Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 4:49:51 PM First name: Ryan Last name: Pecknold Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fixed anchors are essential for climbing. Prohibiting them will create a cascade of problems nationwide, ranging from unsafe climbing and potential fatalities, to deeply impacted economies that are largely sustained by visiting climbers. It is unreasonable for federal agencies that do not understand climbing to create new guidance policies prohibiting wilderness climbing anchors, especially when they have allowed and managed these same fixed anchors for decades. Climbing is an important component to outdoor recreation in North America, with a rich history and potential for lifetimes of additional development and history. As a USMC combat veteran with PTSD, climbing is my medicine and helps me cope with my trauma in a healthy way. It is my career working for Petzl NA, it is how I met my wife, my friends and community. We need to find a better solution, involve climbers that have been installing and maintaining anchors for decades, and move forward in a logical and progressive manner that supports a bright future for the wilderness and climbing together. Prohibiting the establishment of new routes on non wilderness lands is also unenforceable.