

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 7:12:51 PM

First name: Jon

Last name: Feder

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Against Prohibition of Fixed Anchors & Fixed Equipment

Outright prohibiting fixed gear would be a major setback in recreational, environmental, and social sustainability. Especially on the monoliths in our country's incredible protected lands, fixed gear is by far the safest option for protecting both ascents and descents in many cases. Outlawing fixed gear across the board needlessly forces climbers to use protection known to minimize risk to a lesser degree. This will only lead to an unnecessary decrease in the safety of used protection and an increase rate of injury and death. In many cases, fixed gear is the most environmentally sustainable way to protect climbing as a means of outdoor enjoyment and exploration. Fixed gear often has far less of an impact on the most fragile aspects of ecosystems in which climbers recreate. Also, this prohibition will set the outdoor community back in terms of relationship between climbers and land managers by perpetuating misconception and uncertainty.

Please do not disallow fixed gear!