

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/5/2024 4:35:16 AM

First name: Nick

Last name: Benoit

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'm writing to oppose a ban of fixed anchors in wilderness areas.

Fixed anchors contribute to the conservation of wilderness climbing areas and allow people to connect with these special and wild landscapes. Fixed anchors like bolts and pitons have been tools that allow people to explore wild places dating to before the Wilderness act was enacted.

Fixed anchors help distribute the impact and reduce the need for littering the landscape with left behind slings, preserving the natural integrity of the environment. This aligns with the principles of Leave No Trace ethics, fostering a sustainable approach to climbing that minimizes human impact on the wilderness. Ultimately, the strategic use of fixed anchors in wilderness climbing ensures a delicate balance between the pursuit of adventure and the responsibility of environmental stewardship, allowing climbers to enjoy the beauty of untamed landscapes while safeguarding their future accessibility.