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Comments: As a climber of nearly 20 years, I am very concerned about the proposed USFS guidelines that classify fixed anchors as prohibited installations. Doing so would destroy climbing's legacy, undermine its ability to meet the recreational demand at a time of sustained growth, and put all users, my community & friends, at risk.

Not allowing maintenance, ie - replacement, of worn fixed anchors will create safety issues.

Fixed anchor maintenance needs to be managed in a way that incentivizes safe anchor replacement.

Additionally, critical safety decisions often must be made in the moment and any authorization process should not impede those decisions.

New route development needs to be managed in a way that recognizes the recreational demand. The proposed restriction 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.

Climbers are great stewards of the land/environment and important allies to land managers, these proposed regulations undermine this relationship.

I sincerely hope the USFS reconsiders this proposal and via dialogue with climbers finds a way to incorporate allowing fixed anchors in their plan.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Cory