Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 4:16:53 PM First name: Desiree Last name: Cyr Organization: Title:

Comments: Climbing has a long legacy in America and this new proposal would not only hinder this but create other long lasting problems. The number one being safety in that old bolts and anchors couldn't be replaced. Therefore, making it unsafe in many areas that need routine maintenance. There are rescue situations that rely on fixed gear to save others. Fixed gear also offers a safer route to learning for new climbers. Scientific exploration could be impeded if fixed gear would be necessary to conduct research on steep vertical terrain.

It's unreasonable for there to be policies now when we've had fixed anchors for so long already. Climbing affects the hearts of many including myself. It provides internal growth for other areas in life and a deep love for the natural world. There are other things we could be looking at for better sustainability efforts. Most likely, looking to other policies that will prohibit large companies from harming the environment.

I'd say this proposal is looking at the wrong things for sustainability efforts and a conversation should be opened to look at alternatives to banning bolts and fixed gear. The fixed gear offers safe recreation, access to scientific endeavors, and rescues. Stop the prohibition on fixed gear.