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Comments: I've been an alpine climber for 30 years. During that time, there have been situations where fixed anchors were absolutely required for life safety. Bolts or pitons were the only workable option for a safe descent from an alpine summit. I've never seen any instances of egregious "over bolting", because installing fixed anchors in a remote, alpine setting requires a lot of time and effort. You have to carry all the tools and hardware to the summit of a peak and then spend hours on descent installing rappel anchors. The one time I helped install anchors in a non-wilderness area, it took us about two hours for one rappel station using a manual drill and hammer. The rest of the rappel stations used natural protection - e.g. slings over rock horns, etc.

Another point I'll make is that Hikers enjoy maintained trails, camp grounds, toilets and signage. Hiking has a very low-risk outcome due to all the investment to support hiking. Climbing is far more exploratory than other forms of wilderness recreation like hiking. The outcome is more variable because there's route finding, greater impact by weather and varying degrees of skill and risk acceptance among climbers. Something as simple as a fixed rappel anchor can mean the difference between life and death. From a risk management perspective, the small investment in fixed anchors has tremendous value - the impact to wilderness is small, but the return on investment is extremely high.

Lastly, I believe that climbers are entitled to enjoy the wilderness and deserve our support. I believe that exploration and adventure are essential for many people. While climbing may not require or get the same level of funding and support as hiking, horse-packing, foraging and so on, at the very least we can ensure that climbers won't need to die to enjoy their sport.