Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 2:38:19 AM First name: Holly Last name: Hammons Organization:

Title:

Comments: The use of fixed anchors and fixed protection in climbing not only reduces many risks to climbers, but it also limits the need for outside resources to be wasted on the regulation of our sport. I disagree with and do not support these proposed wilderness fixed anchor guidelines. The best people that can recommend when fixed protection should or shouldn't be used are climbers, because we understand the safety and sustainability considerations that go into developing and maintaining a safe and enjoyable route. Climbing routes in Colorado are specifically maintained for safety and land and wildlife preservation by stewards in our community, and members of organizations like the American Alpine Club, Boulder Climbing Community, and The Access Fund, to name a few. We not only review the safety and sustainability of fixed anchors, but we are strong advocates for taking care of our wilderness areas. Because we are all big advocates for preserving and respecting our outdoor spaces, we place great consideration into if it is sustainable and respectful or not before placing any fixed protection. By creating barriers for climbers in wilderness areas, it would remove or upset many people in a user group that deeply care about respecting and preserving these spaces and regularly contribute positively to our outdoor community.