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Comments: Hiking and climbing are an interdependent spectrum of activities. This spectrum includes travel on relatively level terrain, the ascent of steeper trails and ascent of vertical or near vertical terrain. This continuous spectrum has been recognized since the 1930s, when the Sierra Club devised and promulgated a grading system, beginning with "Class 1" for level terrain and continuing through "Class 5" for steep terrain. Steep terrain is terrain relative to climbing.

Climbing is an appropriate activity and fixed anchors (bolts) are necessary for responsible, safe climbing. Like hiking trails on wilderness land, bolts are incorporated by human intervention. If fixed anchors are to be banned in wilderness, then so should hiking trails.

Fixed anchors are a valuable tool for resource management. Placement of fixed anchors can minimize climbing related impacts that can occur to fragile soils, vegetation and wildlife. This value is lost when fixed anchors are prohibited. Fixed anchors are a valuable tool for managing climbers. Fixed anchors can greatly enhance the safety of climbers. They can also contribute the controlling of descent routes as a means of land management. Decades of use and acceptance of fixed anchors on wilderness lands eliminated in a single ruling is unmanageable and a perfect example of poor government policies and over-reach into the unenforceable. It would lead to more fixed anchors and damage, as many climbers would (to prevent serious life threatening injuries) carry bolt kits and dramatically increase the amount of duplicate, poorly managed fixed anchors - anarchy on the walls. I cannot believe that the Biden administration is contemplating eliminating over 90% of wilderness climbing routes, please re-think this. I will not turn out to vote this election cycle if this goes through.