Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 11:05:16 PM First name: Jake Last name: Dalton Organization:

## Title:

Comments: A priority of the utmost importance is preserving wilderness, but a priority of equal importance is recreation safety. These bolted areas provide necessary safety measure for those recreating there, and the loss of that safety mechanism might inadvertently promote unsafe climbing. There is no question that existing bolts and instalations should be allowed to remain and used by climbers. It is also necessary that if those bolts or protection are deemed unsafe, they should be allowed to be replaced so that climbers can continue to climb safely. Bolts that have already been drilled have created an alteration in the rock and there is no way to undo that, so they might as well be serviced in the name of safety. As for climbing recreation causing a disturbance or "not preserving the natural quality", this argument could be created for any type of recreation. Walking through a serene forest is just as much of a disturbance as enjoying the beauty of vertical nature. Those who seek to enjoy the serenity of nature should be given an avenue to do so, not discouraged. The adverse effects of a bold prohibition could result in many not recreating in an area. It should be the mission of land managers to encourage safe recreation first and foremost.