

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 12:02:12 AM

First name: EDWIN

Last name: MILLER

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing today to urge the NPS to reconsider their proposed ban on climbing anchors in wilderness areas. Fixed anchors are an essential part of a safe climbing experience and prohibiting them will represent an abrupt and serious departure from the current policy of allowing fixed anchor systems, with appropriate management, in climbing areas across the country. Restricting the establishment of new routes to 'existing climbing opportunities' is also ambiguous wording that is bound to create conflict between climbers and land managers. The safety of American climbers, and the legacy of some of America's most iconic climbing routes, could be in jeopardy if fixed anchor systems are prohibited in wilderness areas.