

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 5:43:31 PM

First name: Weston

Last name: Edwards

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Changing policy of fixed anchors on US public lands and national parks is unwise and unsafe. Fixed anchors are an integral part of the safety system used by climbers worldwide. Removing these anchors exposes climbers to unnecessary risk.

This policy change would upend the status quo that has existed for decades of allowing fixed anchors in wilderness areas and other public lands.

Prohibiting fixed anchors in wilderness areas will threaten and change for the worse the impressive and grandiose history and legacy of rock climbing in the United States.

Restricting the establishment of new routes on NFS lands is unenforceable. Any restrictions should only be considered in cases where the protection of cultural or natural resources is required.

Please think of the safety of our rock climbing citizens when making this decision. Fixed anchors are an essential part of safely exploring our wilderness areas.