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Comments: I urge Forest Service to reconsider the treatment of fixed anchors for rock climbing and other recreational uses in wilderness areas.

The proposed policy goes against the last 60 years of climbing management in the wilderness. Major advocacy groups including the American Alpine Club are great collaborators and strongly oppose this policy as well. Making adding or replacing anchors more difficult will make climbing fundamentally less safe. The agencies in charge of administration are already underfunded and staffed. This is creating a problem where a solution already in place is working well and safely. If there are issues in certain wilderness areas, local managers and climbing groups should work together. Permanent anchors already are limited, inherently, by a prohibition on power drills that most agree is the right solution.

Please work with the AAC to draft an appropriate policy!