Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 4:55:07 PM First name: Tia Last name: Renier Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'm relatively new to the climbing community. I've been climbing in a gym for about three years and as I've gained knowledge, particularly about how to keep myself and friends safe, I've slowly moved to more outdoor climbing. Climbing has given me many things including self-esteem and a way to connect with nature. I'm afraid that if these draft proposals are adopted as is, a whole community will lose these things. I think most of us can agree that we want people to experience the outdoors in a safe way AND protect the natural spaces we're enjoying. I know these proposals may be putting an emphasis on the later but I think we can have both. Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and we have enjoyed this reassurance because they are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. I think we can balance both climber safety and protect it. You'd be hard pressed to find a climber who doesn't respect designated trails or the importance of leave no trace. With small rules and expectations we can enjoy nature; just like having bolts for safety. I ask that you do not adopt these proposals without considering all that we can enjoy thanks to some small safety measures like bolts.