

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 9:23:28 PM

First name: Kendall

Last name: Aubertot

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a regular, casual climber, backpacker, hiker, and backcountry skier, I am concerned about the proposal to classify fixed anchors as prohibited installations in wilderness areas. Fixed anchors are an essential piece of equipment for climber safety, allowing climbers to safely set up anchor along the wall. They are not just merely convenient, but they allow climbers to make decisions to keep themselves and each other safe in real world situations that arise. In certain cases, they might make it easier for climbers to abandon a route if a storm suddenly rolls in. In others, they allow climbers a safe refuge along a route where protection is otherwise difficult or impossible. Prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten people's ability to climb in many of the best climbing areas throughout the country.