

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/18/2023 6:43:50 PM

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Comments: Requiring an approval process for adding fixed anchors will result in increased danger to climbers and more damage to nature.

The moment you introduce barriers in a process, there will be less people willing to go through with it. There are already few enough people installing and updating fixed anchors in the wilderness; adding an approval process will only discourage those folks from doing so.

Consider the Sept 2022 death of climbers Chelsea Walsh and Gavin Escobar in a fall from Tahquitz Rock, which happened because they attempted to rappel off an old sling that was no longer capable of holding a rappel - <https://rmru.org/2022/09/28/2022-28/> - this incident would easily have been prevented if there were bolted anchors available for their descent.

I understand that the USFS has an interest in preserving the wilderness character of their parks and discouraging unsightly bolting; however, bolters are generally always deeply involved with their local climbing coalition and relevant authorities, and care about installing bolts in a way that does not detract from the character of the local wilderness.

This policy would be understandable if there was a demonstrated trend, nation-wide, of the installation of fixed anchors in an unsightly manner, but absent such a trend, we should be taking less onerous action.