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Title:

Comments: Please do not ban fixed anchors in wilderness areas. Bolting and fixed anchors are critical for the safety of many climbers recreating wilderness areas and a ban on them and their replacement would create unsafe situations for those going out there. With more and more climbers looking to recreate in the beautiful wilderness areas of our country, banning new and replacement of fixed anchors will only lead to more accidents of new climbers that would otherwise be safe with properly maintained anchors. The enforcement of this will also be a huge headache for local management agencies as there are many areas and routes on the boundaries of wilderness and various property owners. Fixed anchors and their maintenance are a practice that have been in place for decades and have been the responsibility of the climbing community. Banning these practices will only alienate some of the greatest stewards of these lands while simultaneously adding unnecessary work for the land mangers in the form of enforcement and search and rescue.