Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 2:56:10 AM
First name: Paige
Last name: Borges
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Amid increasing usage of wilderness climbing routes, prohibiting service and installation of pitons, bolts, slings, and other fixed hardware would create a worsening public safety issue.

Aging hardware makes climbing routes and descents less safe, which causes more accidents. This would increase demand on already overworked volunteer Search and Rescue (SAR) organizations.

The language in the new directives does not clarify whether volunteer SAR members would be permitted to place and determine the location of emergency rescue bolts.

Bolts and fixed rappel stations prevent resource degradation in fragile alpine environments.

Proposed directive FSM 2355 will encourage the creation of dangerous new routes.

FSM 2355 has no plan to support increased staffing to document all existing hardware and enforce these regulations.

Many routes require rappelling in some form.