

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 3:15:37 AM

First name: Philip

Last name: Queen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am very by FSM 2355 Climbing Opportunities #ORMS-3524, in particular the guidance that the placement of fixed anchors is against the strictures of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and that climbing should be restricted to existing climbing opportunities.

Fixed anchors in wilderness areas have a long precedent, and are vital to not just the climbing community but also other user groups like highliners and canyoneers. Fixed anchors are critical for safety, are already severely restricted by the difficulty of placing fixed anchors without power tools, and are well maintained by their respective user groups.

Limiting climbing to existing climbing opportunities is short sighted, and would restrict the ability of climbers to adapt to change in their sport and on land. Forcing climbers to stay on existing climbs will only concentrate all usage on existing locations. It will rob an entire user group of freedom of travel, and encourage entirely unrestrained rule breaking rather than constructive cooperation.