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Comments: Judicious use of fixed anchors should be permitted in Wilderness areas. Many areas, like the Clifty Wilderness in the Daniel Boone National Forest, contain historical climbing areas that predate the establishment of the wilderness status. Using the Minimum Requirements Analysis for the maintenance and replacement of existing anchors is untenable. Fixed anchors are necessary and have minimal impact on the landscape at Wilderness climbing zones like Tower Rock. The Forest Service does not have the resources to manage this, let alone the existing administrative burden.

Outside of Wilderness areas, a blanket policy requiring an MRA is short-sighted. Areas like Redbird Ranger District in Kentucky have enormous potential for route development. Recreational impact in these areas is largely focused along gravel roads, minimizing additional impact. Economically disadvantaged communities like Breathitt County could benefit from expanded tourism dollars from bouldering development. These areas should not be penalized for the overuse of forest ecosystems out West.