Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/27/2023 4:37:06 PM

First name: Tom
Last name: Rangitsch

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my concerns as a climber and community member in regards to the proposed Climbing Opportunities management plan under review by the USFS. There are numerous problems with the plan as it is written. First, climbing anchors are integral to the safe practice of climbing. Banning them will not keep climbers out of the forest, it will only increase the number and severity of accidents. Anchors have been permitted for years, why ban them now? It would be akin to banning horses on trails in the forest. The rules are also not enforceable. The USFS already has too much on its plate, why burden the Service with more enforcement and regulation? Please do not pass this plan in its current form.

Respectfully,

Tom Rangitsch, MD