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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern -

I have been climbing for almost 20 years. My life has been shaped by climbing. My friends, family, and career have all been because of climbing. I am who I am today because of climbing, especially with the exploration of Wilderness areas. I live in Montana where we are surrounded by Wilderness and we are able to climb on this land and explore and create routes that are responsible and sustainable. And as a result fixed anchors are an essential piece to preserving those routes as well as keeping the climbers safe in a remote Wilderness setting. Fixed anchors are not prohibited on the Wilderness Act and should stay that way. By removing and prohibiting fixed anchors, the federal agency is putting climbers at a even higher risk and will result in more injuries and potential death.

I truly believe that we as climbers do a very good job of preserving Wilderness areas and show respect when adding fixed anchors, especially only where they are truly needed. A few bolts on a remote peak is way less damaging than a bridge or infrastructure that is built daily in places like Yellowstone National Park. I feel that the federal government can be very hypocritical in how it maintains infrastructure in parks but is trying to prohibit fixed anchors.

By prohibiting fixed anchors, the federal government is threatening America's rich climbing legacy and will potentially erase some of climbing's greatest achievements. Please please reconsider this ban.

I am 30 weeks pregnant and I have continued to climb throughout my pregnancy and I look forward to sharing my love for climbing and Wilderness exploration with my son. By prohibiting fixed anchors, you are limiting the ability for my son to enjoy and create his own love for climbing and Wilderness exploration, which is unfair. Please reconsider this ban. Thank you!