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First name: Ethan

Last name: Lott

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fixed Anchors are Critical Tools for Climbing

March 3, 2020

Dear Beth Rumpza,

Rock climbing is an appropriate recreational activity on Forest Service lands. If Tonto National Forest recommends moving forward with the Resolution Copper mine project, as part of its EIS, the loss of the Queen Creek and Oak Flat climbing areas will put significant strain on the rest of the forest, especially the Superstition Wilderness, as the large Phoenix rock climbing community seeks out replacement climbing opportunities. Climbers have been using fixed anchors for decades to access Wilderness areas like the Superstition Wilderness. These existing fixed anchors provide exceptional recreation experiences. Unless the draft plan specifically addresses existing fixed anchors and the need for continued maintenance, it will dramatically restrict recreational access to our public lands.

Sincerely,