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Title:

Comments: Existing and new climbing routes should be managed at the local level given the huge variety of site specific issues, technical parameters, cultural sensitivities, and use patterns. The FS and NPS should not undertake removal or ongoing maintenance of fixed gear whatsoever. They generally lack the qualifications, personnel, and funding for this. If there are funding sources, they should be directing toward maintaining access for the citizens of this country. Again, these tasks are within the wheelhouse of stakeholders local to the issues. It is folly to suggest that the federal government be responsible to police the myriad of remote areas throughout the country. This is a clear overreach and is not a fundable concept in any case. For 20 years, myself and a small group of volunteers have worked with our local ranger district to maintain the access roads at NO COST to the US taxpayer. I have replaced aged hardware at many crags with NO COST to the US taxpayer. As a taxpayer, I find it abhorrent that my tax dollars are being considered in such a silly and pointless end use. Admittedly, I generally develop routes in remote areas that see few people. In the case of a well used, busy climbing area, again the best management plan incorporates LOCAL CONTROL. Halt the ruling process immediately!