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Title:

Comments: Fixed anchors are often used in Sequoia National Forest and Sierra canyons. They allow canyoneers to more quickly progress through a canyon, avoiding crowding at anchors, and they can reduce environmental damage by ensuring the anchor is located at an optimum place so that ropes do not groove the soft Navajo Sandstone when pulled down. Plus with water heavy canyons, natural anchors are often not possible as the water would wash them away all the time. And the fix anchors make it possible to safely descent the waterfall and retrieve your rope. The canyoneering community helps to monitor fixed anchors and make sure the canyon is safe. If a large flash flood happens in a canyon, it needs to be run with people who can rebolt the canyon as needed. Canyoneers do this for the community and communicate if a canyon has been run and is safe. We write trip reports about experiences. Having an approval process for canyoneering anchors would no doubt end up closing many canyons for recreation, as the national park service has been underfunded. Canyoneers care deeply about the canyons they run and act as Stuarts for them. Canyoneers also contribute to national parks by utilizing them and paying for permits in Zion for example. Also anchors in slot canyons are not visible to noncanyoneering visitors. Canyoneers often use natural colored webbing on natural features in technical canyons for anchors like pinch points between boulders, webbing wrapped around rocks cammed in cracks, or knot chocks in cracks. Only canyoneers see canyon anchors for the most part and the fixed anchors actually help preserve the natural surroundings in many cases and gives access to amazing beauty. That amazing beauty inspires us to preserve nature and help protect it.