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First name: Clay Last name: Watson Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please do not create a new ban on climbing anchors in the wilderness. We have decades of precedent in which climbers have relied on safe anchors in order to access climbing in wilderness areas. This is especially true for areas in which the wilderness has direct interface to urban areas. Salt Lake City has many areas of wilderness that are within 300' of the road, including many of the most accessible and prominent cliffs.

Using fixed anchors all safe exploration of the Wilderness. What's the point of having wild places if we don't engage with them! I SINCERELY HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER THE INCREDIBLE EXPENSE AND CONFUSION CREATED BY A FIXED ANCHOR BAN ON NEW ROUTES ON FOREST SERVICE LAND AND ESPECIALLY WILDERNESS AREAS.

Most rock climbers that I know are extremely concerned and confused by the change in interpretation of climbing anchors and wilderness compatibility. We've been using fixed anchors for decades and decades and feel strongly that this is a vital component of safe access to wilderness areas. IT IS UNREASONABLE TO CHANGE THE INTERPRETATION OF FIXED ANCHOR USE WHEN WE'VE HAD AUTHORIZED USE FOR DECADES.

Without fixed anchors and especially without fixed anchor availability, there will certainly be a huge increase in risk across all wilderness areas. YOU WILL SEE A HUGE INCREASE IN EXPENSIVE RESCUES ON WILDERNESS LANDS WITHOUT FIXED ANCHORS.

I sincerely hope you will stop this senseless change in policy that greatly impacts all climbers in wilderness areas.