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Comments: Wilderness is an endangered landscape. Less than 3 percent of land in the Lower 48 is protected as Wilderness, and these areas are under threat, including from rapidly escalating recreation pressures. With the Wilderness Act installations and structures like permanent fixed climbing anchors are prohibited in order to protect their wild character and the agency's PRIMARY duty is to protect them in a natural, untrammeled state. This ban on installations can only be overcome in rare circumstances where the installation is necessary to protect their natural, untrammeled state. This exception does not extend to the general public seeking to create developed recreational activities in the Wilderness. Money-making by private entities is not a reason to override the Wilderness Act's provisions. Further, there are ample opportunities for developed, permanently bolted climbs outside of Wilderness.

Please realize that there should be room for undeveloped natural areas at a time when development is destroying those places where the people can find beauty and peace.