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Title:

Comments: Limiting anchor replacement, or employing an guilty until proven innocent system for anchor replacement will both harm the wildernesses and limit the ability of the climbing community to utilize the wildernesses and their historic climbs. Many anchors are in place because that is the least impactful way for these climbs to be utilized. The climbing community has done a pretty good job of self policing and are generally conservation minded. To give an example the multiple times that I have climbed in the Bridger Wilderness in Wyoming (Wind River Range) we have packed out all of our feces and toilet paper on many days long trips in the back country. This is not a pleasant thing to do and it is not required by the wilderness, but this is the norm for climbers in this area because we area trying to limit our impact in an ecologically sensitive environment that receives traffic from a decent number of climbers. Climbers self police temporary climbing bans after rain on sandstone in the southwest due to the increased fragility of the rock when wet. Not allowing easy replacement of anchors will result in more climbing accidents as these anchors become unsafe. It would also result in higher impact techniques being utilized that don't utilize these more permanent anchors. These could have a greater impact on your cliff and clifftop rock and vegetation. Two bolted anchors are incredibly low impact when done properly and making it harder to maintain those anchors will have unintended negative consequences much larger than the downside of two bolted anchors that are usually inconspicuous