

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 6:00:40 PM

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Comments: I am a climber of 11 years and have climbed in areas of various land management agencies: wilderness, USFS, BLM, state parks, etc.

I feel climbers as a user group have had decades long success in self-monitoring the installation and replacement of fixed anchors.

There will always be examples of user groups impacting the environment. In comparison to other user groups such as hikers and equestrian use, climbers overall have less impact on the environment and have demonstrated more effective self-organization and policing to reduce impact of their user groups.

Bolt anchors are discrete, minimally invasive and overall do not cause environmental impacts or largely affect other users' experience.

Fixed anchors should not be classified as permanent installations and should not be prohibited for use in and outside of wilderness areas.

Placing the burden of evaluating each bolt for necessity and whether it passes a minimum requirement analysis would overwhelm local agencies, be prohibitively costly, expending taxpayer money in areas local climbing organizations volunteer their time and specific expertise to help facilitate fixed anchors replacement. This will create safety issues which could otherwise be avoided.

Other land management agencies will likely adopt similar policies and the result would adversely affect a recreational activity that has existed for many decades, predating the designation of stated wilderness areas. The policy developed should preserve the opportunity for new fixed anchors unless an analysis has demonstrated climbing should be restricted to preserve cultural and natural resources.