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Comments: I have been a rock climber for over 20 years. It's an activity that has taken me throughout our parks and wilderness spaces. Two key principles of climbing that I learned early were: 1) respect and take care of the natural spaces into which we venture, and 2) respect and care for the safety systems that protect our adventures.

With those principles in mind, I wish to voice my objections to any new regulations on the placement or maintenance of the anchor systems climbers depend on for their safety. The proposed regulations would put undue burdens on climbers exploring new routes as well as climbers seeking to maintain the safety of existing routes.

It is my belief that following existing climbing policies that allow judicious use of fixed anchors - policies which have existed for more than a half century - will best protect Wilderness character while providing for primitive and unconfined Wilderness climbing.

Prohibiting fixed anchors will threaten America's rich climbing legacy and could erase some of the world's greatest climbing achievements. Climbing management policy needs to protect existing routes from removal.

Please strongly consider rejecting any new regulations on fixed climbing anchors.