Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 11:43:10 PM

First name: Kate Last name: Rakelly Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a lifetime California resident and avid climber in wilderness areas. I am writing to ask that the proposed regulations be changed to better serve wilderness users, while protecting wilderness areas. Fixed anchors are an essential part of climbers' safety systems. They are often the only way to safely descend a climbing route. They are usually composed of two bolts, which are extremely safe, and minimally impactful - they are small, they do not move, and they are the same color as the rock. If impediments are put in place to install and maintain fixed anchors, some climbers will still climb! But they will be less safe, and they will cause more environmental damage, by leaving colorful slings wrapped around trees and rocks, or leaving trad gear in cracks. Other climbers who want the safety of fixed anchors won't be able to climb at all.