Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 9:18:10 PM First name: Colin Last name: Snider Organization: Title:

Comments: As a mountain guide, bolts are indispensable for ensuring the safety of climbers. Fixed anchors serve as a crucial component in our safety systems, aligning with established climbing policies that have been in place for decades. Restricting or prohibiting fixed anchors nationwide is not only unreasonable but also jeopardizes safety by impeding regular maintenance on climbing routes. In-the-moment decisions are often critical in complex terrain, and any authorization process should not hinder our responsibility for safe anchor replacement. Additionally, such restrictions obstruct the appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas, limiting our ability to navigate vertical terrain effectively. To preserve America's climbing legacy, climbing management policies should prioritize safety, acknowledge the necessity of in-the-moment decisions, and protect existing routes while allowing for responsible maintenance and exploration.