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Comments: My experiences in the Eastern Sierra and North Carolina's Western Mountains involved traditional climbing techniques where one would mostly place camming devices. However, on a lot of these multi-pitch climbs, the only way to safely get off the mountain is to rappel, which requires the establishment of fixed anchors. Many belay stations also require fixed anchors to help ensure a safe climbing experience. Many climbing fatalities in the mountains happen on the descent, so it is imperative to allow climbers to make those critical and timely decisions when it comes to the inclusion of bolt placement and fixed anchors...I encourage the USFS to allow the climbing community to continue our 60+ year practice of judicious maintenance of our climbing areas. If there's specific climbing areas where there are cultural sites or an area that interferes with native bird populations that need to be protected, for example, then I believe that this is a conversation to be had with the larger community of land stewards and local scientists.

Thank you.