Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/22/2024 11:36:22 PM First name: Suzanne Last name: Butcher Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fixed climbing anchors must not be allowed in Wilderness. Your primary duty is to protect Wilderness in its natural state. Wilderness itself provides plenty of opportunities for primitive recreation, plus all of its benefits for the environment and species preservation. Fixed anchors attract a concentration of climbers that damage the environment and species. Wilderness is less than 3% of our land in the lower 48. There are plenty of other places for climbers. If you allow climbing at all in wilderness, it must be limited, with no trace left behind.

I love to wander in wilderness but hate to see climbers hanging on a cliff face. They may get a thrill, but I get a knot in the pit of my stomach worrying that I will witness a tragedy. Is their right to climb greater than my right to peaceful wilderness? I do not have a lobby, but I hope you will consider my rights and your responsibility for the environment and species protection and NOT allow fixed climbing anchors in Wilderness.