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Title:

Comments: I recreate frequently in the Mt. Hood Wilderness. There are at least 3 crags in this area that I climb at, all containing fixed anchors. If it weren't for route developers and fixed anchors, no one would experience these incredible locations. Simply put, no one would go there. So what is removing fixed anchors from wilderness trying to accomplish? Removing people from wilderness? Removing fixed anchors removes people's ability to experience our country and its greatest resources, public lands. People get so fixated on a small area they think is "damaging", when there are thousands of acres of land that no one sets foot on. Why not focus on increasing recreation in these areas, than removing recreation from wilderness crags? Focusing on fixed anchors as a source of damage to the wilderness, is an extremely short sighted view. Climbers treat their crags with respect, and teach an ethic of conservationism to new climbers. Thinking that fixed anchors damages the wilderness is the same thought as trails damaging the wilderness. If you remove fixed anchors, you should remove all trails as well.

The fixed anchor debate has already been settled. Many climbing history resources (books, films, podcasts etc.) have covered the events that occurred. Climbers are some of the greatest outdoor stewards as we wish to maintain our climbing resources and keep them in good condition for generations to come.

America's public spaces are some of its greatest assets. Removing access through short sighted actions like removing fixed anchors only harms American public lands. I read a story recently of a man who moved from Washington to Texas. He thought he'd fit in well in Texas as he recreated the same as Texans. Problem is, over 90% of Texas is private land. The man had nowhere to go without trespassing. I don't know about you, but that's not a country I want to live in. I want to be able to go out in nature and decompress. Experience life as it was meant to be experienced.

People won't stop exploring, they'll just leave gear instead of relying on fixed anchors. Removing fixed anchors decreases safety, and will result in people getting hurt, stressing search and rescue operations. We celebrate individuals and teams who go on to achieve great feats like climbing Everest or Denali or Mt. Whitney, but then we make the tools they rely on for safety illegal? What is the message? What is the point? Do you really think people won't leave gear behind if their lives depend on it? Stop focusing on miniscule issues and start putting your energy towards mass producers of garbage instead of 10 bolts on a sport climb.

America's public spaces are one of its greatest assets. People recreate in the wilderness. People won't stop recreating in the wilderness. Climbers take care of the wilderness. Climbers use fixed anchors. Fixed anchors result in safer recreation.