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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment about this proposed legislation. As a wilderness steward and advocate I support the judicious use of fixed anchors for climbing. This has been a critical element of climbing that has allowed increased safety and in many cases reduces environmental impact by reducing the need to walk through sensitive areas. The Minimum Requirement Analysis process will create an undue burden on USFS staff and climbers seeking to preserve and protect these areas. Please reconsider these proposed regulations and allow the climbing community to continue to use it's judgement and guidance provided by local climbing organizations. This practice has been successful and is based on a strong ethic of preservation and conservation. We value these lands and places greatly and we are committed to making sure future users can have safe and enjoyable experiences. Organizations such as the Access Fund, The American Alpine Club, and the American Mountain Guides Association represent thousands of climbers and are fantastic sources for guidance on the use of fixed anchors. I urge you to consult with them and follow their recommendations.

Best regards,

Adrian Hurst MA/ SSP

American Mountain Guides Association

Apprentice Rock Guide

American Alpine Club

Southern Appalachian Section Chair