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Comments: As a child, my friends and family escaped the heat in Yuma to come to Portal and Paradise. As an adult I discovered that these places had preserved the wilderness I remembered. I moved to Portal ten years ago. I have seen beautiful places ruined by tourism and Instagram all over Arizona and Utah. Cars are bumper to bumper in Zion and even the North Rim of the Grand Canyon is swarmed by tour buses. Instead of peace and quiet we get videos of what should be out there but no longer is.

Wilderness is not a video. It isn't loaded with labels giving you a lecture. Part of wilderness is discovery and surprise, especially for children. I don't think we do them a favor by turning everything into a lesson. It stunts their ability to explore and be creative. I have seen parents in California program every minute of the day for their children. They have even done away with recess so kids can learn more. Children need wilderness. Adults do, too. They need to be left alone to experience things on their own terms.

I think providing amenities is greatly overrated. What kind of amenities did our grandparents have and yet they survived. People's lives are cluttered up with gadgets that didn't exist ten years ago and it hasn't made them any happier or safer. Wilderness is a place to unclutter.

I would like to believe that the changes are not being driven by financial reasons. But I do see first one "improvement" followed by another to "make things better". Humans don't have a good track record in "making things better". First the vault toilet, next the videos and lectures and finally the hotdog stand. Cave Creek is a national treasure and should be left alone.