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Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed restrictions on fixed climbing anchors in wilderness areas. My biggest concerns are safety, access, and impact. I have been climbing for about a decade and I am 60 years old. I have been hiking, camping, and canoeing in wilderness areas almost my entire life. During that

Bolted climbing anchors are near zero impact themselves, and are also impossible to see. But they increase safety and reduce human impact on wilderness areas.

Fixed bolts are obviously far safer for climbers than ad-hoc gear, but also by eliminating the need to build temporary anchors they reduce overall impact on the environment just as damage to trees and trampling of plant life around cliff edges. They allow people exploring wilderness areas to carry less gear, which again lowers impacts.