



Laclede Rocks: The Revival

Jason Luthy

**First Edition
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Mandatory Disclaimer

This guide does not change anything about gravity. Gravity will always try to bring you to the ground quickly and forcefully. This book is not designed to show you how to use a rope, attach your rope to the cliff or give you any skill to avoid a quick descent or the associated hard landing. When enjoying the climbs listed in this guide, you will probably encounter loose rocks, bugs that bite, slippery ground, lichen that gets in your eyes, and many other objective hazards associated with being outside; have you noticed that fission bomb burning in the sky... it can burn you into all sorts of pain! In other words, get a mentor, find a qualified instructor, or start small. Simply put, don't get hurt and don't die. This book, the author, or any of the contributors hold no responsibility if you do get injured or die. I'll say it again; don't get yourself killed out there.

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Introduction

Appreciation for cliffs like Laclede is not a so-called love at first sight experience but one that slowly grows. The day after I arrived in Sandpoint I found myself at Laclede, walking around to get a feel for the access to climbing that was near to town. I found a crag that appeared to have been loved in phases over the years, with signs of original mountaineers practicing their craft on some cliffs and evidence of the 1990s power drill craze in other areas. The information listed in previous guides referenced a resurgence, at the crag during that first visit I saw little other than one climbing party and a few bolts with an American Safe Climbers Association (ASCA) stamp. During this first trip I was not in love, but intrigued.

As the spring rains began to transition toward sunny summer skies, I found myself with a project, Mono Blanco on the Upper Main Wall. A day of scrubbing led me to find the tiny holds that would offer passage to a climber willing to put in the work to find sequence. Later that summer, just as the morning sun was hitting the face, I clipped the chains on Mono Blanco and put closure to my first project at Laclede.

Since that first project, I began working my way around the cliff cleaning routes and replacing aging hardware. Eventually, I began to see lines that were not yet climbed and started putting in lines of my own. The process of exploring, cleaning, replacing and building is one that has been shared with many people over the years. I have given my thanks to most individually and will continue to do so while we are at the crag or out for a drink. But it seems important to say it here: to those of you who were original climbers in the area, have helped with a bolt replacement, belayed another go on a project, came out to a trail day, given advice, been part of the community, or simply listened to another statement of how great Laclede is, thank you. The community is what makes the crag, not the number of routes or the quality of movement.

Nearly a decade later after moving to town, I can not count the number of times that I have had someone ask me about producing a guidebook. While there are guides available, that include Laclede, I have finally come to a place where it makes sense to share updated information, included bolting updates, new routes and new trails. Probably more importantly, I hope that more detailed descriptions can make the crag more accessible and allow people the opportunity to explore new routes and see more of what the area has to offer.

With community in mind, I have made the decision to produce this

book as a digital copy free of charge for anyone who wants access to it. I ask that if you are interested in supporting the local climbing community that you pay it forward and make a donation to the Sandpoint Rock Gym. The SRG was founded with a mission of making climbing accessible to more people in the Sandpoint area and is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that is 100% volunteer run. Any donations allow the lights to stay on and for facility maintenance and upgrades. Information at: www.sandpointrockgym.com

One final note about this guide. Previous books left many questions; conversations with previous generations of climbers also left holes in information about routes. Information about route names and the identities of first ascentionists, especially at the West Pull Out, is thin. I worked to be as accurate as possible, but I know there are gaps and I am sure I have made mistakes in the information that is listed here. If you find errors, if you deserve (and want) credit for a first ascent or know someone who does, please let me know. If you get inspired by the listing of projects and put in the work to climb them, let me know. As corrections, first ascents, and additions are received I will put out updated editions of this text.

Please send any information to lacledeguidebook@gmail.com or via the online form at travelingclimber.com/beta-spray.html

Again, thanks to everyone who has been a part of this climbing community in the past and in the future. I look forward to seeing you at the crag.

-Jason



Things to Know

Bolts, Anchors and Other Fixed Gear

The current phase of anchor replacement began in 2014. As anchors and protection bolts are replaced, some bolts and anchors have been relocated or added. When possible, original route equippers and FA parties were contacted before changes were made. When this was not possible, changes were made with the intention of bringing the crag in line with current standards in climbing. Many anchors that were moved over the lip also received a set of bolts on top of the cliff that can be used to facilitate set up of top ropes.



Piton replacement on Horseshoes and Hand Grenades

This guide is a representation of the evolution of the area and growth of climbing. Though changes have been made, every effort has been made to respect history of previous ascents.

Grades

Grades are subjective. Some grades from previous guides to the area have been changed. Regardless of intent, the author has been called both a sandbagger and a softy when grading routes. Sometimes grades are a reflection of a “low-gravity” day or maybe a season of weak fingers. All areas have unique style that impact how hard a grade feels; Laclede is no different. When first arriving at the crag, start small and work your way up the grades.



Ethics

The ethics at Laclede Rocks has been an ever evolving process. The area originated as a training ground for bigger mountain routes, often resulting in bold traditional routes with little protection. Today the crag is primarily a bolted area with a few traditionally protected routes.

Any notes about ethics and Laclede would not be complete if it did not address manufactured holds. In the 90s, the sport climbing boom in the US involved a change in traditional climbing ethics and manufacturing holds became common on bolted routes. Any climber at Laclede grabbing holds on the 5.12 routes put up in the 90s will notice in-cut edges that are too good to be true. Fact is, they are. The chipped holds that are found on many climbs are part of the history of Laclede, but



A manufactured hold on Interceptor

the era of manipulating the rock to meet the ability of a specific climber should be over. If you find yourself struggling to make progress on a route, get stronger or learn to climb better; if all else fails, let that route be the way it is. As new routes are established in the 2000s, emphasis is being placed on climbing natural holds rather than enhancements. Climbers paying attention will see the change in ethics and development tactics when climbing routes throughout the crag.



Things to Know (continued)

Access

No one likes losing a climbing area. It is a privilege to have access at the Laclede crags. At any point the land owner can remove access opportunities. In 2015, user impact was made obvious when a group bussed in a summer camp's worth of kids, cut unnecessary trails, and lined kids up along the road to climb routes that were noted in the previous guidebook as illegal to climb. Within a few days, several no trespassing signs were installed at the base of these routes. As a result, the routes on the road cut are not listed in this guide. Don't be an ass and think you are above the law and climb these. Those actions affect all current and future Laclede climbers.

Out of respect to the landowner and other users, please consider the following:

- Do not do anything that could start a fire: Smoking and fire should be avoided. Causing a fire in this place would most likely destroy all access opportunities for climbers and, at a minimum, negatively impact the landscape.
- Clean up after yourself: If you brought it to the crag, hike it back out. Before departing an area, check the ground for any forgotten items.
- Clean up after others: River Rocks has a way of getting pretty trashed after the summer season. Keep a plastic bag in your crag pack and pick up a few items before you leave.
- Don't mess with the trees: The landowner has a vested interest in their trees. Leave your saw at home. Any new trails should not impact the trees.
- Respect any closure notices: The land owner has posted closure signs at the height of fire season in the past.
- Keep it safe: Climbing is dangerous and rescue from the upper crags would be complex. Climb within your skill set and avoid soloing.

Camping

Camping at the crag is discouraged. Check out Riley Creek Campground in Laclede. Other camping options are available in Sandpoint and Priest River.

Directions

Laclede Rocks is located between Sandpoint and Priest River on Highway 2 approximately 1 mile west of the town of Laclede.

From the east:

- East Pull Out: Drive west 2 miles from the gas station in the town of Laclede and pull into the long pull out on the right side of the road
- West Pull Out: Drive west 2.4 miles from the Laclede gas station and pull into the small pull out on the right side of the road

From the west:

- West Pull Out: Drive 5.2 miles east from the east end of the bridge on Highway 2 outside of Priest River to a small pull out on the left side of the road
- East Pull Out: Drive 5.6 miles east from the east end of the bridge on Highway 2 outside of Priest River to a long pull out on the left side of the road



First ascent of Mother of All Battles

Things to Know (continued)

Using this Guidebook

When putting together this book, the goal was to make a book that was easy to understand and showed the potential of this area. The book is broken into logical sections based on where you park and which side of the road you climb on. Each climb listed has a description like the example below:

1 - Katie's Ramble 5.3x (Gear, chain anchor)

Blurring the line between a solo and a reminder of why climbs get retro bolted.

FA: McSender, 1967

- Routes are numbered to correspond with the map and location images included in each area.
- Routes are graded on the open ended Yosemite Decimal System (YDS).
- Information about protection for leading routes and anchors are listed. Be prepared for this information to have errors or for it to change in the future.
- Descriptions are provided to give information about the route's character, interesting history, or just a sarcastic remark.
- As much first ascent information was gathered as possible. When available, both the date of and the individual who completed the first ascent are provided.

Quality Grades

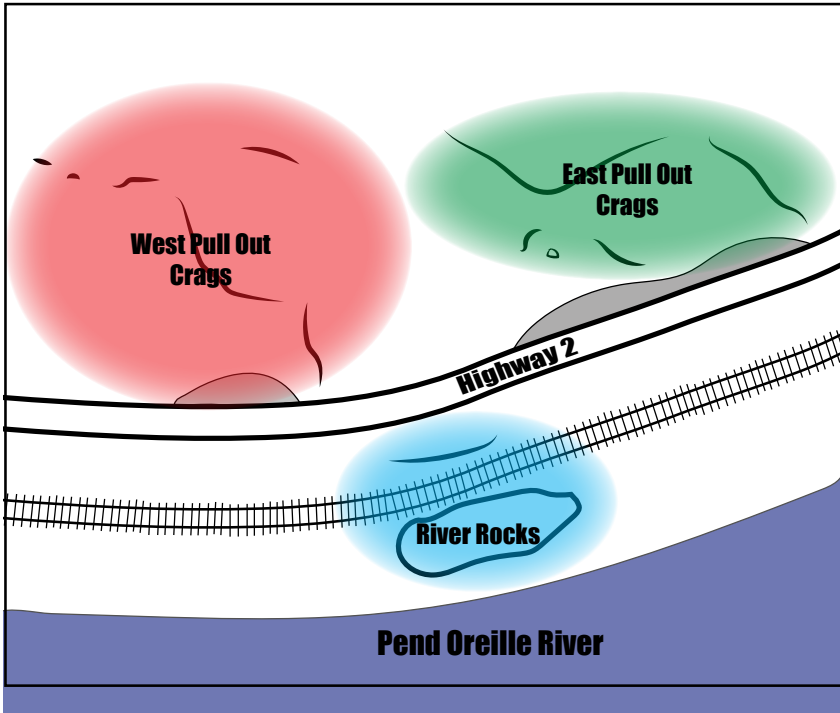
What about quality grades? Grades are subjective and quality grades are even more subjective! I figure that all climbs are high quality until proven otherwise. I will admit that I think there are some duds out at Laclede, but you will have to ask me in person which ones I think they are. For those who really need guidance, there is a list of the routes I keep coming back for in the back of this book.

A Note About Hazards

The world is dangerous but just a few notes of the pertinent risks I have seen in my time at the crag. Obviously this is not an exhaustive list, but a start on keeping your day fun.

