

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/26/2024 10:16:28 PM

First name: Kavya

Last name: Joshi

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly object to the proposal on the grounds that it will create significant and serious safety issues and threaten America's legacy as a world-class climbing destination.

* Creates serious safety issues:

Fixed anchors are a critical component of climbers' safety systems. The proposal will obstruct the timely replacement of unsafe fixed anchors and disincentivize the placement of new anchors where needed for safety.

The climbing community currently maintains fixed anchors; they are installed, replaced, and upgraded as needed, often as part of made-in-the-moment personal safety decisions.

Imposing an authorization process will therefore obstruct the installation and timely replacement of crucial anchors and create unsafe conditions for climbers.

* Threatens America's legacy and position as a world-class climbing destination:

The proposal could erase some of the world's most significant climbing routes and threaten America's place in climbing history. It will also threaten America's position as a world-class climbing destination.

As a climber and avid user of our public lands, I urge you to drop this poorly thought-out proposal.