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Comments: I want to begin by thanking the US Forest Service for your work protecting our country's wilderness spaces and forests. I am deeply grateful for your work.

As a father and avid climber, I spend a lot of time in America's wilderness spaces and National Parks. I am writing because some of the policies currently being considered would be quite detrimental for climbers and the future of our sport. I worry that some of these policies would overturn nearly 60 years of sustainable Wilderness climbing precedent and impact some of America's most iconic climbs.

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.

As a climber, I think about the future of climbing in America and hope my children will be able to experience the same legacy that I have - safely climbing in many of our beautiful parks and wilderness areas.

Sincerely,

Travis B. Curtice, PhD

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