- The Highway - Couple notes here. First, don't get run over when crossing the road to River Rocks. Not fun. Probably more pertinent is the traffic noise. On some of the walls communication between climber and belayer can be tough. It is best to have a plan about lowering or rappelling before leaving the ground.
- Loose Rock - Many routes have seen limited traffic and the nature of some of the rock is pretty deteriorated. Routes are pretty good at showering belayers with lichen, small pebbles and occasionally larger rocks. A helmet is pretty good equipment for a belayer
- Slippery Grass and Moss - Vegetation seems to like to grow on many of the exposed ledges. As things dry out in the late summer, it kinda feels like ice skating.
- Wasps- Sometimes in ground nests and sometimes in nests on routes. These critters are feisty. When developing the Playground, the author managed to get at least 15 stings after stumbling into a ground nest.
- Glass - Mainly an issue at River Rocks. Be careful where you are walking barefoot and use a tarp to protect your rope.
- Gravity - As noted earlier, gravity does not discriminate. Double check systems and have good communication with your belayer to avoid the rapid descent.
- Ego - Some of the older traditional and mixed routes are pretty bold. It may be best to back off a route if the fall is not safe and you are not sure on the move. If the fall is safe, try your hardest and take the whip!

Things to Know (continued)



Laclede Overview

The Laclede area is broken into three main zones; East Pull Out Crags, West Pull Out Crags and the River Rocks. Each area has a unique character and style. Areas are color coded in the overview map based on corresponding sections of this guide.

Loved to Death

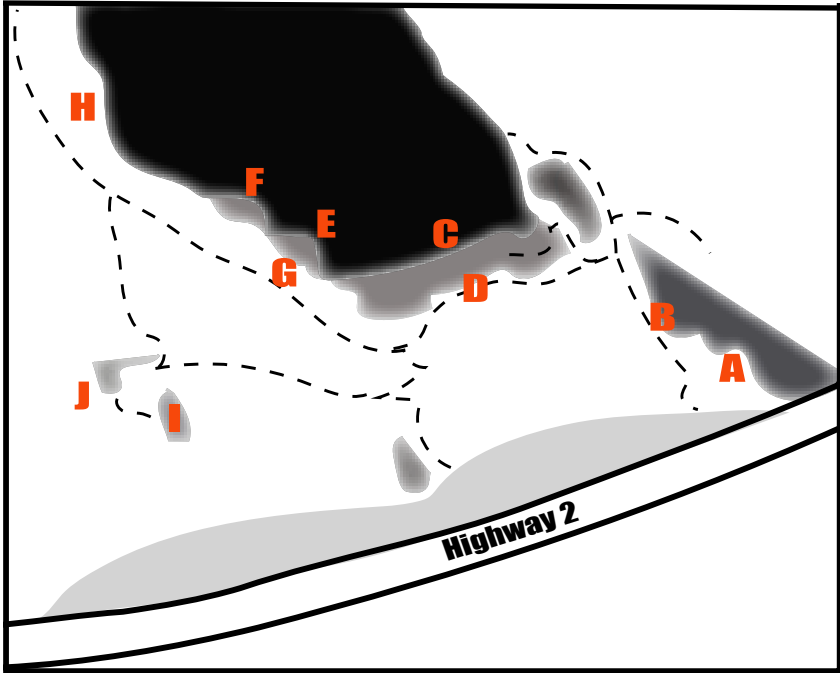
Since there are no quality grades listed in this book are some of the author's go to routes by grade.

- 5.4** - Tree Crack. Also a solid first traditional climb.
(River Rocks)
- 5.7** - Hooked on Fonics (Playground)
- 5.9** - Jensen's Dihedral (as a top rope)
Do You Feel Lucky? (River Rocks)
- 5.10** - Chicken McNubbins (Upper Main)
Crack a Smile (Big Surf)
Sensitive Dependence (Destruction Buttress)
- 5.11** - Spider Baby (Lower East Side)
Lichen Fools (Upper Main)
- 5.12** - Replicant (West Dihedral)
Changing Fortunes (Upper Main Wall)
- 5.13** - Mother of All Battles (Midwest)

The East Pull Out

Area Overview

Home of many of the longer routes at Laclede, the East Pull Out has a dense amount of climbing offering challenges for both the new climbers and the climbers who float up 5.13 before breakfast.



- A - Lower East Side
- B - Red Wall
- C - Upper Main
- D - Creatures Wall
- E - East Dihedral
- F - West Dihedral
- G - Midwest
- H - Wild West
- I - Dance Hall Rock
- J - Playground



Dedicated crew bringing reinforcements for the belay platform at the Upper Main Wall during the 2014 trail day

Lower East Side

Shade/Sun:

Sun in the morning and through much of the day.

Location:

Just above the parking area on the east side of the East Pull Out. Locate the steep trail near a boulder. Climb up and stop at the first flat area to your right.

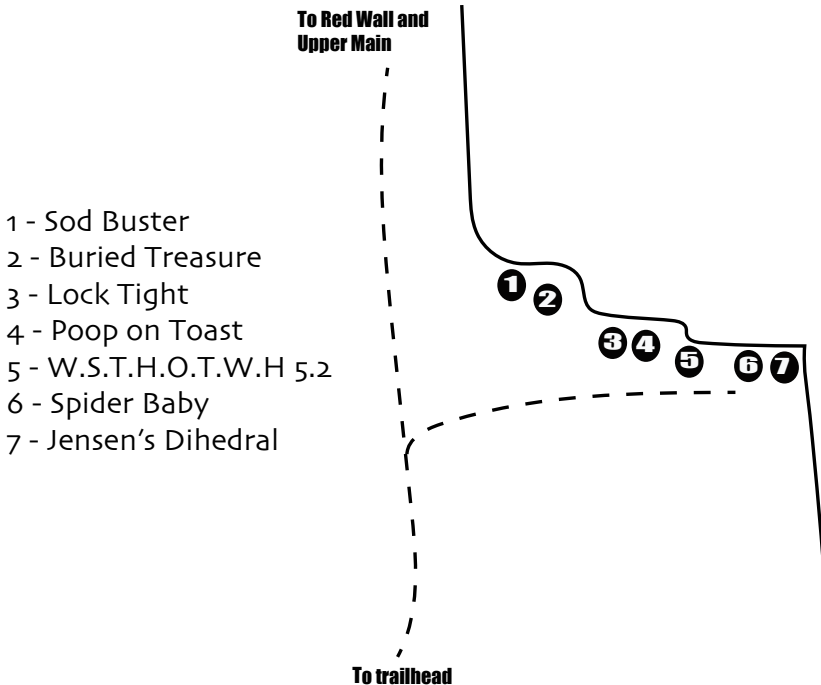
Area Description:

Climbs range from several adventurous traditional climbs in moss filled cracks to a classic test piece for the budding 5.12 climber. Road noise can make communication a challenge.

Top Ropes:

Getting to the top of the cliff can be done by continuing up the approach trail until the cliff terminates. Several access anchors exist to get down to the route anchors.

Area Map



1- Sod Buster 5.6 (gear, no anchor)

A line lost when cragging became a pastime of its own and not simply a tool to practice for the mountains. In the book for historical perspective.

FA: Jensen, Klein, 1986

2- Buried Treasure 5.7 (gear, no anchor)

Same as Sod Buster.

FA: Green, Jensen, Birkinkamp, 1986

3- Lock Tight 5.10a (gear, no anchor)

A rambling gear route finding lines of weakness up the face.

FA: K. Birkinkamp, 1986

4- Poop on Toast 5.12- (12 bolt, chain anchor)

Short bouldery crux to a long easy ramble to the anchor.

FA: W. Ramos



Lower East Side (continued)

5 - Who Stole the Holds off the World's Hardest 5.2 5.10d (11 bolts, chain anchor)

Establish on the route, climb a short crux and enjoy the well bolted mellow climbing to the anchor.

FA: S. Bartlett

6 - Spider Baby 5.11d (7 bolts, chain anchor)

The love of this route runs deep for some Sandpoint locals. Rumors of one unnamed individual making 100+ ascents a year of this route may be true. Climbing is continuous, technical, and enjoyable. For full value, stay off of the ledge out left. A stick clip is a good idea to protect the first moves.

FA: Birkinkamp

Variation: *Scared of Spiders* 5.11c (5 bolts + gear, ring anchor)

Climb the face of Spider Baby but go straight up the upper portion of Jensen's Dihedral. Gets a bit run out at the top.

FA: Luthy, 2017 (First known ascent)

7 - Jensen's Dihedral 5.9 (gear, ring anchor)

After a tricky start to establish on the route, enjoy mostly moderate corner climbing. The original line finished right of the upper slab of Spider Baby. The route shown is the "Direct Finish" listed in Randal Green's Guide.

FA: T. Jensen, G. Klein, 1986



Katie Luthy cleaning off routes in 2015

The Red Wall

Shade/Sun:

Due to a large tree near the wall, the face stays mostly shaded throughout the day.

Location:

Walk the eastern trail uphill from the Lower East Side to find a set of wooden stairs leading to a belay platform.

Area Description:

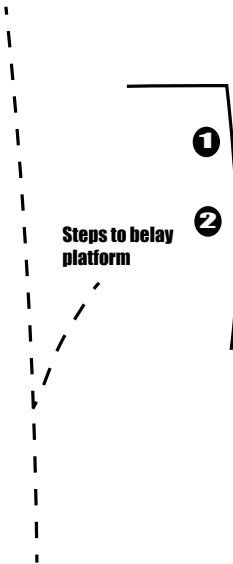
Home of two quality routes that are great projects for climbers working on finger strength or as warm ups for some of the harder climbing.

Top Ropes:

The top of the wall is easily accessible by walking uphill from the base of the routes up the steep trail, eventually gaining the top of the cliff band. A chain anchor for both routes is located near a large pine tree.

Area Map

To top of wall &
Upper Main Wall



To Lower East Side

1 - Finger Fandango 5.9 (mixed gear and bolts, shared anchor with Pumped Stumps)

Fun finger crack to face climbing.
FA: Unknown

2 - Pumped Stumps 5.10 (7 bolts, chain anchor)

Pull a low crux and enjoy the remaining face to the top of the cliff. Great climbing.
FA: Unknown

Upper Main Wall

Shade/Sun:

Morning sun and late afternoon shade.

Location:

Easily identified from the road. Follow either access trail up to the far right side of the Creatures Wall and locate the fixed rope up a second class gully. The first route encountered is Give a Dog a Mint.

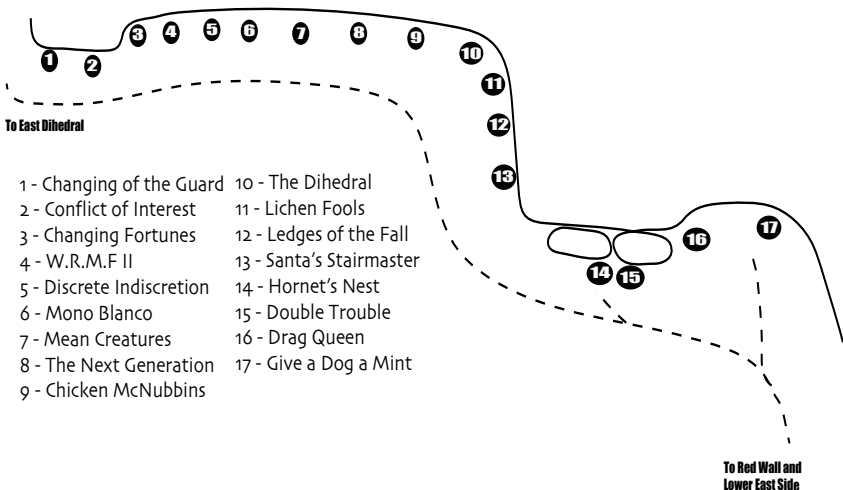
Area Description:

The Upper Main Wall is home of many of the longer moderate climbs and difficult slab problems. Expect technical footwork and small knob climbing on many routes with grades between 5.10 and 5.11. Wall bakes in the sun during the day.

