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Comments: I'm writing today to express my concern around plans to ban the use of fixed climbing anchors in wilderness areas. For over a century, wilderness climbers in America have been responsibly using fixed anchors such as pitons, slings or bolts to protect themselves when there is no other way to do so. Requiring pre-approval for such anchors would put climbers in an awkward position where they would have to chose between following the law or placing an anchor to keep themselves safe.

I support making policies that protect the wilderness and the wilderness experience for all user groups. Part of that means protecting the means by which people keep themselves safe while practicing their preferred form of recreation. Take for example stairs being built on trails to make steep hillsides passable safely. Climbing anchors sit in a similar place for climbers. The proposed policy would significantly impact the ability of climbers to protect themselves. This feels unfair to me. Thank you for your time.