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Comments: Hi,

I'm a recreational climber who often enjoys the outdoors via climbing activities. Fixed anchors that are reliably maintained are absolutely essential to safety and I'm so disappointed to hear that this is in consideration. I would urge you to consider anchors as legal unless they are causing demonstrable negative impacts on the space. I am open to a structured approach to installing new anchors that keep the safety of the climbing community in mind.

* It is unreasonable for federal agencies to create new guidance policies prohibiting Wilderness climbing anchors across the country when they have allowed, managed, and authorized fixed anchors for decades.

* Prohibiting fixed anchors will create safety issues by imposing unnecessary obstacles to the regular maintenance of fixed anchors, a responsibility undertaken by the climbing community. Critical safety decisions often must be made in the moment and any authorization process should not impede those decisions. Fixed anchor maintenance needs to be managed in a way that incentivizes safe anchor replacement and does not risk the removal of climbing routes.

Restricting the establishment of new routes to "existing climbing opportunities" on non-Wilderness lands is unenforceable and will create confusion amongst land managers and climbers. Non-Wilderness climbing management policy should maintain opportunities for new anchors unless and until analyses determine climbing should be restricted to protect cultural and natural resources.