Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/6/2024 4:00:00 AM First name: Brian Last name: Ottinger Organization: Title: Comments: Folks,

I've been trying to submit comments on the proposed policy using your website, but it keeps failing. I was told that sending them to this email address would work. Here are my comments. Please be extremely careful in crafting policy, that while intending to positively protect our natural resources (a worthy goal, to be sure), it can easily have unintended consequences. Please work with climbers to establish a workable process for installing, maintaining, and expanding the use of fixed anchors in a workable, safe, and protective fashion. Please see my original comments below.

Fixed climbing anchors are a critical safety feature and there needs to be a reasonable way for climbers to install them in wilderness areas and non-wilderness areas as needed. Please work to find a reasonable way that anchors can be installed, maintained, and expanded to new climbs and in new climbing areas that will support safe climbing! Protecting our wilderness areas and non-wilderness areas is certainly important and I am very appreciative of efforts to protect them, but not at the expense of safe climbing.