Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2024 9:31:40 PM First name: R Last name: Whaley Organization: Title:

Comments: Writing to express my concern regarding any policy change that would prohibit fix anchors in wilderness areas. I am speaking as a climber who has depended upon fixed anchors from the mid-80s on. A probation would impact all climbers safety. Beyond properly protecting routes, there is the need to have the ability to replace existing anchors if they reached their lifespan. Fix anchors have been in use for decades enabling climbers to climb in some of this country's most spectacular areas.