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Comments: I am 76 and still love hiking and enjoying wilderness and its untouched beauty. Fixed climbing anchors used by some hiking groups are in direct violation of the wilderness policy, "leave no trace." These devices stay forever. Recreational climbing groups are a minority compared to the general public and they don't seem to recognize the destructive nature of their activity to the detriment of what is protected by law under the Wilderness Act, i.e. wildlife raptors, plants, the rocks and landscape.

A pause or moratorium has to be placed immediately to prevent future placement of these permanent devices until there is a scientific analysis and hopefully resolved by denying their use in wilderness and WSAs in my opinion. Just say, NO. Why are small groups always demanding full, unlimited access without permits and guidelines? There are plenty of areas for climbers outside of protected public lands. To allow permanent embedded devices in wilderness is opening a pandora's box for taxpayers, and the Forest Service which probably doesn't have the money or staff to monitor climbing activities.