Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 4:29:23 AM First name: Tova Last name: Soroka Organization: Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my vehement disagreement with the proposed legislation aiming to ban fixed anchors in the wilderness. This policy, while well-intentioned, lacks a comprehensive understanding of the historical significance and practicality of fixed anchors within the context of outdoor activities.

First and foremost, there exists a rich and storied history of fixed anchors that predates the Wilderness Act. These anchors have played an integral role in ensuring the safety of outdoor enthusiasts, contributing to the exploration and enjoyment of our natural landscapes. Disregarding this historical foundation undermines the value that fixed anchors bring to the outdoor community and disregards their established presence.

Moreover, the current proposal reflects a lack of thorough consideration and thoughtful planning. Rushing such a policy without consulting experts in the field may lead to unintended consequences and compromise the safety of those engaging in wilderness activities. I strongly urge the involvement of knowledgeable and experienced individuals who can contribute their expertise to the drafting process, ensuring a more nuanced and effective policy.

In the interest of preserving both safety and the cherished tradition of outdoor exploration, I implore you to reconsider and revise the proposed legislation. A more collaborative and informed approach will not only respect the historical context of fixed anchors but also uphold the core values of safety and responsible wilderness recreation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will carefully consider the implications of this policy on the diverse community of outdoor enthusiasts.