Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 4:57:25 PM First name: M Last name: Bayles Organization: Title:

Comments: Changing and modifying well-established bolting ethics will permanently change climbing in the United States. It will limit public enjoyment of the land as well as vertical exploration. It will also create safety issues and increase the number of rescue calls, putting a strain on public safety resources. Fixed anchors are an essential part of safety equipment for climbers, not a frivolous "installation." They help protect rock and natural resources from wear and destruction by use of temporary anchor systems, and protect climbers and observers from unnecessary risk. Unfortunately, the proposed changes will limit climbers' abilities to maintain and check for safety on already established routes, and will lead to more accidents, injuries, and deaths. It's also entirely unenforceable.