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Comments: The existing policies and procedures regarding fixed bolt anchors have existed for as long as they have for good reason. These policies work. The proposed changes not only represent an obstacle to enjoyment of the very wilderness this agency is tasked with protecting, but has the potential to put at risk the very lives of climbers themselves. More to the point, the policies proposed are unenforceable as they are full of opportunity for unnecessary confusion. A far better practice, at minimum, would be to allow opportunities for new anchors until analyses can determine SPECIFIC areas that require preservation, not a blanket ban.

The existing policies have existed for decades and it is unreasonable for a federal agency to support drastic changes that would have deeply negative effects for climbers and legacy of climbing in the United States as a whole.

A far better solution would be to allow the legislation currently working its way through Congress, specifically the Protecting America's Rock Climbing Act and America's Outdoor Recreation Act, that not only have unanimous and bi-partisan support from their respective committees, but are much more even-handed and reasonable policies that will do a better job of genuinely protecting America's wilderness.