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Comments: Hi, I am writing to express my concerns about the proposal to prohibit fixed climbing anchors in wilderness areas. This is a massive overreach that will have unintended consequences like increased cost to taxpayers, reduced safety in wilderness areas, and alienation of an important environmental stewardship group - climbers.

Rock climbing and use of anchors precedes the Wilderness Protection Act and climbing was expressly considered in the origination of it as a legitimate use group of wilderness areas including fixed anchors.

As a climber of 25 years, I have seen and been a part of the amazing stewardship we as a collective group bring to wilderness areas. From local area cleanups and beautification projects to helping educate other general outdoor enthusiasts, climbers are some of the most knowledgeable and responsible user groups of our wilderness areas. Without the ability to use fixed anchors, which have almost no impact to wilderness, you fundamentally kill climbing as a legitimate use of our wilderness areas.

Removal of existing anchors and approval of any new anchors would a complete waste of government resources and have no impact to improving our wilderness areas.

I hope this policy is dead on arrival as it will not improve anyone's wilderness experience and will add more issues. Instead, lets unite with climbers as a group to come up with shared objectives on improving the wilderness experience that will actually make a difference.

Thanks,  
Isaac