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Comments: Dear USFS,

Fixed anchors are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act.

It is unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors across the country when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, a responsibility undertaken by the climbing community.

Prohibiting fixed anchors obstructs appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten America's rich climbing legacy.

America's public lands are maximized to allow for all types of user groups to enjoy the natural beauty and wildlife of our public lands. These policies are unfairly targeting one specific user group who create no more negative impacts on the land than other top user groups. Climbers are stewards of our public lands who want to keep these places as safe, clean, and protected as possible. It takes only one excursion into Forest Service land that is heavily hunted or used for off-road recreation to notice the extreme difference between the negative impacts that those users create vs rock climbers.

Climbers are stewards, we work to make our impact sustainable and minimize negative impacts. Yes, as humans, we're not all perfect. But it is clear that any negative impacts on the land from climbing are minute compared to other larger, more intrusive user groups (mountain bikers, off-road vehicles, hunters).

Please do not pass legislation which is clearly unfounded in data and disconnected from the realities of America's public land use.

Sincerely,

Jacob