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First name: Thomas

Last name: Chandler

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

My name is Tommy Chandler and I live in Salt Lake City, Utah with my wife and two kids. I've been a rock climber and outdoor enthusiast for 30+ years. I was first exposed to climbing and outdoor activities and the rich American history of wilderness climbing and exploration through a climbing and outdoor leadership course at Brevard College in Western North Carolina. My eyes were opened wide when I found climbing and the experiences available in the outdoors. While in college my climbing experience grew alongside my studies and many of the confidence and leadership skills I learned from climbing have been applied to my personal life and career. I've lived and traveled in the western US since 1996 and I've seen and spent time in so many of the amazing places this country has to offer, largely in backcountry or wilderness settings. Traveling in, exploring and climbing in wilderness areas is an integral part of the American experience, and is an antidote to the mechanized and concrete world of urban society. Whether it's climbing, backpacking, skiing, running rivers, or hunting and fishing, we visit and experience the natural world on its own terms and with a sense of adventure that is increasingly drained from our civilized existence.

With great respect for the work being done by your agency, I would like to humbly request you to please respect the rich history and experience of American rock climbing and exploration. It is essential that policies for the management of fixed anchors be improved to designate a clear and enforceable solution that eliminates confusion among land managers and climbers, and allows for the establishment and maintenance of existing and new routes on all public lands, with exceptions for protecting cultural and natural resources.

Best Regards,

Tommy Chandler