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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear US Forest Service,

I'm writing to express my desire for the agency to not approve the proposed wilderness fixed anchor policy. As an avid climber and voter, this regulation goes against the values I hold and the ways in which I and many others recreate on federal land.

First, I want to emphasize that fixed anchors are crucial to safe climbing and that they are not considered an installation under the Wilderness Act. Similar to a trail or bridge, fixed anchors are a limited and low-impact means of accessing wilderness.

Second, I worry that if the new policy were implanted it would make climbing less safe for myself and my community.

Third, this policy jeopardizes the strong and fruitful relationship between climbers and federal land managers. Climbing is an inherent aspect of US recreation, and climbers are stewards and activists for protecting wild places. The Yosemite Face Lift, for example, is a great way that climbers and land managers work together to improve Park & Wildlife resources.

Fourth, and related, I worry that this policy did not take into equal consideration the values and opinions of climbers. Everyone deserves to have their voice heard (thank you for extending the comment period!), including the small but important climbing community.

Please do not enact the new wilderness fixed anchor policy. Instead, let's think of ways that climbers and land managers can work together to improve the federal lands and wild places together!

Thank you for your time,

Julian Dreiman