Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 2:26:41 AM

First name: Jim Last name: Kelly Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to object to the proposed directive FSM 2355 Climbing Opportunities.

The current action as written threatens to reverse the decades of work and progress in climbing management developed between the Forest Service, Access Fund and associated local climbing organizations. I request the FSM 2335 action to be withdrawn and for the Forest Service to work with the Access Fund and its affiliated LCO's on developing management policy revisions that would allow climbers to recreate responsibly on Forest Service lands.

The proposed directive is a one-size-fits-all approach that fails to address the various different applications or uses of fixed anchors. The nuances associated with fixed anchor use, both within and outside of designated Wilderness, and the associated impacts are quite complex and this proposed directive fails to adequately address those nuances. Not all fixed anchors are placed, used or maintained in the same manner and should not be treated as such.

In addition, the proposed directive is obligated under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to address historic fixed anchors. There are plenty of fixed anchors that predate the Wilderness Act, and this proposal places an undue burden on the Forest Service to identify anchors that meet criteria for historic preservation. Ain't nobody got time for that.