Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 7:23:46 PM First name: Koury Last name: Romero Organization:

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Comments: Hello, my name is Koury Romero. I have been a rock climber residing in Southern California for about 15 years. Rock climbing quickly became everything in my life. I started climbing on Mount Rubidoux in Riverside California, and then started adventuring into the beautiful Joshua Tree National Park. Being a climber for 15 years, i can definitely understand the preservation of the wilderness in the United States, or for any country to be quite honest. The Forest service and National Park Service definitely do an amazing job working to protect these lands. Rock climbing has also led me to attending and hosting wilderness clean up projects to give an extra hand to the service and protect these public lands we love so much. Rock climbers are definitely not enemies to the USFS and NPS. We too really try to help preserve the United States wilderness areas and keep them clean and open. Those that are coming before new climbers entering this beautiful world, try to pass on education and etiquette to keeping the wilderness safe and clean. The bolts we place in the rock faces to climb and adventure are one of the few ways climbers interact and bring life to the rocks. We are the adventurers that utilize the rock faces and there is a long, rich American history of climbing in the United States. One of the things citizens think about when they enter the wilderness is "The American Rock Climber." I believe removing these bolts and not allowing the maintenance of these bolts is going to create a huge blow to the American ro k climbing community, the adventuring community. Adventuring is what this country was built on. These bolts provide climbers with safety as well as ways to climb on these walls and remove trash that people leave in places people can not reach. One example you can look at is the Yosemite Face Lift project that uses these bolts to help remove trash that has blown into walls and cracks that uneducated people have left behind on their caming or hiking trips. Please take our voices in consideration when coming to a conclusion to the bolt prohibition decision. Let us interact with these rock formations in the wilderness so that we can explore and help keep these places preserved.