

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 6:58:42 PM

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Comments: I met my husband rock climbing. We were married on the rock in Yosemite and fell in love climbing in Linville Gorge. Wilderness climbing is so important to the lives of many people who fiercely defend Wilderness environment. Please do not move forward with this policy.

Fixed anchors are an essential safety system for climbers. Being unable to trust fixed anchors in-the-moment because maintenance requires 'waiting for authorization' gives me nightmares--both for myself and friends and family. Fixed anchors are not, and CANNOT be considered prohibited under the Wilderness Act. The existing policies that allow for responsible use of fixed anchors will go much farther to protect wilderness character while protecting the lives of countless explorers.

Fixed anchor management needs to be managed in a way that incentivises SAFE anchor replacement, which often falls to in-the-moment decision making. Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors.

Fixed anchors, and the ability to maintain them immediately as needed, are paramount for America's wilderness climbing to continue. 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 for decades.

Unfortunately, restricting the establishment of new routes will be confusing and unenforceable. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.