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Comments: Please reconsider the updated proposed fixed gear procedures. The new evaluation is inaccurate and overly reductive. It does not properly weight the benefits of fixed gear in wilderness areas over their downsides.

Fixed anchors are an essential part of climber safety and are not prohibited under the wilderness act. Fixed anchors have been present in American wilderness areas such as Linville Gorge for over 50 years. Regulations on fixed anchors have not been necessary in the past, and are not correct now.

Additionally, these regulations will create undue burden and prevent climbers from properly servicing previously installed anchors. The benefits of fixed anchors in our wilderness areas greatly outweigh the downsides.