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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Ashley Swazey, and I am writing to you today to voice my opposition to the proposal to prohibit fixed anchors including bolts, pitons, etc.

To begin, these safety tools are effectively used to decrease the risk of death and injury for those that choose to enjoy the outdoors recreationally by climbing. Similarly to hiking, there are trails that pose safety risks that require the installation of cables, ropes, rails, etc. that increase our access to nature and safety in doing so. By prohibiting or removing these safety features, you are essentially posing a threat to many people who love and enjoy these natural areas the most.

The safety of the climbing community is threatened by these proposals to prohibit and even remove existing fixed anchors. It is not fair or just to continue forward with this, alienating a foundational group of individuals who passionately support the preservation and expansion of protection for natural areas in the country.

I urge you to drop efforts toward these proposals to remove anchors and instead focus efforts on protecting natural sites from true threats such as destruction from mining, environmental damage from industrial dumping, and various other major issues that actually pose a threat to the vitality of our national parks in a meaningful way.