Top Ropes:

The top of the cliff can be accessed via the trail east of the fixed rope or a couple third class moves on a bulge next to Give a Dog a Mint. The alternative (longer, but less exposed) option is to hike around the west side of the crag.

Area Map



1 - Changing of the Guard 5.13a (bolts, chain anchor)

A long standing project that was created by M. Bland and sat unclimbed. Climb crimps through steep terrain and transition to the technical vertical face.

FA: J. Luthy, 2020

2 - Conflict of Interest 5.13a (bolts, chain anchor)

Previously called to as Interceptor. Power through the manufactured line through a steep scoop to establish on the face above. Regain composure for the technical slab climbing to the chains.

FA: J. Luthy, 2019 (first known)

3 - Changing Fortunes 5.12b (5 bolts, ring anchor)

Stellar climbing up a steep crack to shallow finger locks and bad feet. Most people choose to stick clip the second bolt.

FA: McBirney

4 - Weasels Ripped My Flesh (Part 2) 5.11c (gear & fixed pitons, bolt anchor)

Sharp, painful crack climbing. With difficult climbing and an anchor set back from the lip, this route is not destined for greatness.

FA: Burns, Folton 1986

5 - Discrete Indiscretion

5.12b? (No bolts & no anchor)

This route has been listed in several previous guides. No signs of an established route have been found during several efforts to find anchors. There is an obvious line through a short steep crack (painful) to a thin slab. A motivated climber may find a fun route if willing to put in the effort to clean and bolt it.

FA: Unknown



Upper Main Wall (continued)

6 - Mono Blanco 5.12a (6 bolts, ring anchor)

Power through a scoop down low to establish on the delicate upper face. Stellar slab climbing on great stone!

FA: McBirney

7 - Mean Creatures 5.11 (6 bolts + one or two 3" pieces, chain anchor)

Difficult to read lower moves give way to thin slab climbing and a jam crack at the top.

FA: Unknown

8 - The Next Generation (AKA - Jerry's Kids) 5.12b (8 bolt, chain anchor)

Listed in previous guides with little information, this route was retro-bolted and redpointed in 2015 and a new name was suggested. Climbing begins on thin slab climbing into a steep upper headwall. Stick clip recommended.

FA: Unknown

9 - Chicken McNubbins 5.10 (7 bolts + optional gear, ring anchor)

A heavily climbed route that has seen a slow progression of bolts being added. The line is bolt protected until the last 20 feet. The upper portion can be protected by 1-2" gear or a cool head.

FA: Green, Gibbon, 1986



10 - The Dihedral 5.9 (2 bolts + gear, shared anchor with C. McNubbins)
Often top-roped along with Chicken McNubbins.
FA: Green, Benson, 1986

11 - Lichen Fools 5.11 (9 bolts, chain anchor)
Vertical face climbing on solid stone with a hard to read crux.
FA: A. Hanson, 2015

12 - Ledges of the Fall 5.10 (Mixed gear and 4 bolts, ring anchor)
A heady route with enough bolts and gear to keep you off the deck,
but close to ledges. Not often led, the route provides a great opportunity for a head point or top rope laps.
FA: Chamberlin

13 - Santa's Stairmaster 5.8+ (8 bolts, ring anchor)
Moderate arete climbing with a perplexing move up high.
FA: K. Semar, 2015

Variation: Santa's Stairmaster Alternate Start (AKA Santa's Package)
5.8+ (bolts, ring anchor)
Alternate start downhill from the main route.
FA: K. Semar, 2015



Upper Main Wall (continued)

14 - Hornet's Nest 5.8+ (7 bolts + optional gear, chain anchor)

A relatively long slab route that is frequently set up as a TR.

FA: Green, Applegate, 1986

15 - Double Trouble 5.8 (bolts, shared anchor with Hornet's Nest)

Slab climbing similar to Hornet's Nest.

FA: Green, Applegate, Klein, 1986

16 - Drag Queen 5.7 (gear, shared anchor with Give a Dog a Mint)

Nice traditional route that may be best led with two ropes to avoid rope drag.

FA: Green, Applegate, Birkenkamp, 1986

17 - Give a Dog a Mint 5.9 (6 Bolts, ring anchor)

Slab to mellow arete climbing

FA: K. Semar



A quick note about bolts and anchors...

Bolts can be great or they can be terrible. Knowing a few things gives you the power to decide if you want to trust a bolt.

Rock

A bolt is only as good as the rock that it is in. Look at the rock, is it solid?

Bolts to Avoid

Although most original Laclede bolts have been replaced, use caution if finding buttonhead type bolts or hangers that are highly corroded or are homemade.



Buttonhead (left) and homemade hanger (right)

When inspecting bolts, check to see if the bolt is secure in the rock. Although a hanger maybe slightly loose, the bolts should not wiggle in the hole.

Anchors

Top anchors are typically two bolts with chain, quick-links or fixed carabiners. Fixed anchors are in place for convenience of lowering or setting up a top-rope; to maintain the life of the anchor please *don't top rope directly through fixed gear.*



Two versions of recent anchor replacements, glue in bolts and quick-links (left) and mechanical bolts with rings (right)

Rappel or Lower

For many years the ethic at sport climbing destinations was to rappel rather than be lowered on sport climbs. As sport climbing has developed, the ethic has shifted to lowering as a safer option. There are some cool tricks to clean the anchor and get lowered without going off belay. Talk to someone with more experience or spend some time on Google to find details. Most importantly, have a plan with your belayer about how you are getting down before you leave the ground.

Creatures Wall

Area Description:

This area was previously called the Lower Main Wall, but as more development has occurred the name has been adapted. The area has a long comfortable belay platform which provides a great alternative to the River Rocks.

Shade/Sun:

Goes into the sun in mid morning and shade in the afternoon.

Location:

Located below the Upper Main Wall the wall is best accessed by hiking up western approach trail of the East Pull Out. Just before reaching the cliff, the trail splits. Take the right fork which will bring you to the left side of the Creatures Wall.

Top Ropes:

Many of the route anchors can be accessed from the above. Take care reaching the anchors, use low bolts or access anchors to rappel to anchors if you are not comfortable on the edge.

Area Map



1 - Weasels Rip My Flesh (Part 1) 5.10d (gear, ring anchor)
Fun steep crack climb. Anchor is set far back from the cliff edge, bring long webbing to set up a TR or belay from above.
FA: Burns, Folton, 1986 (FFA: Schutzig-Buchen)

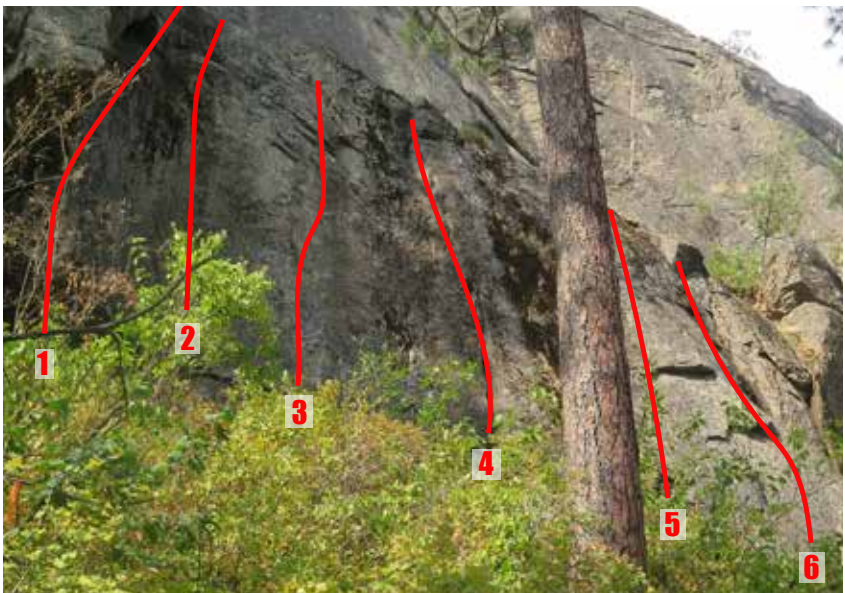
2 - The Wave Project Project (bolts, ring anchor)
A hard looking project through steep terrain on solid rock.
FA: Project

3 - Warthog 5.11 (6 bolts, ring anchor)
Delicate arete climbing to a undercling crux.
FA: Luthy, 2017

4 - Chameleon 5.10a (5 bolts, ring anchor)
Fun face climbing up a shallow dihedral.
FA: Unknown

6 - The Centaur 5.10a (bolts, chain anchor)
Fun face line that pulls a roof pulling on a great left facing dihedral.
FA: Luthy, 2019

6 - Lizard Lips 5.10b (gear, chain anchor)
Short crack that takes solid gear.
FA: Unknown



Creatures Wall (continued)

7 - Crapshooter 5.10a (gear, no anchor)

Hard start into a crack that splits the short hanging dihedral. Use a cheater stone to make the first move easier.

FA: Applegate, Gibbons, Peterman, 1986

8 - Radioactive 5.10c (3 bolts, ring anchor)

Hard move off of the boulder to establish on the face. Climb the face right of Crapshooter to the anchors of House Fly. A backpack or stack of rocks at the start makes the first move easier for shorter climbers.

FA: Green, Gibbons, 1986

9 - House Fly 5.12c (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Short lived like its namesake, this route packs a punch in just a few moves. Stick clip and set off onto a powerful series of crimp moves. After pulling the crux, enjoy the mellow climbing to the top.

FA: Luthy, 2017

10 - Hitchhiker 5.8- (gear, no anchor)

Rarely climbed crack that offers a well protected traditional ascent.

FA: Jensen, Applegate, Gibbons, 1986

11 - Shook Me 5.10 (bolts and gear, chain anchor)

Located on the far right side of the Creatures Wall, Shook Me climbs through the obvious flake to a low angle crack.

FA: Green, Gibbons, Applegate, 1986





Climbing About Face at the Wild West. (Photo credit: C. Thompson, 2013)

East Dihedral

Shade/Sun:

Most routes on the wall get sun in the afternoon and do not go into the shade until late in the day.

Location:

Around the corner from the far left side of the Upper Main Wall. Some exposure is encountered when getting to the base. Protect yourself when accessing the base of routes as a fall would be catastrophic. Several bolted anchors are available for belayers.

