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Comments: Hello,

I'm reaching out to share my input and thoughts on a topic that's very important to me: climbing. When many people think of climbing they think the sport is dangerous. I'd disagree ... That the majority of climbers and climbing advocate groups value safety as one of it's highest priorities. Leave no trace, minimizing human impact and appropriately caring for and sharing the land are also valued aspects that the majority of climbers adhere by and want to support.

To keep climbing a safe sport (and truly, to keep more climbers alive), the safety hardware installed and replaced on the rock are essential. Most accidents happen on the way down from climbs, so it's very very important for the anchors and bolts to be safe, intact and replaced when worn. 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.

I love getting to climb outdoors to feel adventurous AND safe. A climber shouldn't have to choose: adventure OR safety. We need to partner together on this topic and feel understood on why bolting and replacing bolts and anchors is 100% a need for our community - not a want.