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First name: Eddie

Last name: Anon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I've spent years in the outdoors across the country and abroad. My homeland of the United States stands above other countries in its historic protection of our beautiful and wild landscapes, and has bolstered the rugged spirit of exploration that our country stands on. This ties with our careful protection and preservation of the wild and awesome spaces we are privileged to have in our backyard. We hold these spaces dearly and to lose them or their wild and untouched character would be to lose a core part of our identity and grit. As a climber, I've walked alongside countless people as they explore the outdoors and understand how we impact these spaces, and why we must preserve them for the future. I encourage us to keep looking for ways to allow our people into these spaces to enjoy and recreate, while supporting their protection and preventing irreparable scars on the land that come from extractive industrial practices. This legislation is a trend in the right direction. I encourage my fellow Americans to stand bravely and proudly for what this land is and what it means to us. Climbers are stewards of the environment, and we strive to be thoughtful and conscientious in the spaces we call home. Please continue to work with the organizations like the Access Fund to understand and protect our lands.