mountaineering section to PATC, the Friends of Josh (Joshua Tree), the Southern California Climbing Club, and the like, to ensure that bolts are property and ethically installed and that unsafe bolts are removed, perhaps with a coordinated inspection plan carried out in conjunction with the various climbing groups.