

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/13/2024 8:33:06 PM

First name: Scott

Last name: McIntosh

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Jan 13, 2024

Dear US National Park Service,

I have been a climber for the last 30 years. I am invested in both climbing and preserving the beauty of the natural world. The new policies that are being developed regarding fixed anchors in America's wilderness lands is concerning. The propositions require careful judgement and consideration from all aspects.

Climbers are some of the best stewards for the wilderness. Fixed climbing anchors are well established devices used to protect climbers both during ascent and descent (eg, rappelling). They have been used for half a century or more. They are not prohibited installations under the Wilderness Act. Prohibiting fixed anchors or removing already existing anchors will create serious safety issues to climbers and to the rescue teams dispatched in an emergency.

I support the Access Fund and other thoughtful climbers, and the National Park Service, and believe we can arrive at a reasonable agreement.