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Title:

Comments: As a climber, I want to ensure the safe and responsible use of fixed anchors in [Wilderness/national forests] remains available to the climbing community. I respect and advocate for the responsible use of Wilderness areas and believe that fixed anchors can be a component of a sustainable Wilderness experience. Please revise your climbing guidance to reflect the practice and precedent of the last 60+ years-that fixed anchors for climbing can be used, replaced, and maintained in designated [Wilderness/national forest] areas.

These anchors in no way deter from the areas visually or functionally. As a climber they often are so subtly placed that they can be difficult to find for those actually looking for them.

Use of these anchors avoid the destructive impact of temporary anchors on trees or other natural features. Their impact on Wilderness and forest is much less than that which occurs from livestock use and feeding.

As a first responder, Park County Wyoming Search and Rescue member, these anchors allow for maximal climber safety. We in Search and Rescue rely on these anchors at times for extraction of climbers, hunters, and hikers. Removing these anchors would significantly impact our ability to respond to an injured patient in a timely and efficient manner.