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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my disappointment in the proposed directive. This directive unnecessarily limits climbing in wilderness areas by making the process for establishing a new route and/or updating old anchors on existing routes prohibitively difficult. The difficulty with establishing new routes will limit the exploration that climbers can do, and will also not allow for new routes (which are needed due to the growing population of climbers). The difficulty with updating existing anchors will lead to unsafe conditions on routes that have been climbed for decades.

Climbing is an activity that has historically been accepted in wilderness areas. In fact, people have been climbing in the US since long before the Wilderness Act was passed.

I hope that the Forest Service can work with climbing organizations (such as the Access Fund) to create a directive that allows for continued, safe climbing in wilderness areas.

Thank you,

Andrew