

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 6:06:54 PM

First name: David

Last name: Blaszk

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Stop the bolting Prohibition!

Fixed anchors are essential to the wellbeing and safety of climbers. Prohibiting installations of them will lead to climbers progressively getting hurt or dying from old faulty anchors.

Climbers have poured money, livelihoods, and lifespans in putting up previous climbing anchors that the federal agencies have allowed for decades. Suddenly changing this and prohibiting wilderness climbing anchors is unreasonable.

Climbers relying on non-anchor systems increase the risk of their descent by a large amount. As climbing becomes a more popular sport, more and more climbers will find themselves in dangerous or deadly situations.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will disintegrate the American exploration of Wilderness areas.

America's rich history of climbing is at stake here and meanwhile European, Asian, and Latin American climbers will blossom in their pursuits.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.