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Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed NPS and USFS proposed climbing management guidance. This proposed guidance threatens many existing climbing routes (some established in areas that were not previously designated as wilderness areas), imposes a significant bureaucratic burden on land managers and users of these areas, and obstructs wilderness use and exploration. Most importantly, the proposed guidance creates significant safety problems for climbers in that fixed anchors are essential components of safety systems used by climbers. I am aware that fixed anchors may be placed after a minimum requirement analysis; however, this bureaucratic red tape presents a significant safety hazard as it removes critical safety decisions from climbers and places that responsibility on land manager who may or may not be cognizant of specific climbing safety issues. I would ask the status quo for climbing in national parks and wilderness areas be maintained.