Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 5:06:48 PM First name: Joseph Last name: Swisher Organization:

Title:

Comments: I do not support the proposal for evaluation and authorization of fixed anchors and equipment in FS Wilderness. This action undos decades of precedent and long standing history for climbing regulation on National Forests. It serves a minority of the public that wishes to eliminate all uses from wilderness areas. The impact of trails, bridges, stock, cattle, camping all has a more visual and long term impact than climbing anchors. Anchors provide safe means for descending walls and prevent the use of slings, cord and other gear that would have to be left behind. Forest Service staff is already overworked and stretched thin. Do not impose more work on them that will take away from priority projects such as fuel reduction, forest planning revision, and OHV management.

Please reconsider this proposal and continue to allow the use of fixed anchors and equipment in the wilderness.