Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/5/2024 6:14:14 PM First name: Katie Last name: Harvey Organization:

Title:

Comments: Prohibiting fixed anchors will obstruct appropriate, joyful exploration and use of wilderness lands! Prohibition of fixed anchors will also create safety issues by blocking regular maintenance of fixed anchors by the climbing community. This regular maintenance has been going on for decades and allowed safe climbing in many beautiful areas. Please, please do not destroy this! Existing policies allowing reasonable use of fixed anchors have preserved wilderness areas; blocking such use will lead to dangerous, unregulated climbing activity that will likely result in more destruction to wilderness. Additionally, restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable. New routes should be allowed unless specifically prohibited due to protection of cultural and natural resources.

Please do NOT ban ALL fixed anchors! Instead, support local climbing communities as they regularly maintain fixed anchors, maintain trail infrastructure, close climbing areas periodically for animal nesting reasons, ban people who mistreat wilderness areas, etc.