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Title: President

Comments: I am writing to oppose the proposed reclassification of climbing anchors as prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act.

The sport of rock climbing is rapidly growing in popularity and has been for several decades. This means that many, many more climbers are seeking places to enjoy the sport on our public lands. Fixed anchors are an essential part of the system which keeps adventurers safe while traveling vertically in dangerous terrain.

Anchors also provide a vital part of a system used to [self-]rescue people who are in danger when something goes wrong. In the mountains, it is often the case that speed means survival.

Fixed anchors not much larger than a 50c coin, and are virtually invisible from more than a few feet away. We need to keep allowing the climbing community to continue to judiciously make use of them in order to keep everyone who is on our cliffs as safe as possible at all times. The climbing community has been doing this for over 50 years; removing the right to place anchors universally, permanently, and without exception would be far too extreme of a policy shift to consider.