

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/18/2024 8:58:45 PM

First name: David

Last name: Hampton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I love the outdoors. As I have often told my friends, it is when I am in the wilderness that I feel peace.

One of the activities I love is rock climbing. I love the unique perspective it gives. The fear, the complexity, the attention to safety it demands.

As a climber, I want to ensure the safe and responsible use of fixed anchors in our wilderness remains available to the climbing community. I respect and advocate for the responsible use of Wilderness areas and believe that fixed anchors can be a component of a sustainable Wilderness experience. Please revise your climbing guidance to reflect the practice and precedent of the last 60+ years-that fixed anchors for climbing can be used, replaced, and maintained in designated wilderness areas. To reverse this precedent would make climbing more dangerous and put climbers who want to be safe at odds with land managers.

It would be better that we be allies in our conservation efforts. Please protect our safety and do not ban the use of fixed anchors.