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Comments: I have just learned that the National Park Service (NPS) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) released draft policies that would make fixed anchors (bolts, pitons, slings) prohibited in America's Wilderness areas. This is a truly awful idea. Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system. This will create safety issues for people who maintain and replace existing anchors. It is also 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. Please reconsider.

P.S. Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.