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Comments: As an educator and climber, I want to ensure the safe and responsible use of fixed anchors in Wilderness/national forests (and here I am specifically thinking of the Linville Gorge Wilderness, Yosemite National Park, The North Cascades, Zion National Park, etc.) remain available to the climbing community. I respect and advocate for the responsible use of Wilderness areas and firmly believe that fixed anchors are a necessary component of a sustainable Wilderness experience.

PLEASE revise your climbing guidance to reflect the practice and precedent of the last half century-that fixed anchors for climbing can be used, replaced, and maintained in designated in the wilderness. Safe, equitable, and ecologically-conscious relationships with wild spaces are at stake, as much as is history and accessibility. Fixed anchors are paramount to safety and respect, please allow these symbiotic practices--which deepen our love and appreciation for the natural world, and place us in direct relationship with the spaces that envelop us--to continue.

Yours,

Emilio Taiveaho Pelaez

PhD. Candidate & Department of English & Department of