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Title:

Comments: Hello, please do not ban the installation of new fixed anchors, and maintenance of existing fixed anchors in wilderness areas.

For starters, this will not limit traffic to these areas. Rather, it will put climbers in great danger as they will try to work around the fact that the fixed anchors are no longer there. Further more, it is wildly unrealistic that ALL current fixed anchors are going to be uninstalled. So, discontinuing the ability to maintenance the existing anchors is only going to make climbing that much more unsafe due to lack of maintenance to the anchors that are missed on obscure routes.

Climbers personal safety aside, the park service will have to commit more resources to enforcing these new rules, removing fixed anchors, and inevitably performing more SAR activities in the remote areas of the parks.

Not only does this cause a safety concern, but it also threatens climbing and climbing culture as a whole. The advancement of sport, and legacy of climbing will be at risk without being able to establish belay anchors and rap routes in areas unaccusable or unprotectable with traditional gear.

Certainly I am not saying anyone should be able to go into our forest and parks, wilderness or not, and start throwing up sport climbing routes. But making all fixed anchors illegal is laughably ridiculous, hinders exploration of our wilderness areas from one of the most passionate outdoor recreation groups and wilderness advocates, and is only going to make the issues you are trying to avoid more complicated.