Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 4:28:56 PM First name: james Last name: stover Organization: Title: Comments: Dear Park Managers,

Please understand that I do not support this attempt to interpret the language of the wilderness act to include fixed climbing anchors. I do this on several grounds.

1. fixed anchors predate the wilderness act; It is unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors across the country when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors adequately for decades.

the wilderness act was not designed to regulate such instillations it's intent was to regulate and police large scale private landholder and commercial applications form impeding into the designated wilderness systems.
fixed anchors are a necessary and essential part of the climber's safety system. Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors.

4. Prohibiting fixed anchors obstructs appropriate an exploration of Wilderness areas. Land managers need to allow climbers to explore Wilderness in a way that permits in-the-moment decisions that are necessary when navigating complex vertical terrain.

5. Prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten America's rich climbing legacy and could erase some of the world's greatest climbing achievements. Climbing management policy needs to protect existing routes from removal.

thank you James Stover