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Comments: The Wilderness Act prohibits installations and structures like permanent fixed climbing anchors in order to protect the areas' wild character. Fixed climbing anchors must not be allowed in Wilderness. It also strictly prohibitions, including its prohibition on installations, cannot be overcome by a desire to facilitate or enhance a particular form of recreation, and the narrow administrative exception for installations does not extend to the general public seeking to create developed recreational activities in Wilderness. The wilderness is for animals who need protection and not for people to change so they can do whatever they want to do. If people want to climb, then go outside the wilderness where there are places where they can climb with fixed anchors.

Climbing in a wilderness would only be allowed if a climber uses their own anchors and then removes them after climbing. Climbing without permanent fixed anchors is generally compatible with wilderness preservation. While it may be true that fewer people will climb certain routes in Wilderness if they don't have fixed bolts or other permanently installed protection, natural limits on use is not a bad thing when it comes to wilderness protection, particularly with the recent explosion of outdoor recreation uses in Wilderness.

The agencies' primary duty is to protect Wilderness in its natural, untrammeled state, and the Wilderness Act's ban on installations can only be overcome in rare administrative circumstances where the installation is necessary to protect Wilderness in its natural, untrammeled state. Wilderness, by its very existence, provides these opportunities-the agencies need only to protect the Wilderness according to the provisions of the Wilderness Act to safeguard the opportunity.

Protecting the Wilderness and all that live in it, as well as all the trees and plants that are in the Wilderness is the most important thing and should be protected. There is very little Wilderness left in this country and what we do have needs to be protected. Climbing outside the Wilderness is suggested for those who must climb with permanent installation of anchors but inside that is just plain wrong. There are many places outside the Wilderness that they can climb so they should go there and leave the Wilderness the way it is supposed to be-- protecting animals, trees, plants, etc. Protecting the Wilderness is more important than allowing a few people to climb just so they can brag about climbing in a Wilderness. That is just vanity and vanity isn't important as compared to protecting all animals, plants, trees, etc. that live in the Wilderness, what is left of the Wilderness in this country.