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Comments: I wanted to leave comments regarding the new USFS policies that would prohibit fixed anchors in America's Wilderness areas (NPs and Forest Service areas).

Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and are not prohibited 'installations' under the Wilderness Act. Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, a responsibility undertaken by the climbing community. Critical safety decisions often must be made in the moment and any authorization process should not impede those decisions. Fixed anchor maintenance needs to be managed in a way that incentivizes safe anchor replacement and does not risk the removal of climbing routes.

It is unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors across the country when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades.