Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/28/2023 3:26:51 PM First name: Stuart Last name: Rudolph Organization: Title: Comments: I am a 50+ year user or Wilderness Areas and wild lands in National Parks and National Forests, mostly through hiking, backpacking, mountaineering, and climbing, yet also via rafting and horseback riding,

I find the proposal both unnecessary and exhibiting regulatory overreach.

The use of pitons and fixed anchors to facilitate safer climbing pre-dates the 1964 Wilderness Act, in the same way horseback riding and use of non-motorized watercraft is considered a traditional use.

Climbers are better self-regulators for the use of safety anchors than park managers and regulators who may have limited insight or understanding of said systems and the need, in some places, for anchors to remain fixed.

We allow fixed signs at trail junctions out of traditional safety concerns.

I do not support this proposal and the language which specifically singles out and discriminates against fixed anchor climbing in public wild lands.