Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/22/2024 7:39:46 PM First name: Solomon Last name: Reinman Organization:

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Comments: I am writing to express my concern regarding the prohibition of existing and future fixed protection for climbing across America's Wilderness areas. I believe I echo the ardent feelings of many other climbers in lamenting the unreasonable and, in many cases, unenforceable nature of the proposal. Climbing is a transcendental and profound way to experience the vast, wild spaces we as Americans hold dear. The ability to safely traverse and ascend the tremendous spires, walls, and boulders of the American wilderness has the unalienable effect of instilling in climbers a deep love and appreciation for the outdoors, and a steadfast desire to conserve and share these spaces with others. We pride ourselves as stewards of the natural world, and find great value in collaborating with the people and agencies who share a similar reverence for the outdoors. Removing the precedent of placing fixed protection for the safety and well-being of those who seek to explore and cherish these spaces is an unconscionable step backwards in the process of increasing access and joy in the outdoors. I urge everyone involved to seek ways to collaborate in increasing access and education while preserving the sanctity of the natural spaces that make our country special.