Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/27/2023 12:23:01 AM

First name: Paul Last name: Gagner Organization:

Title:

Comments: How many times does he topic of fixed anchors in wilderness need to get resolved, and then come up again. As a formers NFS recreation ranger and NPS ranger I'm appalled at having to defend fixed anchors in wilderness, again.

- 1). Fixed anchors in wilderness have historical precedence
- 2). Fixed anchors are no more of an "installation" than hiking trails and directional signage. If fixed anchors are banned then hiking trails and signage should also be banned in wilderness
- 3). Fixed anchors are critical to climber safety
- 4). Statements about protecting the resource from carved out foodholds/handholds just shows ignorance on the writers part. If climbers do one thing well it is self-policing.
- 5). Climbers are excellent conservationists and stewards. If you look at how climbers consistently help land managers keep areas clean from the Yosemite Facelift, to Access Fund and American Alpine Club events, no other group does more to protect the resource.
- 6). The idea that hugely under-resourced land managers would have the time and resources to review this policy in each area is laughable. Give me a break.

Please review all of the comments you will receive and realize that this is a terrible, and unworkable idea that doesn't solve any issues, other than to make climbing less safe.