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First name: Andrew Last name: T. Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a climber, I want to ensure the safe and responsible use of fixed anchors in national forests remains available to the climbing community. I respect and advocate for the responsible use of national forest areas and believe that fixed anchors can be a component of a sustainable national forest experience. Please revise your climbing guidance to reflect the practice and precedent of the last 60+ years-that fixed anchors for climbing can be used, replaced, and maintained in designated Wilderness areas. These devices can enhance public enjoyment of natural spaces safely and prohibiting their use would jeopardize safety, compromise public recreation access opportunities, and stifle public conservation sentiment. The forest service routinely permits natural resource harvesting on forest service land, which is a greater threat to our natural public resources than rock climbing. If conservation is really the cause, then the forest service should consider limiting natural resource extraction from national forests, rather than limiting articles required for safe outdoor recreation.