Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 7:10:53 PM

First name: Evan Last name: Hiett Organization:

Title:

Comments: Climbing is my favorite activity, and a bolt ban would directly impact the safety and availability of my sport. Climbing has helped me to stay strong and confident in times of being afraid, and how to manage stress. It has taken me to a lot of really cool unexpected, beautiful places and my love for the outdoors has grown immensely. The bolts make my sport safe, by providing safe retreat or safety on the exposed sections. They are a crucial element of climbing and I can't imagine the sport without them. I can only think of repeated disaster scenarios if those safety points were removed. We trust guidebooks to know where these are, and how long the rappel is. If bolts were removed, there would now be questions, and extra variables making the sport more dangerous and possibly deadly. The fixed anchors and bolting of routes protect climbers and make things accessible, and safe for all. Maybe we can restrict who can place bolts or allocate a committee to judge when to add more bolts to make new routes. But an all-out ban would be met with recoil make things entirely inaccessible, and end up in chaos