

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 9:45:52 PM

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Comments: Dear Sir or Madam --

I was dismayed to learn of the new policy proposal regarding climbing protection in National Forests. The proposal goes against decades of cooperation between climbers and the USFS, and blatantly disrespects one of the most conscientious and careful user groups that the park enjoys.

Fixed anchors are a fundamental part of rock climbing safety and conservation, and to unilaterally designate a few ounces of steel as a prohibited installation is simply a bad faith statement of what is actually happening in the parks. It is unacceptable for the USFS to suddenly make this designation after decades of cooperation and the development of safe practices hand in hand with the climbing community.

Prohibiting anchors and anchor maintenance creates a drastic safety issue out of thin air, and criminalizes the loving and careful work of our best wilderness advocates.

This policy calls forth the ethics of a bygone era, in an attempt to separate mankind from the wilderness. Policy of this kind ensures that the lands are not used, not enjoyed, not loved, which in the end leads to the wilderness disappearing.

Please reconsider,
Aaron Denton