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Comments: Climbers will die if this is enacted. The tiny fraction of land and rock in the US that climbers are interested in should be available for us to safely enjoy.

Fixed anchors constitute a crucial component of climbers' safety systems and are not considered prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. Adhering to established climbing policies that have permitted the judicious use of fixed anchors for over half a century will contribute significantly to safeguarding Wilderness character while facilitating primitive and unconfined Wilderness climbing experiences.

It is unreasonable for federal agencies to introduce new guidance policies that prohibit the use of Wilderness climbing anchors nationwide, especially when they have sanctioned, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades.

The prohibition of fixed anchors could introduce safety concerns by creating unnecessary barriers to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, a responsibility shouldered by the climbing community. Crucial safety decisions often require immediate action, and any authorization process should not hinder those decisions. Managing fixed anchor maintenance should encourage safe replacement and avoid the risk of removing climbing routes.

The prohibition of fixed anchors poses a hindrance to the appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas. Land managers should permit climbers to explore the Wilderness in a manner that allows for on-the-spot decisions crucial when navigating intricate vertical terrain.

Banning fixed anchors jeopardizes America's rich climbing legacy and could potentially erase some of the world's most significant climbing achievements. Climbing management policies should prioritize the protection of existing routes from removal.