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First name: Christine

Last name: Campbell

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly oppose the draft policies in "Evaluation and Authorization Procedures for Fixed Anchors and Fixed Equipment in National Park Service Wilderness Areas" regarding climbing anchors within Wilderness areas. I am a climber who values safety with the utmost importance. Fixed anchors are key to climbing safety.

Considering fixed anchors as prohibited "installations" in wilderness areas goes against decades of existing policy and practice. The proposed policy on wilderness climbing anchors will impede the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, by requiring a MRA. This would result in unsafe conditions because routine anchor maintenance would be partially obstructed or fully prohibited by unnecessary bureaucracy. Limiting fixed equipment in this manner would result in the loss of some of America's greatest climbing achievements.

Fixed anchors allow for vertical exploration and are paramount to climbing safety. They have been allowed for decades and it would be unprecedented and unreasonable to change the policy that has been followed for so long.

It is completely unreasonable to attempt to restrict the placement and replacement of fixed anchors to established "climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands. Unless it is determined that fixed anchors would harm cultural and natural resources, Non-Wilderness policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors.