Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/7/2023 3:01:11 AM First name: Russell Last name: Pasley Organization: Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern, I ask that you reconsider banning the use of fixed anchors and fixed gear in wilderness areas. Climbing has roots that date back over 100 years in this country and is one of the activities that fall under the mixed use philosophy of the Forest Service.

Some of this nations fiercest advocates and guardians of wilderness areas have been and are climbers. The use of this gear is only for safety purposes. If this ban is enacted it will negatively effect the act of and the culture of climbing.

I ask again to please reconsider the proposed banning of fixed anchors and fixed gear in wilderness areas.

Thank you for your time,

**Russell Pasley**