

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 7:10:58 PM

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Organization:

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Comments: I am a climber and outdoor recreation enthusiast. I love being outdoors and rock climbing, however I also am saddened and disheartened by the continued rampant use of fixed hardware in the outdoors.

I believe that current anchors and bolts should be allowed, and maintained for safety reasons, however, I also believe that new fixed hardware should be prohibited.

The simple fact of the matter is that bolting is permanently damaging the rock. It is not leave no trace, by any means. Who are we to permanently damage pristine cliffs for eternity? .

The climbing community needs a reckoning. We need to come to terms with the fact that unimpeded bolting is unsustainable, and we need a paradigm shift in our thinking that prioritizes fostering a mindset of leave no trace and sustainability rather than instant gratification for athletic pursuits.

I do believe that people maintaining existing bolts is crucial in national parks and wilderness area for safety and rescue, but new bolts must not be allowed. As a rock climber I have always dreamed of ascending El Capitan, however as I have gotten older and continued to see the damage from humans left in nature all around me, it breaks my heart to know that el cap is permanently scarred with hundreds and hundreds of metal fixtures.

Please help usher in a new era of clean, sustainable and ethical climbing culture.

Thank you.

Rowan Chevalier

Alaska.