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Comments: Creating a national forest service policy on fixed anchors and fixed climbing equipment is unnecessary. Individual areas already have policies that are completely sufficient for managing the installation of climbing anchors for that specific park or wilderness area. These policies were developed specific to the climbing history and conditions of that place. A national policy would override individual park policies unnecessarily.

The climbing community and the Access Fund promote wilderness preservation, and we adhere to an ethic of not "over-bolting", bolting too many routes, or installing unnecessary bolts.

Bolts in rock walls do not detract from appreciating the beauty of a natural place. Often bolts are camouflaged so they cannot be seen while looking at the wall from a distance. Many visitors to public lands and parks enjoy seeing climbers on the walls. I have not heard of someone being offended by seeing climbers on the walls. In fact, I've always been greeted by friendly and curious questions by tourist visitors who gaze in awe at seeing climbers on the walls.

Climbers, the Access Fund, and individual national parks already have the situation under control. We do not need additional policies created to regulate climbing on public lands.

Sincerely,

Chris Norwood