Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 10:42:03 PM First name: Eric Last name: Trautmann Organization: Title:

Comments: I'm writing to vigorously oppose a ban on fixed anchors for rock climbing in park lands. Climbing is part of American heritage, and is a low-impact sport that exists in harmony with park and other lands. The climbing community relies on fixed anchors to safely practice the sport, and overturning decades of standard safety practice nonsensically threatens the lives of tens of thousands of individuals.

Climbing is an appropriate exploration of wilderness land, and prohibiting fixed anchors obstructs this exploration.

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.