Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/27/2024 3:10:11 PM First name: John Last name: Gallagher Organization: Title:

Comments: Creating a policy that effectively bans fixed anchors in wilderness would create a hazard to those mountaineers to safely and effectively retreat from technical mountain faces. Fixed anchors allow for an efficient retreat off of technical ground during high winds or unexpected mountain storms, which happen during the summer months.

I believe there are two misunderstandings by the general or non-climbing public. One that anchors would ruin the wilderness experience. Anyone with climbing experience would know that bolts or other fixed anchors are hard to locate or see from the ground. Second, I believe there is a concern that allowing fixed anchors would turn the wilderness into your local sport crag. Wilderness by its nature would prohibit this from happening because of its remoteness and seriousness.