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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a climber who values and respects the wilderness. I am concerned about the possible ban or removal of fixed anchors in wilderness areas, and how this would harm my safety and rights.

Climbing is a well-established and legitimate wilderness use. It preserves the wilderness character and values, and does not harm or disturb the environment or other visitors. It is a low-impact and responsible activity.

Fixed anchors are well-established devices that protect me in unsafe or exposed areas of rock, and that allow me to safely belay and escape. They have been used for over 50 years. They are not prohibited by the Wilderness Act. They are vital for my safety and the rock. They are small, discreet, and durable, and they do not change or damage the rock. They are not visible from afar, and they do not enable unauthorized use. They are not permanent, and they can be removed or replaced if needed.

Banning or removing fixed anchors will create serious safety risks to me and to the rescue teams in an emergency. It will also reduce my access and enjoyment of many wilderness areas, and challenge my legitimacy and recognition as a wilderness user. It will not improve the wilderness character or values, but will only cause conflict and resentment.