

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 2:13:11 AM

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Comments: As this draft directive acknowledges "climbing an appropriate use of NFS lands." There is a rich legacy of climbing in America's wilderness, and personally, climbing has contributed to some of my most transcendental wilderness experiences. This draft directive threatens to degrade or erase wilderness climbing opportunities.

Fixed anchors are an essential part of safety when climbing. Restricting replacement of anchors to when the forest service determines that they are the minimum necessary seems like it will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to preventative maintenance of anchors. Climbers should be allowed to make decisions about maintaining fixed anchors, as they have for decades, especially since there is not currently funding available for the NFS to take on this responsibility.

Prohibiting fixed anchors and their replacement obstructs appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas. Land managers need to allow climbers to explore Wilderness in a way that permits in-the-moment decisions that are necessary when navigating complex vertical terrain