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Comments: I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed prohibition of fixed anchors in Wilderness climbing areas. Fixed anchors play a crucial role in climbers' safety and have been part of climbing policies for half a century. They do not violate the Wilderness Act, as they are not considered prohibited "installations."

Implementing new guidance policies across the country that prohibit fixed anchors is unreasonable, especially considering that federal agencies have managed and authorized their use for decades.

Furthermore, the proposed prohibition raises several significant issues:

Safety Concerns: Prohibiting fixed anchors could lead to safety issues by impeding regular maintenance.

Obstruction to Exploration: Prohibiting fixed anchors hinders appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas. Climbers should be allowed to navigate complex vertical terrain with the flexibility to make in-the-moment decisions crucial for their safety.

Risk to Climbing Legacy: The proposed prohibition poses a threat to America's rich climbing legacy and could potentially erase some of the world's greatest climbing achievements.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed prohibition and work collaboratively with the climbing community to develop policies that prioritize safety, preserve Wilderness character, and safeguard our climbing legacy.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to a constructive dialogue on this issue.

Best regards,

Curtis Green