Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/19/2023 2:03:07 AM

First name: Dean Last name: Hill Organization:

Title:

Comments: I recently learned the National Park Service (NPS) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) released draft policies that would make fixed anchors (bolts, pitons, slings) prohibited in America's Wilderness areas. As an avid rock climber, I would like you to consider alternatives to an outright ban.

I feel that restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" will not be enforceable. This will also create confusion amongst land managers and climbers.

Climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until scientific analyses determines climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.

Please reconsider the options. Thank you.