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Comments: Hello,

I'm writing to address the proposed changes to the usfs policy on permanent climbing anchors in wilderness areas. I think these policies are too restrictive and don't take into account the constantly changing nature of rock climbs and fixed rock climbing anchors. The MRA process will be slow and time consuming, and would take too long to reasonably replace a fixed anchor once it is damaged or no longer safe.

Removing previous fixed anchors also feels like an overreach. I do agree that there may be some cases where there are fixed anchors that are unnecessary, but I'm general, I think the presence of fixed anchors does not detract from the unspoildness of wilderness areas, as they are often so small they can't be seen unless you already know they are there. Climbers are outdoor recreators, and I think the small impact of a fixed anchor is a worthwhile piece of impact for the continued use of these areas for recreation. Trail signs for hikes can detract from a wilderness environment, but they remain up so that everyone is able to enjoy the area.

I think even something as simple as requiring bolts that match the character of the rock they are in (painting a steel bolt red in a red rock area, for example) would be a much easier solution to the issue of the claimed eyesore of fized anchors.

Thanks for reading, and for your time!

Tony