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Comments: The Wilderness act states that wilderness "shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness." Personally, I have had the great fortune to explore many wilderness areas that I would have not otherwise explored due to climbing. Some of the very best memories of my life have been in the Rainbow Mountain wilderness, a place I would not have been able to explore without climbing and fixed anchors were necessary for this exploration. Many of the climbing routes I have been on in the Rainbow Mountain wilderness, and others (Mt. Charleston wilderness, Yosemite wilderness, Kachina Peaks wilderness), do not have an overabundance of fixed anchors that would either impair future use or prohibit the enjoyment of these areas as wilderness areas.

These fixed anchors have been critical to my safety on these routes and without them I would not have been able to explore the wilderness areas. I am certainly not arguing that the agencies in charge of wilderness areas should not be able to remove fixed anchors to protect the wilderness character of those areas. I am however arguing that fixed anchors should not be considered prohibited installations but should instead be considered important for the health and safety of the persons within the area.

Thanks for taking the time to read my submission. I very much appreciate the work you do to protect and manage our public lands.