

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/13/2024 2:26:31 AM

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Organization:

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Comments: Hello,

I am writing to you about the recent draft proposal regarding fixed anchors in America's Wilderness areas. I am an avid climber, and though I do not have climbing relevant wilderness areas nearby I often travel or would like to travel to these places. The climbing community as a whole has a vested interest in sustaining the outdoors for themselves and for generations to come. We are willing to discuss these issues and will work hard to find a common ground. There is always going to be a push-and-pull regarding access and resources and climbers are willing to be a part of discussions to find a reasonable solution that fits all parties interest. A blanket prohibition on fixed anchors does not serve any of these parties well as it will greatly increase the safety risk to recreators in these areas. Existing routes are already in place and need regular maintenance to ensure their safety. Future routes should duly be considered for sustainability, but should be allowed where minimal impact is found. Prohibiting fixed anchors will not prevent users from attempting climbs in these locations but will make accidents much more common and greatly increase the severity of those accidents. Please take this into consideration and work with the community to come up with a sustainable solution that will work for all parties.

Thank you,

-Dave