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## Title:

Comments: Banning the use of fixed anchors in the wilderness where climbing is considered a legitamate recreational activity is only going to increase the number of injuries and fatalities in these wild places. I do believe that as climbing grows in popularity there isn't anything wrong with the increased regulation of fixed anchors. For example, route developers/ climbing stewards who understand when a bolt is deemed dangerous and needs to be replaced for example should weild this power with little-to-no pushback. But someone who is just going out and bolting pieces of rock that shouldn't be bolted is obviously irresponsible and this should be recognized as unacceptable. Sure, but banning all fixed anchors in wilderness places? That is a naive and irresponsible stance if we are going to consider climbing to be a recreational activity in the outdoors. Fixed anchors make climbing safe on both the ascent and the descent. When a party is in the mountains climbing and a storm rolls in, a fixed anchor may save all the lives in that party. In some cases, a party needs to descend off the mountain with no good trail to the base, in this case there is no alternative safe way to descend than using some sort of fixed anchor to rapell safely back to the ground. Fixed anchors also provide climbing to be accessible to not just outdoor recreationalists, but anyone who would never otherwise get to experience the joy of moving in the mountains in such a unique way. In my opinion, the conversation around how fixed anchors should be maintained in the wilderness is a completely valid and understandable concern, but I believe that banning all fixed anchors in wilderness places is a lazy and naive "solution" to this problem (I say solution in quotation marks because it's not even a real solution, it's like someone who is taking an acadamic test and doesn't know any of the answers so they just select "C" for every single multiple-choice question on the exam.). Hopefully climbers and the forest service can come up with a good solution to keep these wild places wild.