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Comments: Over 900 publicly documented climbing routes are on USFS land in Idaho. The East Idaho Climbers Coalition (EICC) promotes stewardship and provides route maintenance in the eastern corner of the State. The Fins is a popular climbing area in the Salmon-Challis National Forest. The EICC, along with the Southern Idaho Climbing Coalition, provides free WAG bags, education, and volunteers who maintain routes there.

We agree with much that is included in the USFS FSM 2355 CLIMBING OPPORTUNITIES.

\*We favor nationwide comprehensive directives.

\*Climbers and Local Climbers Coalition (LCO) are stewardship partners.

\*Climbing and modern safety-based fixed-anchors are appropriate in Wilderness areas.

However, we have a few concerns applicable to both Wilderness and non-Wilderness areas.

\*Preventative anchor replacement should be allowed after assessment by climbers. Anchors in Wilderness and non-wilderness areas are life-saving. Old hardware should be replaced by the climbing community when needed not when and if there is a Climbing Management Plan in place.

\*Modern fixed anchors often use glue-in bolts. These are safe and long lasting. Replacement anchors, expansion bolt, glue-in, or a yet unforeseen state-of-the-art system, should be used based on the conditions, not on a CMP.

\*The language used in the Manual should be clear and understandable by the climbing community. For example, on page 11, it states: "Do not allow redundant...". On the contrary, anchors MUST be redundant to be safe. The sentence should be removed or modified.

\*Climbing is a low-impact, low-development recreation. Developed-recreation standards should not be imposed on climbing areas.