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Comments: Hi,

I am strongly against the prohibition of fixed anchors in climbing areas. Fixed anchors are tiny, unobtrusive, and ultimately leave far less trace than the alternatives. The alternatives to fixed anchors are

1. erosion above the anchor as climbers summit and then walk around
2. "tat" in the form of nylon webbing and rappel rings that is functionally trash and leaches microplastics into the environment.
3. Accompanying 2 above is the overuse and eventual health degradation of trees near the crest that are used for rappelling. Between overuse, friction, and repeated force, this will eventually kill trees.

While fixed anchors leave holes, these holes can be patched if the hardware reaches the end of it's usable life.

Furthermore, as rock climbing becomes a more popular sport, fixed anchors are the gold standard in lowering off. If someone less experienced with rigging their own rappels from a tree falls, this leads to a large usage in SAR resources as the climbing has fallen in the backcountry.

Human safety coexisting with wilderness areas should be the ultimate goal, and prohibiting fixed anchors is contrary to both goals.