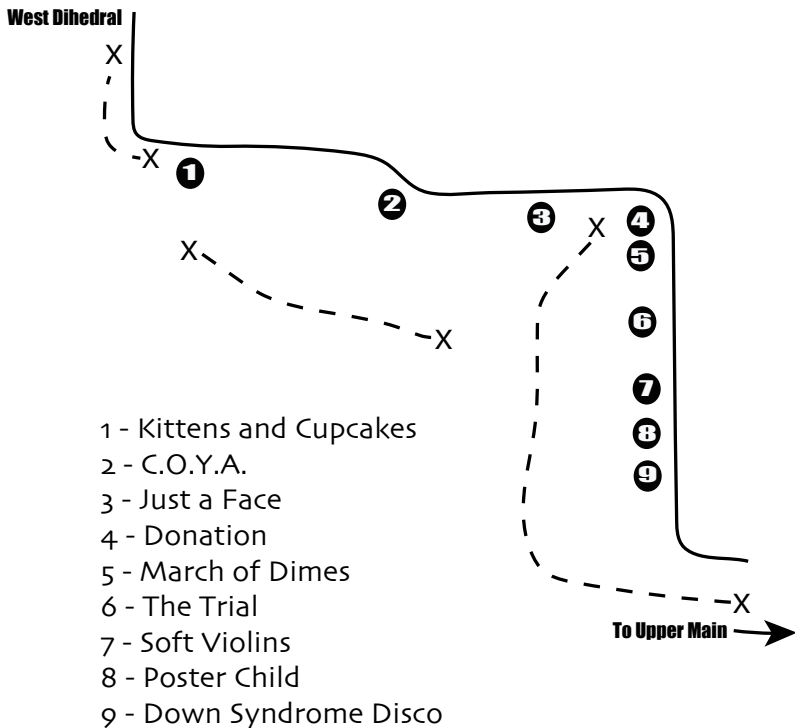
Area Description:

An exposed dihedral with a variety of climbs.

Top Ropes:

Most anchors are below the lip, but similar to the West Dihedral, route anchors are accessible via access bolts on the top of the cliff.

Area Map



1 - Kittens and Cupcakes 5.12b (6 bolts, chain anchor)

Located just before rounding the corner into the West Dihedral.

Locate the exposed belay anchor and look up. Consider a stick clip for clipping the first bolt. Exposed, technical terrain that will reward people that put in the work.

FA: Bland, 2000

2 - C.O.Y.A. Crippler of Young Adults 5.10/Ao (gear, no anchor)

Climb through broken cracks past several trees. Obscure route that sees few ascents

FA: Unknown

3 - Just a Face 5.11 (bolts+.75 Camalot, ring anchor)

Climb the slab past a thin crack then to a vertical finish just below the lip of the wall.

FA: Luthy, 2018

4 - Donation 5.7 (gear, shared anchor with March of Dimes)

A left variation of March of Dimes bringing the grade down slightly. Begin on March of Dimes, stepping left to follow the flake off of the main line.

FA: Unknown



East Dihedral (continued)

5 - March of Dimes 5.8+ (gear, no anchor as of 2018)

Corner crack

FA: Green, Lemley, 1985

6 - The Trial 5.12c (bolts, no anchor as of 2018)

Technical crimping on manufactured holds.

FA: Bland

7 - Soft Violins 5.12b (6 bolts, ring anchor)

Slightly overhanging climbing on manufactured holds. Packs a pump.

FA: McBirney

8 - Poster Child 5.11d (7 bolts, ring anchor)

Pumpy climbing up to a thin crux just before the anchor. Climbing starts with loose feeling rock and gets much better after a couple clips. Rumor has it a hold broke near the chains after the initial .11d grade was given but it still goes at about the same grade.

FA: L. Peterman, 1986

9 - Down Syndrome Disco 5.10c (bolts, chain anchor)

An adventure through cool terrain challenged by the friction on the rope.

FA: K. Austin



Christian Thompson climbs Threat Con Alpha. (2013)



The community comes out to build trails up to the Midwest and Creatures Wall.

West Dihedral

Shade/Sun:

With a west facing orientation, most of the climbs stay in the shade until early afternoon. Many of the climbs will feel hard in the sun unless it is cold outside.

Location:

Large dihedral sitting above the Midwest. Area can be accessed through rappelling in from the anchor of Squeeze Job, climbing Toy Soldiers, or walking around from the East Dihedral (use cable/hand-line for protection)

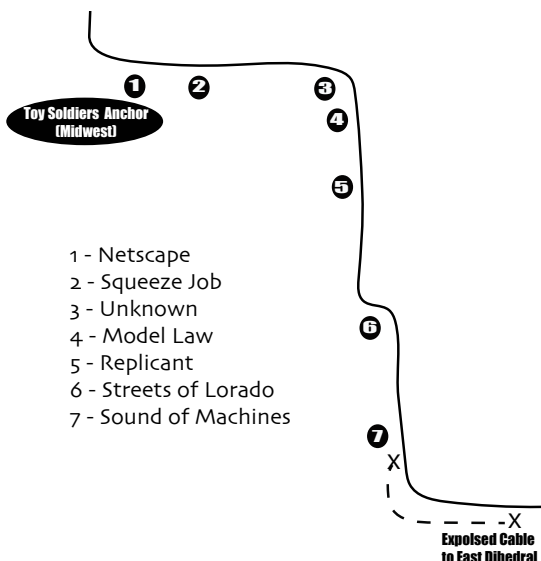
Area Description:

The area to be for hard technical climbs. The entry grade for the dihedral checks in at 5.10b, but the median grade for the climbs located here is mid 5.12. Don't let the difficulty keep you away; with mostly stellar climbing, this area provides great project opportunities or a place to get volume for the Laclede crusher.

Top Ropes:

Top ropes are both possible and frequently used in many of these climbs. Often TR'ed as rope solo laps, rope skills will allow you to use the access anchor to get to the main anchors.

Area Map



1- Netscape 5.10b (7 bolts, chain anchor)

A wild ride that starts in a flared chimney that moves onto an athletic upper face.

FA: Unknown

2- Squeeze Job 5.12b (7 bolts, chain anchor)

Dyno or campus to a hold in the crack and pull onto the upper face. Finish with a slab climb to a hard series of crimps. As the name implies, it is a tight fit for a route. Stay with the bolts and avoid the temptation to stem right. Stick clip the first bolt.

FA: Luthy, 2015

3- Unknown (AKA Nameless Corner) 5.10 R/X (bolt and piton, chain anchor)

The corner between Squeeze Job and Model Law has signs of previous ascents but has not been mentioned by previous guidebooks. TR ascents in 2018 have found dirty but enjoyable stemming in the corner past an old bolt and piton. The routes would offer leaders few protection options, but the security of a top rope is easily set up on the anchor of Squeeze Job.

FA: Unknown



West Dihedral (continued)

4 - Model Law 5.12b (7 bolts, chain anchor)

Long moves on less than natural holds provide a fun climb. Stay on the face and avoid the desire to sneak left for a stem rest.

FA: McBirney

5 - Replicant 5.12b (6 bolts, ring anchor)

Ignore the dubious ethics and enjoy the gym style route.

FA: McBirney

6 - Streets of Laredo 5.12d (7 bolts, chain anchor)

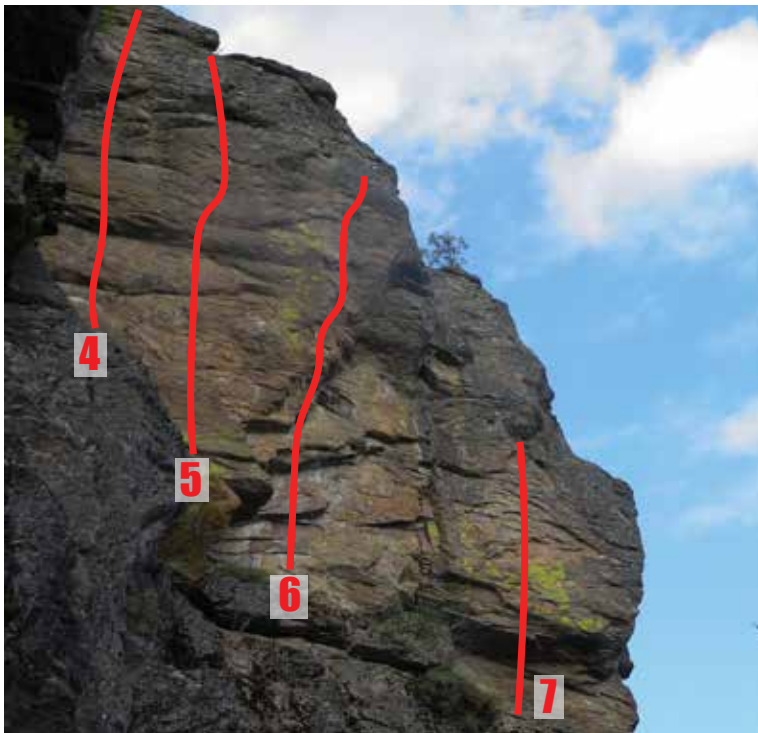
A Laclede test piece. Slap, compress, and power your way to an exciting top out.

FA: Bland, 1997

7 - Sound of Machines 5.12a (5 bolts, chain anchor)

A hard roof encounter will probably leave you questioning your abilities. Hard for the grade.

FA: Bland, 1997





Quiet fall day on the West Dihedral

The Midwest

Area Description:

The Midwest has a large concentration of climbs including long moderates and short harder climbs. There is a relatively short approach and limited exposure while belaying making the area good for a group or people with dogs.

Location:

From the middle of the East Pull Out, follow the western approach trail up the hill. Just below the cliff the trail splits the left fork brings you to the Midwest. The first route you encounter is Discount Window

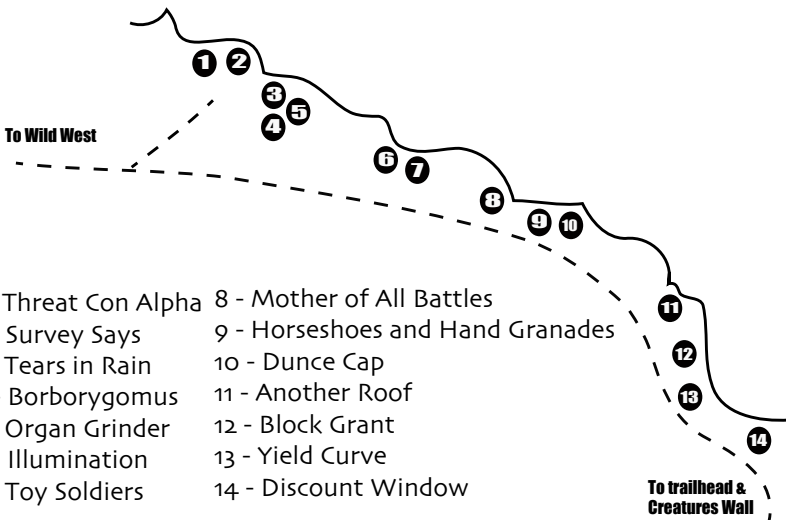
Shade/Sun:

Sun arrives between morning and afternoon for most routes. Shade returns late in the afternoon.

Top Ropes:

Anchors in for these routes are mostly set well below the top of the cliff. Although possible to access the anchors of these climbs to set up top ropes, it is best to lead the routes to access anchors.

Area Map





1 - Threat Con Alpha 5.11 (7 bolts, chain anchor)

Balance your way up the face to an encounter with a steep roof. Grab the finish holds not the chain.

FA: McBirney

2 - Survey Says 5.10a (6 bolts chain anchor)

A snarky response to a community member's suggestion that re-bolting efforts should be focused on adding more moderate routes. Balance focused steaming to a tricky move at the anchors.

