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Comments: Having climbed on National Forest Service and National Parks lands in several states, I'm greatly concerned with both agencies plans to prohibit fixed anchors in wilderness areas, for several reasons:

1. Safety: Many climbs require a minimum of fixed gear in order to be safe. That gear in turn needs to be maintained in order to remain safe. Power tools are already prohibited in wilderness (AFAIK that's consistent across the US) and as such hand drilling is required which is tedious and labor intensive. That alone limits how many new anchors will be installed and volunteers replacing old anchors are very dedicated towards their tasks.
2. Climbers will be climbers, ie routes will continue to attract climbers and if the safety of these routes is reduced, more accidents will happen. As most wilderness is remote, injured parties may have to wait a long time before help arrives. More frequent and more severe accidents will ultimately also require more Search and Rescue resources. All in all a bad combo. Finally, rescue personnel themselves may need to install new anchors in order to assist an injured party, making the entire ban illogical.
3. America is facing an obesity and mental health crisis and climbing is becoming more popular at the same time with the introduction to the Olympics. Outdoor recreation should be encouraged, not prohibited. Climbing in particular encourages healthy physique and provides a great mental outlet / stimulus. Spending time in nature has proven over and over again to improve mental health. This ban would eliminate a significant amount of climbing to individuals wanting to be physically active and to explore nature.
4. Any kind of permitting system would heavily rely on most likely already understaffed resources and would create inconsistent experiences further endangering traveling climbers.

Thank you for your consideration.