

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 10:39:58 PM

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Comments: I want to comment on the USFS proposal to prohibit fixed rock climbing anchors and voice my strong opposition to such policies.

First, I am an industrial rope access technician. I use adapted rock climbing techniques for inspection, maintenance and construction to build and maintain our country's infrastructure.

I have worked projects on bridges, dams, oil refineries, power plants, aerospace facilities, football stadiums, roller coasters, and Oregon DOT highway reconstruction (post forest fire) sites.

I am also a search and rescue team member and have used my climbing and wilderness skills to save lives. I have responded to missions in county, state, USFS and NPS locations.

Prohibiting fixed rock climbing anchors would cause significant safety hazards, be responsible for preventable deaths, prevent public access to the most iconic American locations and hurt the growing outdoor industry.

In addition, land managers do not have the resources to implement many of the proposed changes in policy.

These changes are unnecessary given that Congress is already working on a bill for sustainable management of climbing areas, with the involvement of land managers and climbing community organizations.

Restricting new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion for both land managers and climbers. New climbing routes and new fixed safety anchors should be allowed unless it is determined that climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.