

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 6:12:58 PM

First name: Zebulon

Last name: Blais

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

As a frequent recreational and business user of National public lands for rock climbing and alpine climbing, I would like to encourage this committee to consider the following in order to continued safe climbing on public lands:

(1) allow the continued use of existing fixed anchors without further review, unless there are site-specific resource concerns,

(2) allow for the maintenance of existing fixed anchors without prior approval, unless there are site-specific resource concerns, and

(3) authorize the placement of new fixed anchors in wilderness with a simple and efficient permitting process that does not require an MRA (as is current practice under NPS Director's Order 41).

These allowances would save lives through allowing maintenance of safe anchors on public lands. Climbing is inherently dangerous, but we do not need to increase that danger by limiting access to safe anchors. Please consider the lives saved by implementing the recommendations above as you make your decision on this critical policy.

Thank you,

Zeb