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Comments: I appreciate your work to protect our wilderness areas. I believe that recreational users of these spaces are both grateful for their protection as well as the open access that has been granted to them for so long.

This is why the new interpretation that climbing installations as fixed anchors is problematic for protecting both the recreational user and the wild spaces. As a climber, fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and should not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act.

It is essential to allow climbers to explore wilderness in a way that permits them to decide what protection is necessary to safely navigate the climb. The MRA is onerous for administrators and land managers as it takes the responsibility of safely creating the route out of the climber's hands and transfers it to a less experienced administrator, who is better utilized in managing the wilderness in other ways.

I believe this new language threatens America's rich climbing legacy which has drawn millions out into the wilderness and in doing so has pushed for the further protection of these spaces. Making the wilderness harder to access and, less safe will do more to hurt the protection of these spaces than it will to make these spaces more pristine.

Final note: It's not the bolts that are the issue, it's the trekking through these spaces and camping that damages them. Create clearer guidelines here, just don't punish the climbers by taking away their protection.