Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 3:33:56 AM First name: Russell Last name: Houghten Organization: Title:

Comments: Hello I wanted to address the recent proposal to ban fixed rock climbing anchors in wilderness areas. Fixed anchors are essential for safety in climbing, I think this proposal needs to be further examined, refined and realize the impact it could have on the safety of millions of rock climbers in the United States. The impact of rock climbers is very small, they are great stewards of the land and practice and teach many leave no trace practices to hikers, campers and other outdoor activities. Climbing is such a great activity and has so much history in the USA, it would be a shame to erase this history and some of the monumental accomplishments of the past, present and future. Please reconsider what defines a fixed installation