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Comments: Fixed anchors provide an additional level of safety used not only by climbers and alpine/wilderness enthusiasts but also for others in various rescue scenarios and physical/survival training applications. Many times it is difficult even for those looking for them to identify and find them. My belief is they should not be a visible eye sore to appreciators of natural environments and they should only be placed by qualified entities or related representatives (e.g., American Alpine Club (AAC), Texas Mountaineers, Potomac and Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), first responders, military personnel, and professional guide outfits) with common user curtsies like awareness for potential to injury those below, potentials from above, and leave no trace principles.

I also believe grid/route bolting for Sport Climbing has a place but should be more restrictive and again have assurances of legitimate quality, installation, and duration integrity. When NPS or USFS leadership decide there is a conflict with their interests (e.g., heavy traffic, disruption of very specific habitat, or proximity to a specific feature/resource) they may ask for a bolted anchor location to be moved but my guess is this will not be often. This type of action could also be used to spread out back country and climber traffic by monitoring easily accessed well know locations for more alternatives.

National Parks are pristine resources for us to conserve and preserve in their entirety and should be more selective in nature. However, forests and wilderness areas that comprise a far greater amount of overall acreage in my experience shouldn't have issues with well placed and relative safety ensured bolted anchors. I've spoken with many District Rangers and they have explained to me bolted anchors are fine in their respective backcountry areas as long as users are not creating an identifiable trail to their location. Seems to me with rock cairns, game trails, and modern GPS/navigation capabilities this is not a lot to ask of respective wilderness users privileged to appreciate forest and wilderness environments.