Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 9:40:12 PM First name: Connor Last name: Dorsey Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fixed gear placements are very critical to the safety of climbers as well as the longevity of the sport. The issue of overbolting is an internal debate in the climbing community, but the fact of the matter is, proper bolting and fixed gear management is not just highly critical to the well-being of climbers, but often a responsibility undertaken by the climbing community. Instead of an outright prohibition, revisions should be made to this proposal. It language is simply too prohibitive and in many ways counteractive to the claims in the forward that climbing " is an important and historically relevant recreational activity in many NPS wilderness areas." and "climbing is a legitimate and appropriate use of wilderness". Even in climbing with "clean techniques", the use of fixed anchors to ensure the safety of the climber at an anchor and a rappel allows for a much safer and accessible climbing experience, especially as the sport grows in popularity. Please vote against this version of the proposal and amend it for more inclusive language for bolted fixed anchors.