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First name: Nathaniel

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USFS Managers and Policymakers,

Where I live within the rural corridor of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Leavenworth, WA, we have a fantastic amount of designated wilderness in the Glacier Peak, Alpine Lakes, Wildsky, and Henry M Jackson Wildernesses. I serve as a member of Chelan County Mountain Rescue, and regularly work with local law enforcement to rescue injured, stranded, and lost hikers, climbers, and backcountry skiers. Within the Stuart Range (also known as "the Enchantments"), we have seen an explosion in use, often from parties who need assistance due to competence or fitness issues, equipment failure, or inclement weather. Fixed anchors improve our (CCMR's) ability to rescue people and improve wayward climbers' ability to self-rescue under adversity. Additionally, fixed anchors allow for safer climbing, rappelling, and skiing. I urge the USFS to consider how any legislation affecting fixed anchors might affect the capacity for local law enforcement, including search and rescue, to assist parties and recover the bodies of accident victims.

Sincerely,

Nate Hough-Snee, Ph.D.