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First name: Erika

Last name: Nash

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Sirs, I have been a rock climber and mountaineer since the early 1990's and years later, I still find solace in participating in the same sports. I am against the proposed new policies to classify fixed anchors and bolts as prohibited installations in Wilderness areas. Such fixed bolts and anchors have saved my life many a time and if not maintained, replaced and new ones added to new locations, this would put my family's safety at risk, and damage the long standing mountaineering legacy that is special about these sports.

Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. Following existing climbing policies that allow judicious use of fixed anchors for more than a half century will do more to protect Wilderness character while providing for primitive and unconfined Wilderness climbing.

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 is done on a case by case basis to determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources in certain areas, such as Devil's Tower. 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. It will also threaten the safety of many that I love.

Thank you,

Erika M. Nash