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First name: Anon

Last name: Anon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Safety and Wilderness Act Compliance: Fixed anchors are vital for climbers' safety and do not constitute prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. Adhering to established policies that have allowed the careful use of fixed anchors for over fifty years supports both Wilderness character and safe, unconfined climbing experiences.

Historical Precedent and Reasonableness: It is unreasonable for federal agencies to suddenly prohibit wilderness climbing anchors when there's a longstanding history of their acceptance, management, and authorization. Such a shift disregards decades of established practice and understanding.

Safety and Maintenance of Fixed Anchors: Banning fixed anchors could lead to safety hazards by hindering the routine upkeep essential for these safety devices. The climbing community has historically taken responsibility for this maintenance, and any regulatory process should not impede urgent safety decisions. A system that supports safe anchor replacement and preserves climbing routes is crucial.

Exploration and In-the-Moment Decision Making: Prohibiting fixed anchors limits the appropriate exploration of Wilderness areas. Climbers often need to make spontaneous decisions in complex vertical terrains, and restrictions on anchors could unnecessarily constrain this aspect of climbing.

Preservation of Climbing Legacy: Banning fixed anchors risks damaging America's rich climbing heritage and could potentially erase significant achievements in the climbing world. Policies should be designed to protect existing routes and support the continuation of this legacy.