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First name: Samuel

Last name: Novey

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Samuel Tagger Novey, I am the Salt Lake City Chapter Chair of the American Alpine Club. While I stand by the statements of the Club and the Access Fund, I'll spare you my reiterations of the party line. Just my thoughts personally: a removal of fixed anchors and a ban on bolts is purely an aggression against climbing. In the countless days I've spent in National Forests and Wilderness areas, including: Uinta/Wasatch Cache, Ansel Adams, Lassen, Humbolt/Toyabe, Lone Peak, Mount Olympus, the greater Yellowstone ecosystem... etc; whether climbing or hiking, I've never once been inconvenienced or offended by the presence of a bolt or a fixed anchor. Rarely if ever, does a non-climber see a bolt from afar, and they're not especially intrusive when they are spotted. More often than not, when climbing, I find myself searching and wishing I could see the next bolt on a route. So, I think the idea that bolts are an eyesore is a moot point.

What it boils down to, is whether or not we want people climbing in a given area, and if so, what is the appropriateness of establishing new routes, placing new bolts, etc... I think it's a worthy topic for discussion. I just don't think that this legislation adequately addresses the concerns, and it feels more like a vindictive action against the climbing community and climbing at large. In doing so, it betrays a rich history of both exploration and advocacy, as climbers are typically some of the greatest champions and stewards of wilderness.

Thank you for your time, please feel free to reach out to me for any further comment or correspondence.

Samuel T Novey

SLC AAC