Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/23/2023 7:06:33 PM First name: Rone Last name: Taylor Organization:

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Comments: The proposed "red tape" for fixed climbing anchors - new and existing - is in itself a massive barrier to outdoor recreation on public land in my preferred medium of rock climbing. As a Texas resident, I have to travel far to enjoy the wilderness climbing trips. Knowing NFS land is always available to me makes recreation approachable despite the large time investment for travel. NFS absolutely does not need any type of permits for recreating. Installing new routes via fixed bolts is understandable in requiring review and approval, but this requires timely manpower that the NFS may not have the resources for. Additionally, existing fixed bolts should be grandfathered in as accepted - it would be impossible for NFS to review every climbing fixture, and that process would only serve to penalize citizens enjoying their public land. Lastly, the NFS needs to clearly define the differences between fixed bolts (a bolt with loop) and fixed hardware (this could include permanent QuickDraws fastened to said bolt with loop). Fixed hardware is not a necessity, it is a convenience, and it does, in truth, take away from the wilderness character. However, as a veteran climber, I can vouch for the fact that fixed bolts can be fickle to locate even with a trained eye searching for them intentionally. Fixed bolts do not take away from the wilderness character. Thank you.