Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 3:43:18 AM
First name: Larry
Last name: Scritchfield
Organization:
Title:
Comments: I have been climbing in wilderness areas in the western U.S. for the past fifty-three years. First in Wyoming, especially in the Wind River Range and the Tetons, later in the deserts of Utah and Arizona, and in both mountains and deserts of Nevada and California.

Climbers I know are wilderness stewards. Climbers love nature and love wilderness, and want to preserve it.

Bolts especially, but other, less-impactful, climbing anchors could indeed be interpreted as "installations" under strict reading of the Wilderness Act. If indeed they are considered installations, the Wilderness Act needs to be amended.

Climbers must be able to leave anchors behind. In most cases by far, no other user groups are in the least aware that this is a common, even essential, practice by climbers. The impact is not nothing. But it is negligible.