

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/17/2024 8:06:27 PM

First name: Jonathan

Last name: Duke

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello, I am writing to express my support for recognizing rock-climbing as an appropriate and valuable recreational activity in wilderness areas, as well as allowing fixed anchors in wilderness areas. Rock-climbing anchors are not "installations," rather they are essential pieces of gear for the safety of rock-climbers enjoying our wilderness areas. If these anchors were prohibited or removed from wilderness areas, it would be a massive safety concern for countless climbers accessing these areas. These anchors have been allowed for decades, and climbing has been considered a valued outdoor activity for decades as well. Reversing this policy would be unfair and unreasonable. Climbing is a huge part of American history. Climbers need to be able to create and maintain anchors as they have for years, in order for climbing routes to be safe and enjoyable for the public. Thank you for your time.