

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/10/2024 7:10:19 PM

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Comments: The restriction on adding new fixed anchors and/or the ability to maintain existing anchors has been debated often in the history of human powered travel through public lands and specifically rock and ice climbing. As a skier and climber on public lands, please consider the following:

Most fixed anchors and hardware:

- a) go unnoticed by the general public
- b) do little or no damage to the physical environment
- c) do little to disrupt animal habitat and behaviors
- d) increases safety potentially limiting accidents and rescues
- e) provide a direction for ascent/descent potentially limiting damage to surrounding landscape
- f) the cost of locating climbers who use known routes is lower than that of finding lost hikers
- g) as a whole, skiing, rock and ice climbing on public lands increases the potential for economic benefits to local communities with little or less destruction to the environment than horseback and more mechanical modes of travel on public lands.

Regards