Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/5/2024 5:59:45 PM

First name: Alexander Last name: Cuadros

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The proposal to limit fixed anchors for climbing in wilderness areas overlooks the vital role they play in climbers' safety systems. Existing climbing policies, allowing judicious use, have safeguarded wilderness character for over half a century. Prohibiting fixed anchors nationwide may hinder safety for recreational climbers and rescue personnel alike, as well as impeding maintenance of existing routes, and jeopardizing America's rich climbing legacy. Limiting new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands will also inevitably generate confusion among land managers and climbers. Many of my most treasured outdoor memories could not have taken place safely without the existence of discreet fixed anchors.