

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/15/2024 2:47:52 PM

First name: Joachim

Last name: Meyer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear NFS,

I am writing you to strongly encourage you to revise the presented management of fixed anchors and fixed equipment in the wilderness. Introducing the requirement of a Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) for each climbing area will increase the danger for climbers, increase the environmental impact, and introduce unnecessary overhead to your agency. Over the past decades, the climbing community has stepped up its best practices and ensured ethical management and placement of the fixed gear. This increased the safety for the climbing community and reduced the impact to the climbing area. Through the fixed anchors, the impact on the rock has been reduced and the fixed stations removed the need to establish social trails and use vegetation for rappelling. Removing the years of progress through this new directive will create more environmental impact while also creating administrative overhead for the NFS to manage/process all MRAs. Please allow the continued use of fixed gear while working with the community on best practices.

Thank you.