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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a climber of over 50 years who currently climbs multiple times weekly on national forest service lands. I am responding to your proposed climbing opportunities section of the NFS management plan specifically the fixed anchor section.

Fixed anchors have been utilized on USFS lands since at least the 1930s. They are a standard form of protection providing safety for many routes. Many routes and peaks require fixed anchors to get down or retreat. Disallowing fixed anchors would markedly curtail the long established tradition of climbing on NSF lands and make it significantly more dangerous. Fixed anchors have never been considered "installations" in the past either in USFS management plans or in Wilderness areas. The general public never sees fixed anchors, the only people who do are the climbers who use them. I see no reason to change the use of fixed anchors except in areas with specific documented problems.

The use of fixed anchors should be generally allowed and only restricted or have a permit system for placement/replacement in areas where there is a documented problem.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ken