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Comments: Federal agencies should not have the authority to unreasonably withhold the right for outdoor enthusiasts to ensure their safety regarding climbing anchors. The creation of new guidelines, policies and procedures prohibiting wilderness climbing anchors is unwarranted and unprecedented.

Fixed anchors are not only a crucial element of a climbers' safety system, but also help reduce the amount of resources required for rescue services, assuming the individuals using them are doing so by following industry standard practices and possess an adequate skill set required for their intended use. Prohibiting fixed anchors will not only create safety issues, risk the elimination of established climbing routes, but it will also obstruct or deter Wilderness exploration when navigating complex vertical terrain.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will undermine & threaten the climbing community and its legacy. We need more protection of existing routes, not removal of them. 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.