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Comments: As a lifelong Alaskan alpinist, climber, skier, and outdoorsman I would like to voice my disapproval for governmental regulatory procedures regarding fixed anchors. I have personally pioneered many new climbing routes throughout state and federal wilderness lands around the state of Alaska. I know personally and first-hand that fixed anchors are absolutely essential to climber's safety, and the development and maintenance of new and existing climbing routes is a sacred act in the Alaskan mountaineering community.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing obstacles to maintenance and proper installation of fixed anchors; a responsibility currently undertaken and evaluated by a decentralized climbing community. Fixed anchor maintenance and installation needs to be undertaken in a grassroots manner (as it has been for decades) that incentivizes safe, timely, and proper anchor installation/replacement and does not risk the removal of existing climbing routes.

It is unreasonable and draconian for federal agencies to create and enforce new policies prohibiting wilderness climbing anchors across the USA when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades. This regulation obstructs appropriate exploration of wilderness areas, and public land managers need to allow climbers to explore wilderness areas in a way that allows for individuals to make decisions that are necessary when navigating complex and dangerous vertical terrain.

I would hate to see this regulation threaten to erase America's rich climbing history and legacy. This proposed regulatory oversight would be of great hindrance and remove personal freedoms that I, and many others, have enjoyed for decades on public lands.