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Comments:

To Whom it May Concern:

I am alarmed to hear that the USFS and NPS are considering a proposal to prohibit fixed anchors. Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and have been allowed for decades. Prohibiting fixed anchors is unreasonable and dangerous. It will create safety issues and obstruct appropriate exploration of wilderness. It would be better to work with an organization the Access Fund to create policies that promote safe climbing and honor the legacy of the sport.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.