Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/24/2024 4:19:26 PM

First name: John Last name: Holden Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to object to the new proposal that classifies fixed climbing anchors as "installations" that are prohibited by the original wilderness act. Climbing routes are vertical trails, no different from the horizontal trails that are routinely allowed and maintained in national parks and public land. Historically, neither has every been considered an "installation", so why now, what changed? How are climbing bolts different from the steps up Yosemite falls? They are infinitely less impactful on the surrounding environment.

Fixed anchors are crucial for climber's safety, removing them will produce increases in accidents and incidents in national parks and public lands. prohibiting anchors obstructs reasonable and traditional exploration of national parks and public lands. Please do not implement this radical turn in public land use policy.

Sincerely, John Holden