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Comments: I am writing as a rock climber who has participated in outdoor activities for many years and have raised children who have become avid rock climbers.

Fixed anchors are an essential part of outdoor rock climbing. Climbers depend on fixed anchors for the safe practice of the sport. While much climbing can be done without fixed anchors, placing them is sometimes unavoidable. Due to the varied nature of rock and different routes it can be difficult to plan in advance where the anchors will be needed.

Fixed anchors suffer degradation from use and the environment and require replacement from time to time. The anchors can be camouflaged so that other wilderness users are not impacted by their presence.

I urge you not to ban or place undue restrictions on the establishment of new routes or the placement of fixed anchors, doing so would negatively impact the safety and enjoyment of many people who have found profound connection with wilderness through the practice of rock climbing.