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Comments: Hello! I am writing to voice strong support for continuing to allow fixed climbing anchors in all state and federally owned lands, including wilderness areas. These anchors have been a part of the wilderness and back country landscape for decades.

Without fixed anchors, climbing in these areas would be considerably more dangerous. Mobilizing rescue response teams to respond to climbing accidents that could result from removal of fixed anchors would be a difficult and expensive endeavor.

Furthermore these anchors are maintained by volunteer and non profit climbing organizations, and at no expense to the forest service. Removal and regulation of these anchors would instead be an ongoing expense for the forest service.

The presence of anchors doesn't detract from the natural scenic beauty of a place, in fact most people don't even know that fixed anchors are present. A trail blaze or even a rock cairn is a more visible disturbance to the landscape.

Again, I encourage you to continue support the use of fixed climbing anchors on all state and federally owned lands. Thank you for your consideration! Chris Duke, Mason WI