Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 12:28:20 AM First name: Stephen Last name: Stouffer Organization: Title:

Comments: Overall I am in favor of protecting our wilderness areas. However I believe it would be short sighted and harmful overall to outright prohibit the placement of bolts or other fixed anchors in wilderness settings. Much like trail building, done respectfully and without the use of power tools, bolts and other fixed anchors (like slings or fixed pitons/trad gear) provide for the safer enjoyment of our collective heritage, aka wilderness areas.

Anchors need the be periodically examined and replaced and the process often is too slow relying on current management policies in many places. I believe we can do better than we are currently, but also that we need to leave room for compromise between land management and those who seek to enjoy and recreate in our wild spaces.