

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/27/2024 4:07:32 PM

First name: Eddie

Last name: Konczal

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to comment on The Wilderness Act, which prohibits installations and structures like permanent fixed climbing anchors in order to protect the areas' wild character. Therefore, I believe fixed climbing anchors must not be allowed in Wilderness.

The Wilderness Act's strict prohibitions, including its prohibition on installations, cannot be overcome by a desire to facilitate or enhance a particular form of recreation, and the narrow administrative exception for installations does not extend to the general public seeking to create developed recreational activities in Wilderness.

I do not believe that agencies should develop Wilderness to provide alleged "opportunities for primitive recreation." Wilderness, by its very existence, provides these opportunities; the agencies need only to protect the Wilderness according to the provisions of the Wilderness Act to safeguard the opportunity.

For those climbers seeking developed climbing opportunities, there are ample permanently bolted climbs outside of Wilderness.

Thank you for considering my comments.