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Comments: I would like to express my opposition to the proposed changes in managing fixed climbing anchors in wilderness. Fixed Anchors are essential parts of climbers' safety systems and not prohibited installations under the Wilderness Act. Continuing to follow existing policies allowing judicious use of fixed anchors will best protect wilderness character while providing for primitive and unconfined wilderness climbing. In addition, prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing new obstacles to regular maintenance of existing fixed anchors, most often by volunteers from the climbing community.

Further, use of MRA as a standard for fixed anchor installation or replacement is unreasonable as restricts in the moment safety decisions and adds unnecessary bureaucratic steps for managing safe, sustainable climbing. Changing from existing management practices will likely eliminate iconic, longstanding climbing routes at places like Joshua Tree, Zion, and Yosemite National Parks, erasing America's rich climbing legacy in many places.