

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 12:17:06 AM

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Comments: I have had the privilege of climbing in a number of our national parks and monuments. I'm writing to comment on the proposed changes to the bolting and fixed anchor policy on public lands.

As a climber, I believe that the current system of self-policing by the climbing community, in close partnership between land managers, is the best balance between the needs of our user group and the need for land managers to protect the wilderness and environment.

Changes to the current status quo will have a number of negative impacts:

- Prohibiting fixed anchors will prevent maintenance of critical safety anchors
- Fixed anchors are important to ensuring access to routes used by a majority of the climbing public
- Creating an onerous policy will increase the burden of managing these routes

The current policy of banning motorized drilling in wilderness areas is working reasonably well; climbers by and large obey this policy and hand-drilling provides for a natural bulwark against excessive or unnecessary bolting.

Sincerely,

Vincent Chu

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