Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2024 11:28:09 PM First name: Anne Last name: Flesher Organization: Title:

Comments: Prohibiting the use of fixed anchors, even for replacing existing ones, will essentially eliminate the possibility of engaging in rock climbing and mountaineering on a majority of public lands in the United States. Fixed anchors play a crucial role in navigating vertical terrains, and the refusal to permit their replacement poses hazardous situations for climbers and mountaineers. This jeopardizes the rich legacy of climbing and mountaineering celebrated by the National Park Service (NPS) and contradicts almost five decades of interpretations of the Wilderness Act