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Title:

Comments: I'm a climber, and I don't think that the USFS should restrict new climbing routes to "existing climbing opportunities". I am a target shooter as well, and although target shooting is restricted in some areas, for safety and noise, it is not subject to the same scrutiny. Climbing obviously does not have the same safety concerns, and there is much less of a risk of "leaving a trace" when adding bolts to a climb, than allowing target shooting in national forests. Guns frequently leave brass, they leave lead and heavy metals in the bullets, and they're known to kill trees. Bolts can't be misplaced, they can be easily removed, they don't leave heavy metals, and they don't kill any living things.

Bolts are added for safety, and for recreation. Bolts are very very hard to see, especially if painted, and will only do superficial damage to rock. If bolts are removed and filled, the previous holes are completely unnoticeable.

This comes from my experience as a rock climber for ten years (I've created my own climbing routes using bolts), firearm owner and target shooter, and I absolutely disagree with any government management of rock climbing.