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First name: Jacob

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

My name is Jacob Marke, and I am an avid climber living in Colorado. However, I began my climbing journey in the Southeast at places like Rumbling Bald, O-Bed, Linville Gorge, and many other beautiful locations. Climbing has been an essential part of my life for nearly 10 years at this point, and so I have a substantial stake in protecting it. To that end, I am writing today in order to protect the sport that I have come to love.

Like you, I also greatly appreciate and respect Wilderness areas; I think they are a vital part of maintaining the beauty, tranquility, and serenity of our most precious areas. However, I believe that the practices that climbers and agencies have used for the past 60 years demonstrate that climbers are responsible stewards of Wilderness areas. Nearly every climber that I know greatly respects nature and wants to experience it in the most respectful way possible. However, the proposed rule change would greatly inhibit access to areas that we love. I urge you to reconsider the proposed change, and refrain from labeling fixed anchors as installations.

Thank you for your time,

Jacob Marke