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Title:

Comments: As a climber and an appreciator for responsible care of national parks and national forests, I would like to advocate for the continued use of safe permanent anchors. Removing anchors or reducing maintenance of defective anchors will result in climbers using defective anchors and increase risk of serious climbing accidents, or in attempting to build transient anchors without proper knowlege, resulting in higher risk for serious climbing accidents. These fixtures, when used responsibly, allow people to enjoy the outdoors safely. For example, the permanent anchors in New River Gorge National Park have made me an avid visitor of the park and allowed me to enjoy the beauty of the park by climbing confidently and safely. This has been a precedent for 60+ years. Please do not reverse this precedent. Please revise climbing guidance to reflect this precedent for accessibility and safety of the climbing community and allow placement, replacement, and maintenance of these fixtures.