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First name: Anne Last name: Henny Organization:

Title:

Comments: I urge you not to weaken the Wilderness Act and its protection of wild places. Rock climbing has long been enjoyed in wilderness without fixed anchors, and that can continue. Wilderness is an endangered landscape; less than 3 percent of land in the Lower 48 is protected as Wilderness, and it is under threat, including from rapidly escalating recreation pressures. Wilderness, by its very existence, provides opportunities for primitive recreation and USFS needs only to protect the Wilderness according to the provisions of the Wilderness Act to safeguard the opportunity. There are ample places outside wilderness where fixed climbing anchors are permitted.