

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/10/2024 10:53:45 PM

First name: John

Last name: Hagadorn

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it Concerns,

I am writing to express my strong disapproval of a draft policy that would make fixed anchors (bolts, pitons, slings) prohibited in America's Wilderness areas. The use of fixed anchors is essential for the safe practice of outdoor sport climbing. Over the last few decades the sport has greatly grown in popularity. This growth is partially due to the use of fixed bolts and anchors, which generally reduce the risk of ground falls that would otherwise result in severe injury or death. The current policies have allowed for the installation and replacement (repair) of fixed anchors in Wilderness Areas for decades. Changing the policy to prohibit the use of fixed anchors would have serious negative consequences, both to climbers and to a wonderful sport that has a strong tradition in the US.

Thanks for your consideration.

John Hagadorn

Houston, TX

Jan 10, 2024