Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/23/2024 5:33:35 AM First name: Alex Last name: Nycum Organization:

Title:

Comments: I've been climbing for over 10 years and it is one of the reasons I moved out west. Climbing in National Parks and on wilderness land is what I prefer to do in my free time and how I spend my vacations. Fixed anchors, bolts and rappel anchors are all a part of what makes climbing possible and safe. I care deeply about the places I recreate in and want to protect these environments as much as possible. Fixed anchors are a part of safely enjoying these wild places that we have in this country. Prohibiting fixed anchors will not only discourage people from enjoying some of the most beautiful places we have, but may also pose a real safety risk to those who continue to climb in our wilderness areas. The discontinued use and maintenance of fixed anchors has the potential to create deadly scenarios for climbers and costly scenarios for the park service. This is not what was intended by prohibiting installations in the original wording of the Wilderness Act. Policing climbing anchors is not a good use of resources or tax payer money. It is not enough to ensure that established routes remain, exploration and adventure is at the heart of climbing and the ability to develop new routes must be preserved as well. I urge you to Protect America's Rock Climbing and not prohibit the use of fixed anchors in wilderness areas.