FA: Luthy, 2016

3 - Tears in Rain 5.12a (10 bolts, ring anchor)

A wild ride up a sharp arete. Expect powerful sequence intensive movement. A rope stretcher when TRing.

FA: McBirney

Variation: Survey of Tears 5.12a (12 bolts, ring anchor)

Climb Survey Says into Tears in Rain. A nice alternative which allows the belayer to see the climber for the entire pitch.

FA: Luthy

4 - Borborygmus 5.9. (11 bolts, ring anchor)

A long alpine style route climbing line of weakness.

FA: Unknown

The Midwest (continued)

5 - Organ Grinder 5.10b. (gear, no anchor)

Rarely climbed off width crack

FA: Benen, Green 1983

6 - Illumination 5.12a (11 bolts+ chain anchor)

Long route which ascends a clean face with a technical crux. Take a short rest on the half way ledge then finish on the exposed upper arete. It is long but a 60 meter works - tie a knot in the end of your rope.

FA: Luthy, 2015

7 - Toy Soldiers 5.8 (7 bolts, chain anchor)

Originally an access route for the harder climbing in the West Dihedral, T.S. offers up many newer climbers a stiff wake up to Laclede. Often given a wide range of suggested grades, T.S. will reward climbers who embrace the pinch and side pull style of climbing.

FA: Chamberlin

Variation: Toy-Net 5.10

Climb Toy Soldier into Netscape. Use a few long runners on the T.S anchor and first bolts of Netscape. LONG -Tie a knot in the end of your rope.

FA: Luthy, 2015

8 - Mother of All Battles 5.13b (6 bolts, chain anchor)

This steep powerful route was a long standing open project. Although the original route equipper (K. Hertel) was able to TR the line, it sat without a redpoint for well over a decade. The route is equipped with long glue in bolts and often has fixed draws. Give it a go!

FA: Luthy, 2017

9 - Horseshoes and Hand Grenades 5.11d (7 bolts, chain anchor)

Traverse under the mini roof, grab a drilled three finger pocket that is reminiscent of limestone and pull onto the upper face. Keep the pump under control as you climb to the chains

FA: Chamberlin

10 - Dunce Cap 5.12b (6 bolts, shared anchor with Horseshoes)

Powerful overhanging stem corner. Practice your splits.

FA: Luthy, 2015

11 - Another Roof 5.12 x (no bolts, chain anchor)

Another route that time attempted to forget. Originally listed as "a top rope route (or 5.12x)" in R. Green's guide, this climb could become an interesting bolted challenge for the 5.12 climber who wants a project.
FA: Unknown



12 - Block Grant OPEN PROJECT (5 bolts, shared anchor with Yield Curve)

Steep climb which probably has not seen a successful ascent on top rope or lead. Maybe 5.12+?
FA: Open Project

13 - Yield Curve 5.12a (5 bolts, chain anchor)

A tricky start puts climbers onto steep powerful climbing to a roof. Pull the roof and climb the thin face to the anchor.
FA: McBurney, 1992

Variation: Straight Shooter

5.11d

Variation by a developer who wanted to avoid the difficult climbing at the top of Yield Curve.

FA: 2017 (unknown)



14 - Discount Window 5.11d (6 bolt, chain anchor)

Hard route through a series of roofs to a perplexing top.
FA: Bland

The Wild West (West End)

Shade/Sun:

Morning shade afternoon sun.

Location:

From the middle of the east pull out, follow the western approach trail up the hill. Just below the cliff the trail splits, take the left fork and walk past the Midwest around the corner to the Wild West. The first route you encounter is About Face.

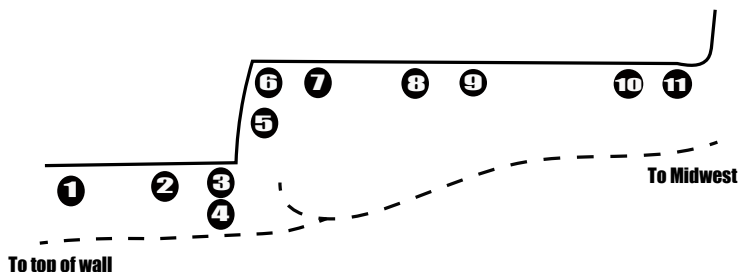
Area Description:

Morning shade and a wide variety of difficulty make this area a great stop for a summer morning into the early afternoon. Over the years the routes that were un-protectable without pitons and/or the inability to fall have been updated to protect the current generation of climbers.

Top Ropes:

Routes have easy to access anchors which can be reached by hiking around the left side of the cliff to a short gully.

Area Map



- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Orangutan | 7 - The Hangover |
| 2 - La Vie En Rose | 8 - Three Friends |
| 3 - Newport Rodeo | 9 - Laclede Positive |
| 4 - Psycho Killer | 10 - Weekend Fling |
| 5 - Future Tens | 11 - About Face |
| 6 - Grungy Chimney | |

1 - Orangutan 5.10b (no anchor)

A rumored route that is located uphill past La Vie En Rose. Little information other than that is known, however several sections of the short cliff are climbable and many lines are in the 5.10 range. The flat ground, a short cliff, and current bouldering pad technology should challenge future ascensionists to use the cliff as a bouldering zone rather than for roped climbs.

FA: Birkinkamp, 1986

2 - La Vie En Rose 5.12a (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Thin crimps after a roof. Bolts are a bit oddly spaced; pre-hang draws with a couple extended to keep yourself off the boulder behind the route.

FA: Bland, 1997

3 - Newport Rodeo 5.12a/b (gear, 2 bolts, chain anchor)

A direct path up the cliff starting with the first moves of Psycho Killer.

FA: N. Opp., S. Hennessey, 2020

4 - Psycho Killer 5.11a (gear, ring anchor)

a worthy objective for someone pushing into harder crack climbs.

FA: Green, Birkinkamp, 1986



The Wild West (continued)

5 - Future Tens 5.12a (3 bolts and a 1-2" piece of gear, chain anchor)
A beta intensive route which has a thin move down low. Probably a bit height dependent.
FA: Birkinamp

6 - Grungy Chimney 5.5 (wide gear, no anchor)
Corner chimney that sees little traffic.
FA: Birkinkamp, 1985(Solo)

7 - The Hangover 5.7 (bolts, ring anchor)
Bolted face climb that was once considered a traditional route.
FA: Unknown

8 - Three Friends 5.8 (bolts, chain anchor)
Another bolted face climb that was once considered a traditional route.
FA: Unknown

9 - Laclede Positive 5.5 (bolts, ring anchor)
An enjoyable climb using big, positive holds
FA: H. Hurt, 2019

10 - Weekend Fling 5.11b (8 bolts, shared anchor with About Face)
Put up during a 36 hour return trip to Sandpoint, this line offers great crimp climbing down low and joins the second half of About Face.
FA: Thompson, 2016

11 - About Face 5.10b (gear and bolts, ring anchor)
Well protected crack to bolted face.
FA: Birkinkamp, Applegate, 1985



Dance Hall Rock

Shade/Sun:

Morning to early afternoon shade.

Location:

Dance Hall is a big boulder on the hill below The Playground.

Area Description:

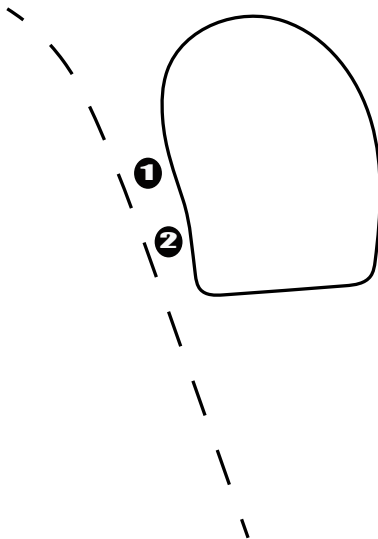
A few routes exist on the west face of the boulder. There are other possible routes for the motivated developer. The area is west facing, but gets more afternoon shade than the west facing routes higher up the hill.

Top Ropes:

It is possible to scramble around to the top of the feature to set up top ropes.

Area Map

To Playground



Bushwack to pull out

Project (bolts, chain anchor)

Left tending crack feature that splits off of Timi Cha Cha.

FA: OPEN PROJECT

Timi Cha Cha 5.11d (bolts, chain anchor)

Meandering route though bulges. Hard.

FA: Chamberlin

1 - Project

2 - Timi Cha Cha

The Playground

Shade/Sun:

Morning sun, late afternoon shade

Location:

Visible from the parking area just uphill of Dance Hall Rock, this area is best accessed via hiking from the main trail running from the parking lot to the Midwest and taking the side trail before you reach the junction of the trails leading to the Creatures Wall and the Midwest.

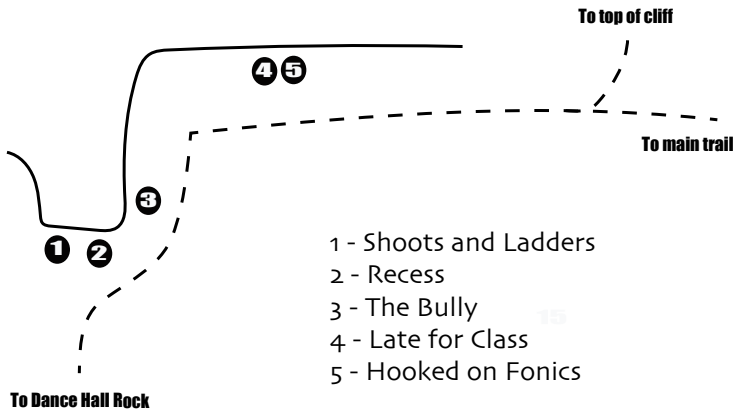
Area Description:

At some point in the history of Laclede, someone had ventured to this cliff and installed two bolts on the feature that is now called The Slide. In 2017, climbers returned to the area, cleaned up the base, put in trails and bolted several moderate routes.

Top Ropes:

Shoots and Ladders, Recess, and the Bully can be set up as top ropes. Late for Class and Hooked on Fonics are easier led to set up top ropes.

Area Map



1 - Shoots and Ladders 5.10 (bolts, chain anchor)

Left side of the slide feature

FA: Luthy, 2018

2 - Recess 5.10 (5 bolts, chain anchor)

Pull onto the slide from the right and balance your way past five bolts, holding to the right arete for balance.

FA: Luthy, 2017

3 - The Bully (shared anchor with Recess)

Top rope line along the face on the right side of the Recess arete. Slab climbing.

FA: Luthy, 2018 (TR)

4 - Late for Class 5.10 (4 bolts, chain anchor)

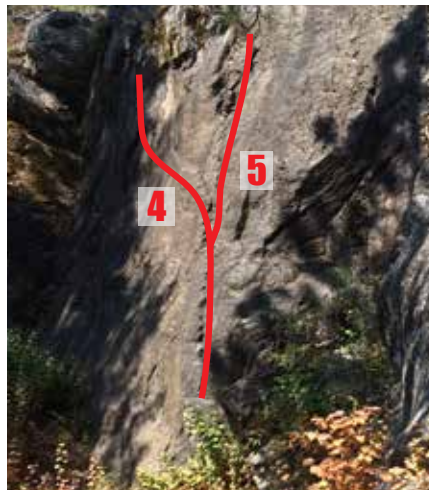
Does distraction keep you from being on time? Start up Hooked on Fonics for two bolts and get distracted by the shiny bolts to the left. Fun climbing along a crack feature to a crux just before the anchor.

