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Comments: Eliminating fixed anchors in National Parks and Wilderness areas would create a clear and imminent danger to all climbers and could see possible lawsuits against the National Park Service for reckless abandonment.

Instead of banning fixed gear, it would be wiser to create a set of rules that would be enforced by a climbing ranger in National Parks where climbing takes place. A great example of this is in the City of Rocks National Reserve in Idaho. This is an example where the climbing ranger works hand in hand with climbers and would be a great model for our National Parks to follow. By working with the climbing community you would be increasing public safety and reducing EMS costs by replacing dangerous fixed gear, eliminating nonessential fixed gear, and regulating new routes fixed gear to be of a certain type with specific placements using standardized gear and installed properly.

If impact is the issue, worrying about fixed climbing gear compared to other impacts is like fretting over the zit when the tumor is growing.