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Comments: I am a cave explorer in regions all across the United States, including in wilderness areas. I love the protection that wilderness designation provides my favorite places but I am concerned about the blanket prohibition of fixed anchors and bolts which are necessary for me to conduct my exploration. For example, a cave we are working on exploring we have left fixed rigging in that allows us to come back each year and not waste our time, but to protect the wilderness character for other users we have left the first pitch un-rigged.

To the best of my knowledge, current practice has never had any negative impacts on other users and their experience. Fixed anchors are generally small or hidden out of sight.