FA: Luthy, 2017

5 - Hooked on Fonics 5.7 (4 bolts, ring anchor)

Can you read the moves? The name may infer that there is needed remediation, but this route is all class. Close bolts make the new leader feel good about making moves.

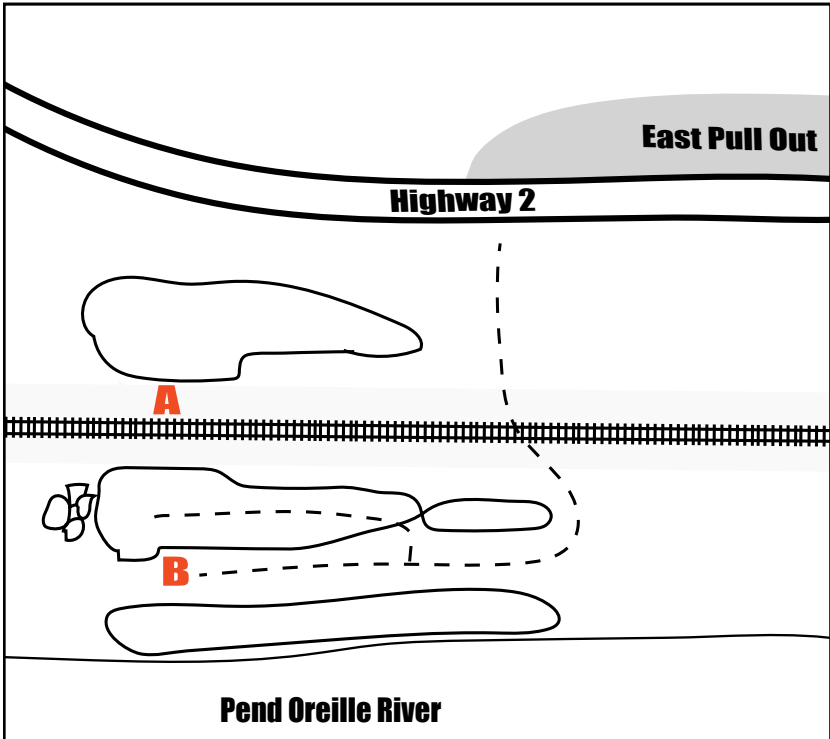
FA: Cartier, 2017



River Rocks

Area Overview

Loved by many, the River Rocks area provides some of the most accessible climbing in the region. A short walk provides a variety of climbs, a flat belay and hangout area, and the bonus of river access for the days when swimming is more appealing than climbing. Although not the highest concentration of climbs, the River Rocks is heavily climbed, especially during the summer months.



A - Rail Yard
B - Riverside



Getting a little help from above on a summer day in 2018.

The Rail Yard

Shade/Sun:

Mixed depending on the wall.

Location:

Cross the road from the west end of the East Pull Out. Identify the trail heading toward the water near the west end of the guard rail. Take this trail to the tracks and walk west to the obvious cliff on both sides of the track.

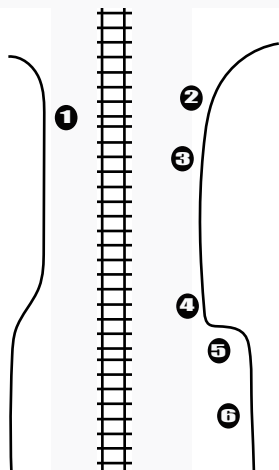
Area Description:

The Rail Yard holds a couple Laclede classics. Unlike most areas at Laclede, Rail Yard features primarily gear protected routes. Although trains are not as frequent as in Sandpoint, the line is active and climbers need to keep gear clear of the tracks.

Top Ropes:

Anchors for all routes are accessible by walking up the back or side of either cliff.

Area Map



- 1 - Locomotion
- 2 - Where There's a Will...
- 3 - Rail Yard Blues
- 4 - Failure to Launch
- 5 - Perils of Pauline
- 6 - Caboose

1 - Locomotion 5.11c AO or 5.12a (3 bolts+1 piton, chain anchor)

A lone route is located on the north facing wall of the Rail-side Area. Many people make the first move to the metal (AO) but it is best done with a thin series of moves and avoiding the metal. The first moves are thin and a stick clip is recommended.

FA: Unknown

2 - Where there's a Will... OPEN PROJECT (bolts, chain anchor)

...there is a way. Created in the blank face to the left of Rail Yard Blues, this is an abandoned project that may have seen enough drilling to allow a strong climber to ascend the wall.

FA: Open project

3 - Rail Yard Blues 5.10c (gear, chain anchor)

Solid crack climbing of varied rock leads to a challenging finger crack top out.

FA: Green, Gibbons, 1986

Variation: Rail Yard Blues Right 5.10

Exit right along a crack near the top of the route.

4 - Failure to Launch (A Derailed Life) (gear)

Climb the obvious horizontal crack from right to left never making much vertical progress. Complete the route by stepping back onto the ground on the left side of the cliff.

FA: OPEN PROJECT

5 - Perils of Pauline 5.10c (gear, no anchor)

A vertical crack feature to the right of Rail Yard Blues.

FA: Unknown

6 - Caboose 5.10b (gear, no anchor)

Climb the right side of the face finding natural protection in horizontal placements.

FA: Unknown



Riverside

Shade/Sun:

Morning sun and late afternoon shade.

Location:

Cross the road from the west end of the East Pull Out. Identify the trail to the water near the west end of the guard rail. Take this trail across the tracks and 30 feet from the water take a right walking along a short cliff that can be bouldered. The walk should only take a couple minutes.

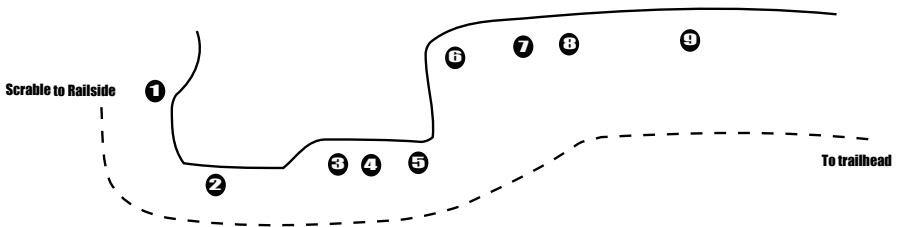
Area Description:

To the amazement of the author, this area sees that majority of the climbing at all of Laclede. Although far from the best routes in the area, River Rocks offers more than just climbing. Slip out of your harness and jump in the river or bring your fishing pole and catch dinner.

Top Ropes:

Top ropes are the name of the game at this area. All routes can be led, but many will be tempted by the relaxed TR climb and belay. Many of the routes have bolts far from the edge that can be used to protect climbers setting up top ropes.

Area Map



- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 - Trainspotting | 6 - Ants in Your Pants |
| 2 - Chicken Little | 7 - Teenage Wasteland |
| 3 - Slippery Slope | 8 - The Friction of Fiction |
| 4 - Dope on a Slope | 9 - Do you Feel Lucky? |
| 5 - Tree Crack | |

1 - Trainspotting 5.10 (5 bolts, chain anchor)

Climb a difficult start to a finish on jugs that make most climbers feel heroic. The route can be made a couple notches easier by starting inside the flair on the left.

FA: Unknown

2 - Chicken Little 5.4 (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Every crag needs an easy ramp. Previously an exposed option to get to the top of the cliff for the sure footed, now the novice leader can wander up the ledges with protection from bolts.

FA: Unknown

3 - Slippery Slope 5.9+ (3 bolts, chain anchor)

On the left end of the main face of the cliff sits two routes that climb up rock with drill marks. Even with awkward movement and only few feet of vertical climbing, these routes see many ascents. Slippery Slope is the left of the two routes.

FA: Unknown

4 - Dope on a Slope 5.9+ (3 bolts, chain anchor)

Same as Slippery Slope but on the right.

FA: Unknown

5 - Tree Crack 5.4 (gear, no anchor)

Easy traditional lead.

FA: Unknown



Riverside (continued)

6 - Ants in Your Pants 5.10d (5 bolts, chain anchor)

Rock fall in the early 2000s changed this route. Climb the gully to gain the face or climb straight up to add a number or two to the grade. Watch out for the tree when lowering.

FA: Unknown

7 - Teenage Wasteland 5.7 (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Wander up and left though enjoyable moves.

FA: Unknown

8 - The Fiction of Friction 5.10- (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Tricky moves on low angle terrain bring you to a tricky move though a notch.

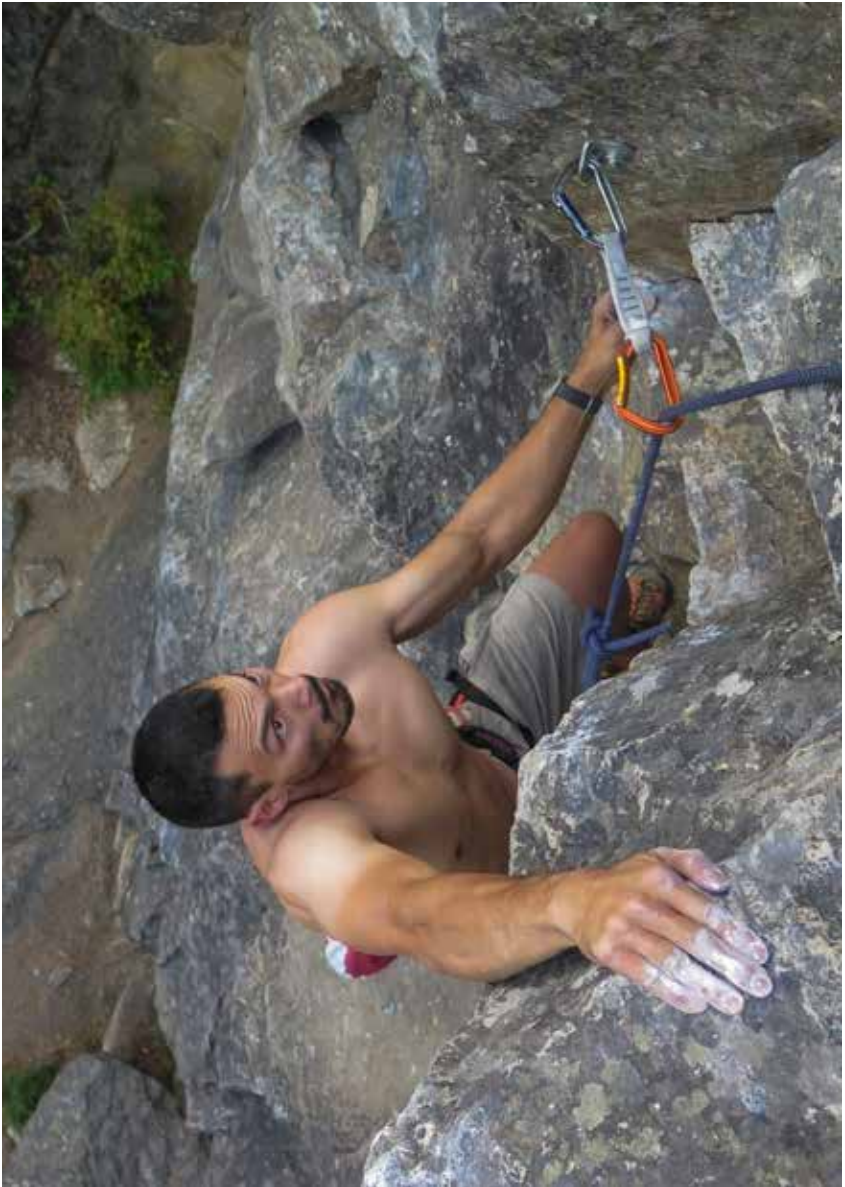
FA: Unknown

9 - Do You Feel Lucky? 5.9 (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Everyone loves a roof, especially when there are jugs!

