Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 4:31:05 AM First name: Katie Last name: Grauel Organization: Title:

Comments: I have concerns about the proposed prohibition on fixed anchors. This proposal threatens the safety of climbers and increases the impact on the area, not only through the increased amount of webbing and cordelette that will be left around natural objects to descend routes, but through the increased the likelihood of fatalities and SAR rescues due to said natural anchors. Fixed anchors allow for safer descent through increased speed, security of anchor and ease of rappelling, which is important on highly trafficked, historic and iconic routes that this policy would threaten. Fixed anchors have minimal impact considering these factors and have been appropriately managed for decades. Please consider revising this policy to allow the continued use of existing anchors, replacement of old hardware, and permitted use of new bolting. Thank you.