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Comments: Climbing is for the past 100 years an international recognized recreational activity. Climbing educates people about nature and conservation as well as contributing to well being and health. Safe climbing is impossible without safe fixed anchors. Omitting fixed anchors from climbing routes is a sure way to get climbers injured or killed. This is even more relevant since in current times more and more people have recognized the benefits of climbing. Climbing has become an Olympic discipline and recruits a substantial number of people to the sport. Substantial climbing routes with fixed anchors of cultural and historic importance are in American wilderness areas.

Prohibiting fixed anchors in wilderness areas (or elsewhere) is not in line with safety, current needs of the outdoor community, nor international standards (e.g., comparison to regulation in the European Alps).

Restricting climbing to only existing routes does not match the current spirit nor requirement of the large outdoor community and invites future conflicts.

Please keep American climbing routes in wilderness areas safe! Do not prohibit bolted anchors! Do not restrict climbing to just the current status quo.

Thank you!