FA: Unknown



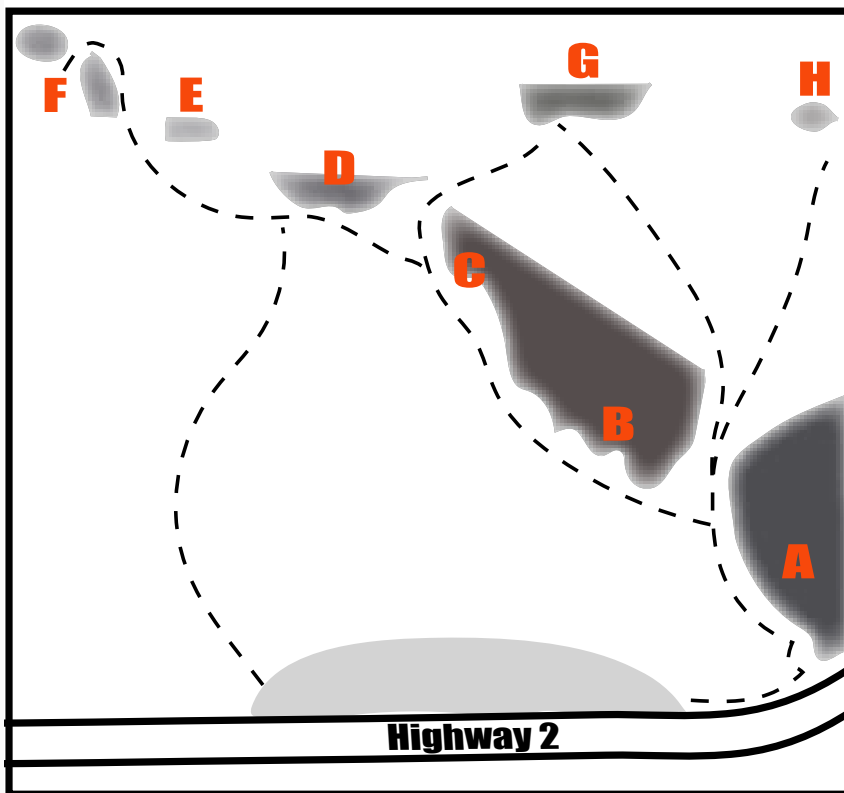


Lorrin Chang learning to believe in the friction on Fiction of Friction. (2018)

West Pull Out

Area Overview

With a ton of climbing and few people, the West Pull Out offers solitude and climbs ranging from slabs to short ones with powerful moves. The area also provides some excellent traditional pitches for the gear plugger.



- A - Utility Pole Buttress & Sentinel Area
- B - California Slab and Destruction Buttress
- C - Lost Buttress
- D - Land Shark
- E - Spokane Slab
- F - Deception Pinnacle
- G - Big Surf
- H - Aid Roof



Oversight committee during a trail day. (2015)

Utility Pole Buttress & The Sentinel Area

Shade/Sun:

West facing, gaining some later afternoon shade. Tree coverage helps keep belayers and most of the cliff shaded.

Location:

Head east along the road from the West Pull Out. After 50 feet of walking, look up hill for a short steep trail. The Utility Pole Buttress is the first wall you encounter. Expect the walk to take about a minute.

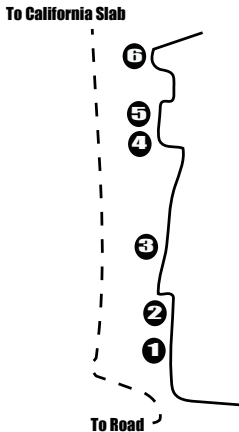
Area Description:

Fast access from the road. Solid stone and a mix of moderate traditional routes and sport climbing offer a fun outing.

Top Ropes:

The top can be gained by walking the trail toward the other climbs until a relatively easy passage is found. Once the top of the cliff is gained, walk back towards the highway and look for anchors. Due to the left leaning nature of Bug Bite, use some directionals to avoid hitting the ground when TRing.

Area Map



- 1 - Bug Bite
- 2 - New Sensations
- 3 - Legs Over Easy
- 4 - Right Side
- 5 - Dirtbag Crack
- 6 - Left Overture



Utility Pole Buttress

1 - Bug Bite 5.11c (6 bolts, chain anchor)

Tricky mantel to fun climbing along a large flake feature. Save some gas for the top. High quality and a short walk.

FA: T. Chamberlin

2 - New Sensations 5.8 (gear, chain anchor)

Fun moderate crack climbing

FA: Green, Bensen, Jensen, 1985

Variation: New Sensations Right Finish 5.9 (gear, chain anchor)

A slightly more difficult version of New Sensations. Ends on Bug Bite Anchor.

FA: Green, Bensen, Jensen, 1985

3 - Legs Over Easy 5.6 (gear, no anchor)

Gear climb for aspiring vertical bushwhackers.

FA: Unknown

The Sentinel Area

4 - Right Side 5.10d/5.11a (gear, anchor)

Nice thin finger crack up the middle of the face. Stays pretty clean except for a resident spider's web.

FA: Unknown



5 - Dirtbag Crack 5.10a (gear, anchor)

Your choice to keep walking or to keep it clean and bring a brush on your next trip to the crag.

FA: Unknown



6 - Left Overture 5.11 (2 bolts, bolts for anchor)

Boulder up and through powerful movement on decent holds. Previous guidebook suggested a retro-bolting was in order. Still has not happened, but a re-bolt with one or two added would make a nice safe climb for the 5.11 leader.

FA: Unknown

Destruction Buttress & California Slab

Shade/Sun:

Mixed during the day, some morning sun.

Location:

With a good mix of climbs, this zone provides moderate slab routes and fun mixed routes that will challenge your ability to stay in balance.

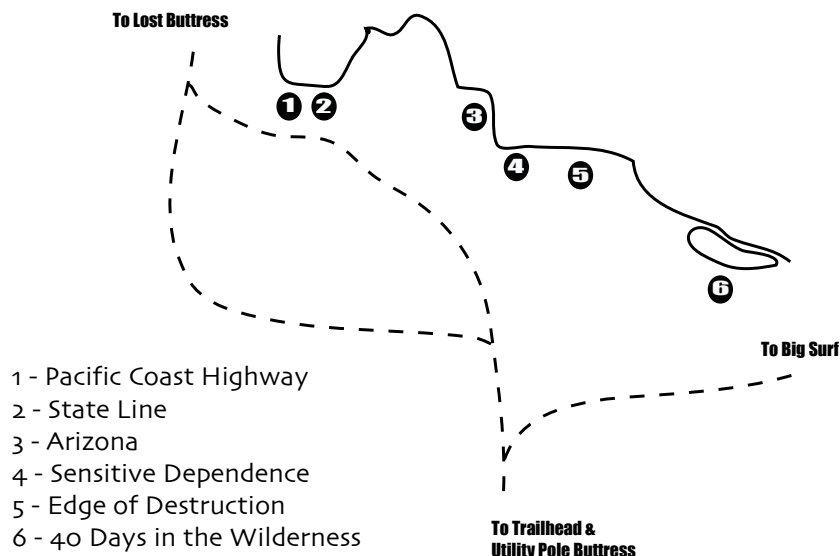
Area Description:

Frequently climbed slab routes.

Top Ropes:

Access to California Slab involves a rappel from a higher cliff or soloing the loose rock on either side of the slab. Destruction Buttress is accessible though a walk up the right side of the cliff.

Area Map



California Slab

1 - Pacific Coast Highway 5.9 (bolts, anchor)

Fun slab climbing.

FA: Unknown

2 - State Line 5.10b (bolts, anchor)

Similar to PCH. For added challenge, climb the direct start at the lowest part of the slab without the arete.

FA: Unknown

Destruction Buttress

3 - Arizona 5.10b (2 bolts+gear, chain anchor)

Downgraded from previous guides based on the easy access to stemming out left. A direct start followed by only climbing the face is possible, but contrived.

FA: Unknown

4 - Sensitive Dependence 5.10c (bolts, chain anchor)

Thin movement to really cool granite features. Climb with your left hand on the arete and right hand looking for holds on the dyke. An alternate starts begins down and left in a bolted dihedral.

FA: Unknown

5 - Edge of Destruction 5.11b (gear, chain anchor)

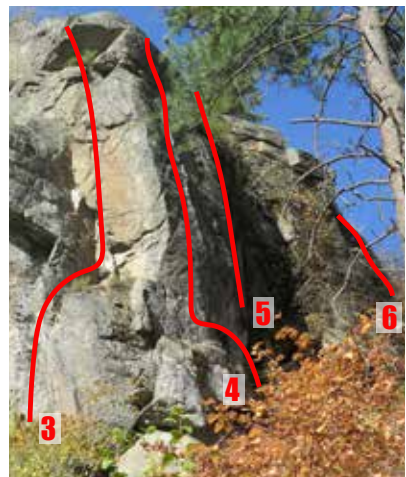
This route has been reclaimed by the lichen, but if it climbs anywhere near as great as Sensitive Dependence it would be a worthy task to give it a scrub.

FA: Unknown

6 - 40 Days in the Wilderness 5.8 (gear, anchor)

Like any good wilderness traveler, there is no trace of previous passage. A short route is definitely there for the adventurous.

FA: Unknown



The Lost Buttress

Shade/Sun:

Mix of morning sun and afternoon shade.

Location:

Continue on the trail past California Slab around the corner and past broken features to the first cliff with bolts.

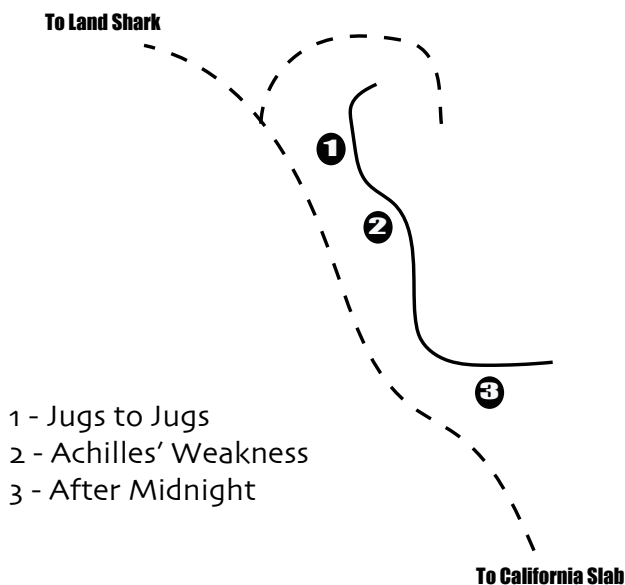
Area Description:

A mix of short powerful routes that stay clean due to the slight overhanging nature of the cliff.

