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Comments: As a climber and Gym Ambassador for the Carolina Climbers Coalition, I'm firmly opposed to the proposed directives as currently written. Classifying fixed anchors as prohibited "installations" based on semantics is not only careless but dangerous: they are an essential piece of climbers' safety system and allow for a safe and respectful exploration and enjoyment of our beloved Wilderness spaces. These policies would overturn nearly 60 years of sustainable Wilderness climbing precedent and impact some of America's most iconic climbs in a negative fashion.

While I agree that bolting and route maintenance needs to be properly managed, you cannot place this responsibility on an overburdened park system or underfunded program. 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. Please revise or rescind this directive based on the Protecting America's Rock Climbing Act and America's Outdoor Recreation Act, both of which can and should govern these issues.