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Comments: I am writing to express my concern regarding potential prohibitions on fixed anchors in Wilderness climbing areas. Fixed anchors are crucial for climbers' safety, having been responsibly used for over half a century without conflicting with the Wilderness Act. It seems unreasonable to introduce broad prohibitions when federal agencies have historically allowed and authorized their use.

Prohibiting fixed anchors not only jeopardizes safety by hindering regular maintenance efforts but also obstructs the exploration of Wilderness areas. Climbers need the flexibility to make informed, in-the-moment decisions while navigating challenging terrains. Moreover, such prohibitions pose a threat to America's climbing legacy, potentially erasing some of the world's greatest achievements.

I urge careful consideration and collaboration between the climbing community and land managers to ensure that any policies strike a balance between safety, environmental preservation, and the continuation of our climbing heritage.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrick