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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to voice my concern about the wilderness climbing fixed anchor ban. As a serious amateur climber who got into this sport through the love of the outdoors (nearly 20 years ago at college in Maine), I have spent some of my most memorable outdoor adventures hiking and climbing around NFS land. To ban permanent anchors in many of these climbing areas would seriously limit and make more dangerous a sport that gives so many people a joy and appreciation for wilderness. I also understand that climbing can be damaging and am all for measures to avoid overcrowding and overuse of precious areas -- also I am critical of overbolting (and am highly against the overabundance of fixed quickdraws, or permadraws, at many sport climbing areas). However, fixed anchors are crucial for safe and fast travel in mountainous wilderness regions used for adventurous traditional climbing. Additionally, without these anchors other options (like slinging trees) would add more damage to the landscape vs a few bolts that are almost never noticeable from the ground. Thanks for hopefully considering a less severe stance on this issue that leaves room for respectful recreation and more dialogue with climbing organizations and park services.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reeves