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Comments: Let us be reasonable...

Climbing in wilderness areas has taught me to be a good steward of the land. This is why I am commenting on the draft policy on fixed anchors in wilderness. Fixed anchors are an essential piece in the climbers' safety system, are unobtrusive, and aren't prohibited installations under the wilderness act. I ask that we keep existing policies allowing the sensible use of fixed anchors in order to both protect wilderness character and provide for "primitive and unconfined recreation." For decades, federal agencies have successfully allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors, and the proposed policies are not only unreasonable, but also unsafe and will lead to many accidents in complex vertical terrain. The proposed policies will create obstacles to regular maintenance of fixed anchors as well as obstacles for "outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation" in wilderness. Fixed anchors are vital to maintaining climbing access in wilderness areas, and I urge you to NOT classify fixed anchors as "prohibited installations" in wilderness areas. Thank you.