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Comments: I would like to offer comments to improve the proposed guidance from the USFS regarding fixed anchors/equipment in wilderness areas. As an avid climber of more than 10 years, I have firsthand experience in the importance of good rulemaking and governance over fixed gear in the wilderness, and how it contributes to safety above all. Without the ability to add new fixed anchors, climbers are inherently required to use their own gear, which would otherwise be used to aid in climbing the next section of rock. That might require the climber to make more bold (risky) climbing choices, inevitably leading to more accidents. It's also not as simple as just bringing more gear. In the mountains, going light means going fast, and going fast means staying safe. Fixed anchors also serve an auxiliary purpose of pointing climbers in the right direction. It's a way of keeping you on track, and possibly out of the way of dangerous rockfall. There is a popular route in national climbing destination that has a natural anchoring position half way up the route. If you build the anchor using natural protection, it puts you directly under a gully known to have frequent rockfall. If you build the anchor to the left, however, where no natural protection is available, you are totally shielded from the gulley rockfall. I would also like to add that climbers are extremely judicious when it comes to putting in fixed anchors. This is a common internal argument within the community, but from the opposite direction. Internally, we argue that climbers too often opt not to put in fixed anchors when safety really dictates that they should. Also, this is hard to believe without actually standing under the rock, but climbing anchors are *extremely* hard to see from the ground. They're hard to see from 25 feet away even. And there are certain climbing areas where people even paint the anchors the natural color of the rock to make them still more invisible. I do not see it as a blight on the natural surfaces if the anchors can't even be seen with binoculars when you know where to look. Also, restricting new routes to existing climbing opportunities on non-wilderness lands is going to create confusion, and ultimately be unenforceable. I encourage you to do away with this rule. And I will just close by saying that America has among the richest climbing legacy and tradition in the world. Various climbing areas are international destinations people all over the world dream of. Climbing policies should help protect existing routes, just as you would any other object of national heritage and importance. Thank you for your time and considering my position.