

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2024 9:45:32 PM

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Comments: As a born and raised Utahn and recreational climber, it is so important to me to make sure bolts are not banned from wilderness areas. Climbing is one of the most incredible ways to enjoy these beautiful protected areas.

Fixed anchors are one of *the most* important safety protocols we have; not allowing them would likely end in higher amounts of injuries/deaths/accidents, and place an even greater burden on the NPS and National Forest Service systems.

Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. Following existing climbing policies that allow judicious use of fixed anchors for more than a half century will do more to protect Wilderness character while providing for primitive and unconfined Wilderness climbing.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, a responsibility undertaken by the climbing community. Critical safety decisions often must be made in the moment and any authorization process should not impede those decisions. Fixed anchor maintenance needs to be managed in a way that incentivizes safe anchor replacement and does not risk the removal of climbing routes.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten America's rich climbing legacy and could erase some of the world's greatest climbing achievements. Climbing management policy needs to protect existing routes from removal.

In addition, Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.

Thanks so much.

Respectfully,

Emily Boman