Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 7:45:59 PM First name: Mark Last name: Herndon Organization: Title:

Comments: I would like to agree with the proposed regulations regarding fixed anchors. I was a climber for many years, and have climbed El Capitan multiple times, and years of climbing shorter routes around the country.

Over the last two decades, I have seen a near total erosion in ethics concerning the placement of bolts, chains, mussy hooks, permanent draws, even on climbs which could have been completely and safely protected by clean gear.

Modern climbers have lost the leave no trace ethic that was aspired to up until the 90's, including a rash of permanent anchors on long established routes.

No other user group is allowed to permanently mar the rock by taking a power drill to rock. Climbing has grown exponentially by climbers who began in gyms, and feel justified in placing bolts wherever they feel like it, often without a necessity involving safety. The bolts are for convenience.

The Nose of El Cap has had so many bolts and chains added to it over the last twenty years that it is nigh unrecognizable, and it is far from alone.

The number of climbers and their impacts require some sort of regulation. They are loving the land to death, and virtually any climbable wall is now covered with fixed anchors. I hate seeing this.