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Comments: Greetings to all who will review these comments,

I would like to suggest that NPS adapt a new term or definition to the existing fixed gear in developed and developing climbing areas. While technically these installations, the removal of fixed gear from rock would increase the rate of weathering in those specific areas. The holes left in the rock from bolt removal will be exposed to rainfall which in specific climates could freeze, expand and cause the rocks around to crack and eventually break. Over a short time, this would be potentially dangerous to free climbers who climb these routes on their own gear. For this, I believe existing fixed gear that is deemed reliable and safe should remain, while unsafe or questionable fixed gear should be reviewed and possibly replaced or removed.

Additionally, I think it is up to the NPS to tighten their grip on new bolting projects. The influx of new climbers to the sport has unfortunately produced a number of untrained and irresponsible people attempting to bolt new routes all over the place. For this, the NPS should introduce a proposal system which makes climbers go through a vetting process about their project and means of bolting before they can go out and start plugging up rock walls. These proposals should be seen by geologists, conservationists and climbers alike for overall approval. The NPS should advertise self policing within the climbing community to report any unauthorized projects which are destructive to the area.