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Comments: The Core Principle: The Wilderness Act safeguards wild lands, and its ban on permanent structures like fixed climbing anchors is crucial. This protects the untamed nature of these areas, even if it limits certain recreational activities.

No Exceptions for Convenience: The Act's restrictions on development cannot be bent to favor specific hobbies. The narrow loophole for necessary structures isn't meant for creating recreational facilities within wilderness.

Preserving Untamed Nature: Agencies prioritize maintaining wilderness in its natural state. The installation ban can only be overridden in exceptional cases where protecting this naturalness requires an intervention.

Wilderness Provides Its Own Opportunities: Agencies aren't obligated to develop wilderness for "primitive recreation." Its very existence offers such opportunities. Protecting it as per the Act safeguards these possibilities.

Climbing Without Anchors is Compatible: Climbing generally aligns with wilderness preservation, even without permanent anchors. Reduced participation on some routes due to this lack might be an acceptable outcome for wilderness protection, especially considering the recent surge in outdoor recreation within these areas.

Alternatives Exist: Climbers seeking established routes with fixed anchors have ample options outside wilderness.

Protecting a Rare Resource: Wilderness is a diminishing resource, with less than 3% protected in the Lower 48. It faces various threats, including rising recreational pressures.

Open Decision-Making: Any proposals for fixed anchors in wilderness must involve public notification and opportunities for comment, following the National Environmental Policy Act.