Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/18/2024 2:44:08 PM First name: Trevor Last name: Mayschak Organization: Title:

Comments: I am a paramedic and University Lecturer who specializes in mountain rescue operations. It is my professional perspective that the prohibition of fixed anchors in wilderness designated areas will significantly compromise the safety of recreational and professional climbers who rely on these anchors. This completely avoidable action will put people at an increased risk of injury or death. Furthermore, it will certainly lead to in an increase in Search and Rescue operations. Such operations often require many volunteer and professional rescuers, and oftentimes the use of helicopter resources. This will lead to increased risk to rescuers, which should be considered a non-starter. An increased volume of rescue operations will also lead to a greater impact on wilderness areas.