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Title:

Comments: 1. Fixed anchors are essential to climbing safety and are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act

- a. Fixed anchors are necessary for a safe ascent and descent of climbs and would put climbers at risk if we are not allowed to replace old anchors or use up to standard fixed systems to access routes
- 2. Prohibiting fixed anchors will negatively impact exploration of our Wilderness areas
- a. Exploration is so important for our society and has been a part of our history if we can't safely explore our wilderness, exploration will certainly decrease as a result
- 3. America has a rich climbing history and legacy and prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten this
- a. Historic and classic climbing routes will become inevitably inaccessible or not reasonable to pursue due to safety risks if fixed anchors are prohibited in Wilderness areas
- b. Fixed anchor maintenance needs to be managed in a way that incentivizes safe anchor replacement and does not risk the removal of climbing routes
- 4. Restricting the establishment of new routes to only "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is not enforceable and will create confusion
- a. Non-wilderness climbing management should maintain the opportunities for safe fixed anchors unless climbing is needing to be restricted in a specific area to protect cultural and/or natural resources