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Comments: \* Fixed anchors, integral to climbers' safety, are not forbidden "installations" according to the Wilderness Act. Adhering to established climbing policies, in place for over half a century, better safeguards Wilderness character while supporting primitive and unconfined climbing experiences.

\* Federal agencies should refrain from introducing new policies nationwide that bar Wilderness climbing anchors, considering they have sanctioned fixed anchors for decades. Imposing such restrictions could impede safety measures and hinder the regular maintenance crucially carried out by the climbing community.

\* Prohibiting fixed anchors poses safety risks by creating unnecessary obstacles for their maintenance. Decisions related to safety often demand immediate action, and any authorization process should not hinder these crucial decisions. Managing anchor maintenance should encourage safe replacement and avoid the removal of climbing routes.

\* Restricting fixed anchors hampers the proper exploration of Wilderness areas. Land managers should permit climbers to navigate complex vertical terrain with in-the-moment decisions, fostering a balanced approach to Wilderness exploration.

\* Banning fixed anchors jeopardizes America's rich climbing legacy and could erase some of the world's greatest achievements. Climbing management policies should prioritize the protection of existing routes from removal.