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Comments: I am a climber, environmentalist, and Wilderness advocate. I believe climbing should be allowed and encouraged in Wilderness - it is one of the activities most aligned with a wilderness experience. Fixed anchors are necessary for safe and enjoyable use of the Wilderness for climbing - routes that require rappelling (no walk off) require use of some form of anchor. Bolted anchors are safer and less intrusive than anchors made of slings that are left behind.

Bolted anchors and belay stations are 100% necessary for climber's safe use of Wilderness. They are tiny, at the top of cliffs, and unobtrusive. They do not impact the wilderness experience of other users. Bridges, trail signs, old mining equipment are all much larger, more visible, and intrusive than bolted anchors.

I support restrictions on development of bolt-intensive "sport" routes in Wilderness. JOTR has done a good job of determining which climbs fit this category and distinguishing them from traditional climbs which have few or zero bolts except at the anchors. This is a good approach that should be replicated.

Climbers have a long history of environmentalism and Wilderness advocacy. Climbing is an appropriate activity in Wilderness. Bolted anchors are a necessity for safe and enjoyable use of the Wilderness. Viewing bolted anchors as "installations" is problematic. Perhaps a new category of "micro-installations" would provide a better method for dealing with this. Of all the problems we face today, bolts in the wilderness is near the bottom of the list.