Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/16/2024 12:19:10 AM

First name: Ronald Last name: Bert Organization:

Title:

Comments: The exclusion/prohibition of fixed anchors in the wilderness for climbers is dangerous, unnecessarily restrictive, and basically a ban on many many many climbing routes. Will NPS take responsibility for the potential accidents caused by removal of anchors on routes, documented in climbing guides use by climbers, unawares of their removal, and stranded on a climb? This is a bad idea. Climbers have a right to use the natural resources in OUR national parks, with special considerations for permanent fixtures, same as trails, and signage, and campsites, etc. All intended to reduce impact and provide safety. Please do not single out climber activities from all other use cases. We do more for the parks and surrounding communities, than the value of banning the miniscule distraction, if ever noticed, of a fixed anchor. I seriously doubt that the individuals complaining would ever notice a fixed anchor had a climber not been on the route, and perhaps that is what they dislike most. I am all for installing less obvious anchors where necessary, as identified by individuals, and as inspected by the park service. Thank you for your consideration.