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Comments: Climbing is an important part of my life. It's taken me to incredible places around the country and connected me with communities and public lands. I'm particularly inspired by climbing in Wilderness areas and I'm very concerned about a massive reversal in decades of responsible use of anchors in Wilderness areas. These anchors are not "installations" and are critical to the safe and sustainable use of many climbing routes in Wilderness areas.

Wanton drilling and bolting, as some sport climbing areas have, is not the same as responsible and minimalist use of permanent anchors in Wilderness areas. At times the only reasonable and safe protection is for pitons or bolts-bolts being the most sustainable and least damaging to the rock in the long term. Making their use and maintenance in new routes and/or on historical routes is not the direction the USFS and NFS should go.

Protection of Wilderness areas is extremely important to me. However protection and sustainable access are NOT mutually exclusive. Americans need appropriate and sustainable access to our public, wild lands in order to support local economies, healthy communities, future conservation initiatives as well as the deeply rewarding experiences than cane be had in Wilderness climbing areas when the necessary safety tools can remain and new ones can be used.

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