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Comments: Overall, this is an unreasonable restriction on a legitimate wilderness activity. By restricting fixed anchors as "installations", regular maintenance of existing fixed anchors will be negatively impacted, and the tools needed to allow reasonable exploration of new wilderness would be severely hindered. This will also lead to significant safety issues as older fixed anchors that would need replacing will not be able to be maintained in a timely manner. A single rescue due to a safety issue has far greater impacts on the "wilderness character" than hundreds of bolts sitting in rock faces.

At the very least, existing fixed anchors should be allowed to be maintained without a full review process. I believe a better system than reviewing each fixed anchor would be to allow route developers to obtain licenses to be able to install bolts. This could ensure they are properly educated and trained in appropriate bolting practices and ethics for the areas, without requiring a time consuming review process for each fixed anchor. This allows The Park Service to have direct contact with those who will be maintaining or establishing new routes, but does not create the undue hindrance of the proposed review process.

Lastly, restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.

I propose that the best approach would be to allow fixed anchors, but ensure that the people establishing them are properly trained and educated. Establishing good communication between land managers and the users is the best way to ensure continued responsible use of the resources we have been blessed with in America. Please take these sincere comments into consideration from someone who loves and wants to preserve the incredible wilderness we have in America.