

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 7:02:38 PM

First name: Peter

Last name: Bungum

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Climbing is a legitimate recreational activity. It is deeply important to me. The climbing community is close knit, and we are active in many walks of life. We are teachers, researchers, sales associates, programmers, physical therapists, politicians, welders, restaurant owners, and every other occupation under the sun. We are voters, and we are passionate about the activity that ties us together, literally.

I strongly reject the ban on fixed anchors. This proposal does not solve any problems, and creates new ones that only diminish wilderness. The activities that humans need for fulfillment, like climbing, hiking, running, and reflecting in nature do not benefit from the government placing barriers that are onerous for the individual to overcome. People are allowed to carry machines such as guns into wilderness with few restrictions. Unlike guns, fixed anchors are incapable of causing harm to the environment or others. Quite the opposite, they are meant to help protect human life, and can be used to limit impacts to the environment. Meanwhile, corporations are allowed to drill for oil in our wild areas. Instead, the government should help facilitate community involvement to solve problems amongst users that deeply care about wilderness. Climbers are more than willing to participate.

Please, please do not ban fixed anchors on wilderness, and do not try and regulate the act of building anchors. It simply doesn't make sense.