

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 8:35:51 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments: I am writing to oppose the banning and removal of fixed anchors and equipment on NSFLand.

Fixed anchors (NOT prohibited under the Wilderness Act) are an essential safety system for climbers, and have been maintained legally for decades without issue. Removal and restriction of said anchors will make climbing in many (very popular) areas more unsafe and less regulated, and encourage more environmental damage as climbers are not focused on specific anchored routes but spread out and more inclined to break the rules.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.

Finally, prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten America's rich climbing legacy and could erase some of the world's greatest climbing achievements. Climbing management policy needs to protect existing routes from removal.

Thank you for your time.