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Comments: Fixed anchors are essential for safety and 'clean' climbing and are not prohibited "installations" under the Wilderness Act. Categorizing them as installations goes against the intent and ethos of the Wilderness Act's efforts to protect and provide access and engagement to the wild that benefits far more than it impedes.

The decades-old policies to allow, manage and authorize these safety anchors are working to both support safe wilderness use and protect the freedoms of safe exploration and enjoyment of wilderness areas that historically and currently provide adventure and nature experiences for citizens and visitors alike. These freedoms are foundational to our national values.

Co-governance between the climbing community, local and federal agencies has a better chance of making the nuanced, protective decisions that support safe, innovative explorations of US wilderness and stay true to the intent and spirit of adventure we, as a nation and individuals outdoor enthusiasts hold dear.

Restricting "new routes" is unenforceable and will cause confusion and unnecessary tension between adventurers and land managers. Of course cultural and natural resources must be protected based on analysis of both new and known sites. Absent evidence of need for that analysis the blanket application of limitations will impede rather than improve quality use of our wilderness areas.

Please team with the climbing and other wilderness use communities to join forces and collaborate to determine true protective measures that expand rather than limit safe exploration and enjoyment of our wild lands.