

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/13/2024 8:31:24 PM

First name: Bryan

Last name: Eastes

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Neglecting replacement of bad bolts (which seems a likely consequence of this proposal) will result in deaths.

Additionally, the focus on fixed anchors as items the damage the aesthetics of a natural area is deeply flawed, as the largest impact comes from parking, trails, and crowding, which is common across all means of outdoor recreation. More and more folks are finding solace and fulfillment in the outdoors across a wide range of activities. Fixed anchors are a very small portion of this impact. NPS's responsibility to enable safe access to the outdoors is jeopardized by this proposal.

As a climber, I want to ensure the safe and responsible use of fixed anchors in Washington's national parks and forests remains available to the climbing community. I respect and advocate for the responsible use of Wilderness areas and believe that fixed anchors can be a component of a sustainable Wilderness experience. Please revise your climbing guidance to reflect the practice and precedent of the last 60+ years-that fixed anchors for climbing can be used, replaced, and maintained in designated forest/national park areas areas.