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First name: daniel

Last name: uhlmann

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fixed anchors are an essential part of rock climbing and mountaineering. They have existed since the beginning of climbing history all over the world. The question at hand, of the future of fixed anchors, is quite simple. While the extreme examples of fixed anchor use can be taken: historically the self-regulation of the climbing community, has resulted in responsible bolting and other fixed-anchor practices in some of America's most treasured wilderness areas.

I am an internationally licensed mountain guide, IFGMA, through the American Mountain Guides Association, and have worked professionally and legally in such cherished sites as Yosemite National Park, and many many other wilderness areas. My experience personal climbing and guiding is global, from Antarctica to Alaska, and I cherish the wilderness, and the wilderness experience as much as anyone.

On the practical side, it is simple necessary to have some amount of fixed anchors to facilitate rock climbing, and by and large, those fixed anchors need to be maintained to be safe for current and future use. It is entirely impractical and unnecessary to have the installation and maintenance of fixed anchors in wilderness areas managed by the land management bodies. Climbers have long self-regulated in a way that, in my professional opinion, is adequate and within keeping of the character of the areas considered.