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Comments: While I understand the pursuit of a management strategy to oversee climbing anchors and bolts in wilderness and non-wilderness areas, I'm concerned the draft policy's proposal as written would risk rendering fixed anchors in wilderness illegal and pose serious safety hazards.

The proposal requires each anchor to be individually reviewed. This seems like a potentially unreasonable request to burden already under-resourced land management agencies, which may then lead to anchors not being safely replaced in a timely, critical manner, thereby risking climbers' lives. It is additionally a burden on the replacement and maintenance of climbing anchors, which often occurs under volunteer support.

I urge the USFS to consider adjusting their policy. Please do not classify climbing bolts and anchors as "installations". Use of this draft language opens up the risk of a blanket ban on anchor placement and maintenance.

Though the intent of the draft proposal is to build oversight on climbing impacts in USFS areas, the current draft is flawed and warrants a more thoughtful approach. Please consider the voices and concerns of the climbing community, which has long had a positive relationship with the Forest Service.

Best,

Sherry Hao