

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/17/2024 12:26:08 AM

First name: Aaron

Last name: Kolb

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed directives. Climbing is a historic, primitive, and legitimate use of Wilderness and is fully consistent with the Wilderness Act. Fixed anchors are a necessary part of safe climbing, and I believe that the original use of "installation" is inconsistent with climbing anchors.

Proposing to require MRAs for every fixed anchor is infeasible to implement, and would constitute a radical shift from decades of Wilderness management. I believe that the impacts of climbing can be best managed through constructive partnerships between agencies and climbers - a well known example is how climbers have organized the Yosemite Face Lift to substantially address impacts of climbers and other user groups in Yosemite National Park. Let collaboration and communication be how we ensure climbing activities are consistent with the Wilderness Act. I urge the Forest Service to not move forward with the proposed directives.