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Comments:

Climbing is a quickly growing sport, and management of recreational areas to maintain the beauty of our shared spaces is critical as traffic increases. However, I do not believe the proposed prohibition on fixed anchors is the appropriate response. It will make the use of many of these routes much more dangerous over time. Safe access to climbing on public lands will continue to foster and grow the public's support for protection and stewardship of such public lands. Throttling access by attacking critical pieces of safety will only foster apathy for our national treasures! There are more reasonable ways to regulate fixed installations and traffic to routes. Access to climbing on public lands is a treasured tradition that should be carefully managed and regulated, but not with draconian and potentially life-endangering policies! Please consider a permit or registration system over an outright ban, so that bolts and anchors can be safely and legally maintained, while protecting wilderness areas.

Furthermore, restricting new route development to "existing climbing opportunities" is too harsh. The way to protect important and sensitive areas from new routes is not an outright ban. Again, permitting and registration would be a much better approach.