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Comments: As a frequent user of USFS managed lands, I'm writing to encourage you to NOT prohibit fixed climbing anchors. Your proposal is against the intent of the Wilderness Act and decades of precedent in the management of American-owned lands. Such a prohibition will create increased and unnecessary risk that will ultimately cause more backcountry rescues, injuries, and fatalities. Not only is this a senseless policy initiative that is a de facto a prohibition on climbing in wilderness areas, but the increased rescues, injuries and fatalities will lead to unnecessary cost expenditures by the USFS.

CLIMBING IS A LEGITIMATE USE OF WILDERNESS AND A FIXED ANCHOR BAN IS A PROHIBITION OF CLIMBING IN WILDERNESS AREAS.

I've been climbing since 1984. I've never placed a bolt. I climb using traditional protection methods and try to limit my impact on the environment as I climb. Wilderness climbers are not out to deface wilderness we just want to make sound ethical and safe decisions about how to ascend and descend.