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First name: Jason

Last name: Van De Velde

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am writing to exclaim my adamant opposition to these new guidelines. I am sure you will hear from many people on the matter, with similar leanings, but I would like to make my argument in three main parts: safety, access, and history. Removing fixed anchors along with preventing new ones will needlessly put many climbers in positions they have never had to face before, thus causing unnecessary safety hazards. Yes, it is our responsibility as climbers to make decisions with regard to our own safety, but this removes a crucial failsafe which has stood for decades. Moreover, prohibition would make access to many of our greatest natural wonders very difficult, if not, impossible for 99% of folks. I do not think this is a step in the right direction for our public lands. Finally, the aspect of history and precedent. The climbing culture in America and on her public lands is the most infamous in the world, and has been built over decades of conservation, cooperation, and adventure. I implore you to rework these guidelines and work with the community to continue to conserve and protect our lands, without excluding participation.