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First name: Karen

Last name: Naiman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Wilderness Act prohibits installations and structures including/like permanent fixed climbing anchors in order to protect the areas' Wild character, therefore, fixed climbing anchors must not be allowed in Wilderness.

The Wilderness Act's strict 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 primary duty of U.S. agencies 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.

It is not the duty of U.S. agencies to develop Wilderness to provide "opportunities for primitive recreation." Wilderness, by its very existence, provides these opportunities and U.S. agencies need only to protect the Wilderness according to the provisions of The Wilderness Act to safeguard the opportunity.

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 protecting Wilderness, particularly with the recent explosion of outdoor recreation uses in Wilderness.

Climbers seeking developed climbing opportunities have access to numerous permanently bolted climbs outside of Wilderness.

Wilderness is an endangered landscape with less than 3 percent of land in the Lower 48 being protected as Wilderness, and under threat, including from rapidly escalating recreation pressures.

Any proposals for permanent fixed anchor installations in Wilderness must be subjected to public notice and an opportunity for public comment pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.