Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 4:13:50 PM First name: Greg Last name: Bobetich Organization: Title:

Comments: I am a rock climber working in the outdoor industry and I feel that fixed anchors are an essential piece of a climbers safety system. I feel that removing fixed anchors on existing routs will lead to endangering even the most experienced rock climbers as it will make routes more committing then they have ever been considering federal agencies have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades. I feel climbers should be allowed access to vertical wilderness as much as a hiker to the lands surrounding that vertical environment and fixed anchors are a necessity for exploring the vertical environment.

Lastly, I would like to mention that America has a rich history of rock climbing, that stimulates the outdoor industry and tourism. Many of the great companies that innovate outdoor equipment exist because of climbing and the removal of fixed anchors on legendary rock climbs would be a devastating blow for many companies in this sector of the economy. Large companies like Patagonia, The North Face, Black Diamond, Mountain Hardware, Royal Robbins and many more have were born from climbing in America, and have helped fuel the tremendous growth of the outdoor industry and access to all wilderness. So in a way, America's legendary climbing has made wilderness more accessible to non climbers that just want to enjoy green spaces.

In conclusion, I feel that the proposal should be modified to allow for the use of fixed anchors in America's Wilderness areas especially on existing routes and even more so on routes with historical significance.