Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/25/2024 11:02:38 PM First name: Skyler Last name: Taylor Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fixed anchors are essential to protecting the safety of climbers and are not prohibited under the Wilderness Act of 1964. The already existing climbing policies have allowed use of fixed anchors for more than half a century, which allows for the art of outdoor climbing to continue being safe for both climbers and the land alike. Prohibiting fixed anchors only creates an obstacle to regular maintenance of anchors and appropriate wilderness exploration. It would also disrupt preexisting routes, threatening some of the greatest climbing and exploration, it is essential to protect existing routes and fixed anchors against removal. Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers.