Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 3:20:40 AM First name: Michael Last name: Sulock Organization: Title: Comments: To whom it may concern,

The ability for free access to install climbing anchors and replace existing ones not only will save lives, but will help allow recreational use of public lands in a manner that is what makes America the greatest country in the world.

Individuals need ready access to install and replace climbing anchors to help battle the wear and tear of mother nature and ensure the sport of rock climbing is safe and available for current and future climbers. The Bitterroot is vast and offers many recreational opportunities for all, given the right governmental policies to protect the land and it's people. Climbing has a minimal impact as it is a non-motorized activity that generally exists in harmony with the existing landscape and wildlife.

Access to public lands is a fundamental right of Americans, and Montana has one of the greatest sources of opportunities for this in the lower 48 states. Montana residents take pride in their state's vast beauty, and recreational climbing is a unique opportunity for adventure and outdoor exploration. It is part of our culture and installing and replacing anchors are necessary for the existence of the sport.

Please consider the minimal impact of allowing bolting in the wilderness and the good created by enhancing opportunities for climbing recreation in the great state of Montana.

Thank you for your service. -Michael Sulock Teacher, University of Montana