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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USFS,

Climbing is incredibly important to me and many others and the fixed anchors in wilderness areas are essential for the safety of myself and other climbers. The rules around climbing anchors have been present for over half a century and these fixed anchors have not presented an issue in this time. Fixed anchors do more to promote the correct usage and enjoyment of wilderness lands for all.

To change the regulations around fixed anchors now would be extremely unreasonable after them having been allowed for so long. It will only make access to these wilderness more dangerous and would be counterintuitive to the purpose of wilderness areas. The only people who will ever see these fixed areas are climbers who use these fixed anchors. Any hikers or other visitors in wilderness wouldn't see these and I don't know a climber who would prefer to climb without them.

Navigating vertical is very complicated. Even with fixed anchors it is difficult, without it it would be near impossible. Land managers need climbers to access these areas. I am also concerned about the precedent this would set. Climbing access around the country could be threatened by banning fixed anchors.

Not only would it set a bad precedent and create dangerous situations, it would also be completely unenforceable with existing routes, it would heighten danger and confusion for climbers and land management. By the very nature of climbing it is very secluded and in wilderness areas even more so.

Sincerely,

Noah