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First name: Marty

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HI,

I would like to comment on the current proposal for fixed anchors in the Wilderness Act.

Being a climber for over 37 years, and a guide for over 34 years, I have had the opportunity to experience climbing at many places across the country and abroad recreationally and professionally. I would like to stress that fixed anchors are an essential piece of safety equipment to climbers, not only for the way up, but for the way down in case of storm or injury. Fixed anchors open up access to new terrain and in turn help disperse climbers, as well as provide more options. 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.

Sincerely,