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First name: Kirtis

Last name: Courkamp

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my continued concern about potential restrictions on fixed anchors for climbing, specifically in non-Wilderness areas. While understanding the need for conservation, I believe that restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands may lead to confusion among land managers and climbers.

This approach appears to be unenforceable and lacks clarity, potentially causing challenges in the effective management of climbing areas. Non-Wilderness climbing management policies should preserve opportunities for new anchors unless thorough analyses determine that climbing poses a significant risk to cultural and natural resources, warranting restriction.

Maintaining a flexible approach that allows for the establishment of new routes until comprehensive analyses are conducted ensures a fair balance between conservation goals and the recreational value of climbing. This approach also minimizes potential conflicts and uncertainties among land managers and the climbing community.

I urge the National Forest Service to consider a policy that allows for thoughtful analyses before imposing restrictions on climbing activities. This approach would better align with the dynamic nature of climbing and the need to protect both cultural and natural resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I hope for a balanced and informed decision that considers the interests of both conservation and the climbing community.

Sincerely,

Kirtis Courkamp