Top Ropes:

The top of the cliff is quickly accessible around the left side of the routes.

Area Map



1 - Jugs to Jugs 5.11 (5 bolts, chain anchor)

Fun climbing with a low crux followed by long reaches between good holds.

FA: Unknown

2 - Achilles' Weakness 5.10b (mixed, ring anchor)

Crank a few crack moves on solid rock then reach for the steep jugs that bring the pump on the journey to the anchor.

FA: Unknown

3 - After Midnight 5.12a (5 bolts, chain anchor)

A great line, short and powerful. The author once reached into the crack and found the remains of a long deceased bird. Future ascensionists can feel confident that the bird is now gone...

FA: McBirney



Land Shark

Shade/Sun:

Morning into afternoon sun and evening shade.

Location:

Walk northwest from the Lost Wall toward the obvious tall face. It is also possible to walk a faint trail from the West Pull Out to Land Shark via a trail that ascends along the steep grass hill next to the pull out.

Area Description:

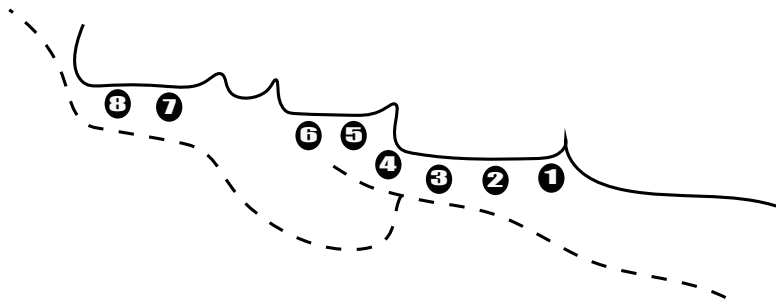
Land Shark is the big cliff of the West Pull Out Crag. The area has both traditionally protected pitches and hard future sport lines.

Top Ropes:

The top of the cliff is complex but access to top anchors is possible to get top ropes set up.

Area Map

To Spokane Slab



To Lost Buttress

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 - Sewage Treatment | 5 - Balls to the Wall |
| 2 - Landshark | 6 - COVID Crusader |
| 3 - Airwaves | 7 - Unknown Project |
| 4 - Nebulous Serious | 8 - Serpentine Crack |

1 - Sewage Treatment 5.9 (gear, no anchor)

Starting up a wide crack in a corner and running to the top of the cliff. Varied and enjoyable for the crack climbing aficionado.

FA: C. Thompson, R. Meyers (first known)

Variation: Shark Bait 5.9+ (gear, no anchor)

Climb the thin slightly difficult to protect crack left of the wide start of Sewage Treatment.

FA: C. Thompson, 2015

2 - Land Shark 5.11a (bolts+gear, anchor)

The crag's namesake route climbs directly up a tall face with interesting movement.

FA: Unknown

3 - Airwaves 5.11c

(bolts+gear, anchor)

A harder version of Land Shark.

Get on this.

FA: Unknown



Land Shark (continued)

4 - Nebulous Serious 5.9 (gear, anchor)

A crack line in the middle of the crag offers an challenge for the aspiring alpine climber who seeks out north facing cliffs in the Selkirks.

FA: Unknown

5 - Balls to the Wall 5.11d (4 bolts, anchor)

Left of the tallest part of the Land Shark Buttress sits a wide face with room for a few climbs. Currently this is the only route. Fun slightly under vertical climbing is only limited by the current strip of moss growing on the upper half of the pitch. Will be great when it is cleaned up.

FA: Unknown

6 - COVID Crusader 5.12a (7 bolts, anchor)

Thin and consistent climbing without any easy moves.

FA: Luthy, 2020

Project Wall

7 - Project Open Project (bolts, anchor)

A blank looking face with a line of small holds and bolts. Thin, powerful movement.

FA: OPEN PROJECT

8 - Serpentine Crack 5.12d (5 bolts, chain anchor)

A4 or free? Climb the crack that snakes up the wall making progress with small crimps and thin jams.

FA: Luthy, 2020



Spokane Slab & Deception Pinnacle

Shade/Sun:

Sun for most of the day, late afternoon shade.

Location:

Continue west from Land Shark Buttress for about one minute.

Area Description:

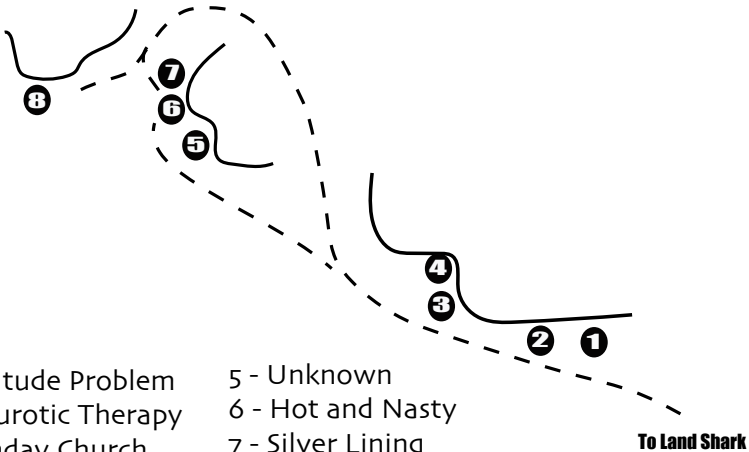
Spokane Slab is a short feature that has potential of being a great beginner area with several climbs. The slab climbs offer a great opportunity to hone your Laclede balance focused movement skills.

Deception Pinnacle is a broken group of rocks that provides some short, but fun, climbing. The routes listed are what is known, but a adventurous climber would surely find a few more routes. Several boulders to the west of the current routes also offer potential.

Top Ropes:

Easily set up by a short walk to the top of the feature.

Area Map



- 1 - Attitude Problem
- 2 - Neurotic Therapy
- 3 - Sunday Church
- 4 - Midget Warfare

- 5 - Unknown
- 6 - Hot and Nasty
- 7 - Silver Lining
- 8 - Deceiver

Spokane Slab

1 - Attitude Problem 5.9 (1 bolt+small gear, chain anchor)

Low angle climbing up a thin crack. The gear is good for the lead, but may test some climbers trust in small cams.

FA: Unknown

2 - Neurotic Therapy 5.10a (4 bolts, chain anchor)

Fun moves up a low angle dike. Great movement and cool holds!

FA: Unknown



3 - Sunday Church 5.10 (bolt, chain anchor)

Tricky overhanging moves up the face to the right of Midget Warfare.

FA: H. Hurt, 2020

Variation: Extended Service 5.13a

Start downhill and right of Sunday Church. Climb the V7 boulder problem (Press Sack) into the starting holds of Sunday Church and climb to the anchor.

4 - Midget Warfare 5.10 (Wide gear, bolt anchor)

Who knew, Laclede has an offwidth roof crack? Christian Thompson knew! Somewhere around 2015 he put in an anchor and attempted the line. It has now been redpointed. Get your wide gear out and get psyched!

FA: Luthy, 2018 (first known)



Deception Pinnacle (continued)

Deception Pinnacle

5 - Unknown (anchor)

A nice orange face has a two bolt anchor on the left side. The climbing looks to be clean to the right of the anchor. Little else is currently known about this climb.

FA: Unknown

6 - Hot and Nasty 5.10c (gear, anchor)

A broken face that accepts sparse gear and finishes on a crack that is currently home to a small tree.

FA: Unknown

7 - Silver Lining 5.10b (1 bolt+gear to 3", chain anchor)

A clean and enjoyable climb past one bolt and into a solid crack that takes gear nicely. Depending on the hands of the climber, the crux will be either the low fingers section or the upper wide hands.

FA: Unknown

8 - Deceiver 5.10c (1 bolt+gear, anchor)

A surprisingly nice face climb located on a feature that is a two minute walk from the previous two routes. In need of some cleaning, but provides some great climbing.

FA: Unknown





Ready for the rock.

Big Surf Rock

Shade/Sun:

Morning sun and afternoon shade.

Location:

Big Surf is located up hill to the north of the Lost Buttress. Access to the cliff is done by a trail originating between Destruction Buttress and Sentinel or an alternate trail that originates from between Lost Buttress and Land Shark.

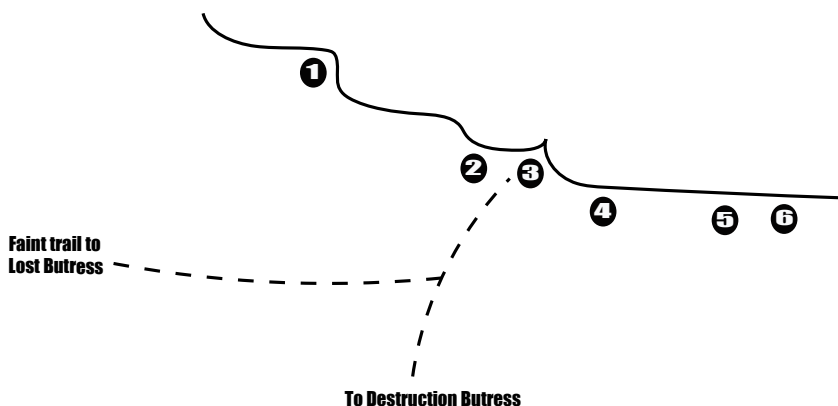
Area Description:

A dense concentration of routes ranging from moderate to challenging, Big Surf has something for most. Two great gear climbs are highlights with Wax Your Stick providing a stunning reward for those who can make the thin slab moves.

Top Ropes:

Top ropes can be set up by walking around the cliff to the top. Trees are accessible to allow safe access to the cliff edge and anchors.

Area Map



- 1 - Up and Out
- 2 - Steal Your Sunshine
- 3 - Crack a Smile

- 4 - Wax Your Stick
- 5 - Surf's Up
- 6 - Hang Ten

1 - Up and Out 5.8 (gear, ring anchor)

Solid rock, good gear, and fun climbing around a roof. Stays clean.

FA: Unknown

2 - Steal Your Sunshine 5.10d (5 bolts, chain anchor)

Challenging climbing down low that works your balance and rewards suitors with great moves on a thin flake to finish.

FA: Unknown

3 - Crack a Smile 5.10a (gear, chain anchor)

Best crack climb at Laclede? Make a reach move to establish in the crack and enjoy the jams to the top.

FA: Unknown

4 - Wax Your Stick 5.11b/c (5 bolts, chain anchor)

Thin and technical slab climbing leads to a cool flake feature.

FA: Unknown

5 - Surf's Up 5.10d (fixed pin+gear, bolt anchor)

Mellow traverse along a crack and foot rail to a vertical crack. At the time of this guide the climbing was fun but needed love from a brush.

FA: Unknown

6 - Hang Ten 5.11a (gear, bolt anchor)

A direct start to Surf's Up that avoids the traverse.

FA: Unknown



Aid Roof

Shade/Sun:

Horizontal roofs are shady all day.

Location:

Up and over the hillside from the main West Pull Out crags.

Area Description:

An area with only one route. The hike is most worthwhile for current or aspiring double digit boulders.

Top Ropes:

Nope.

Aid Roof Project

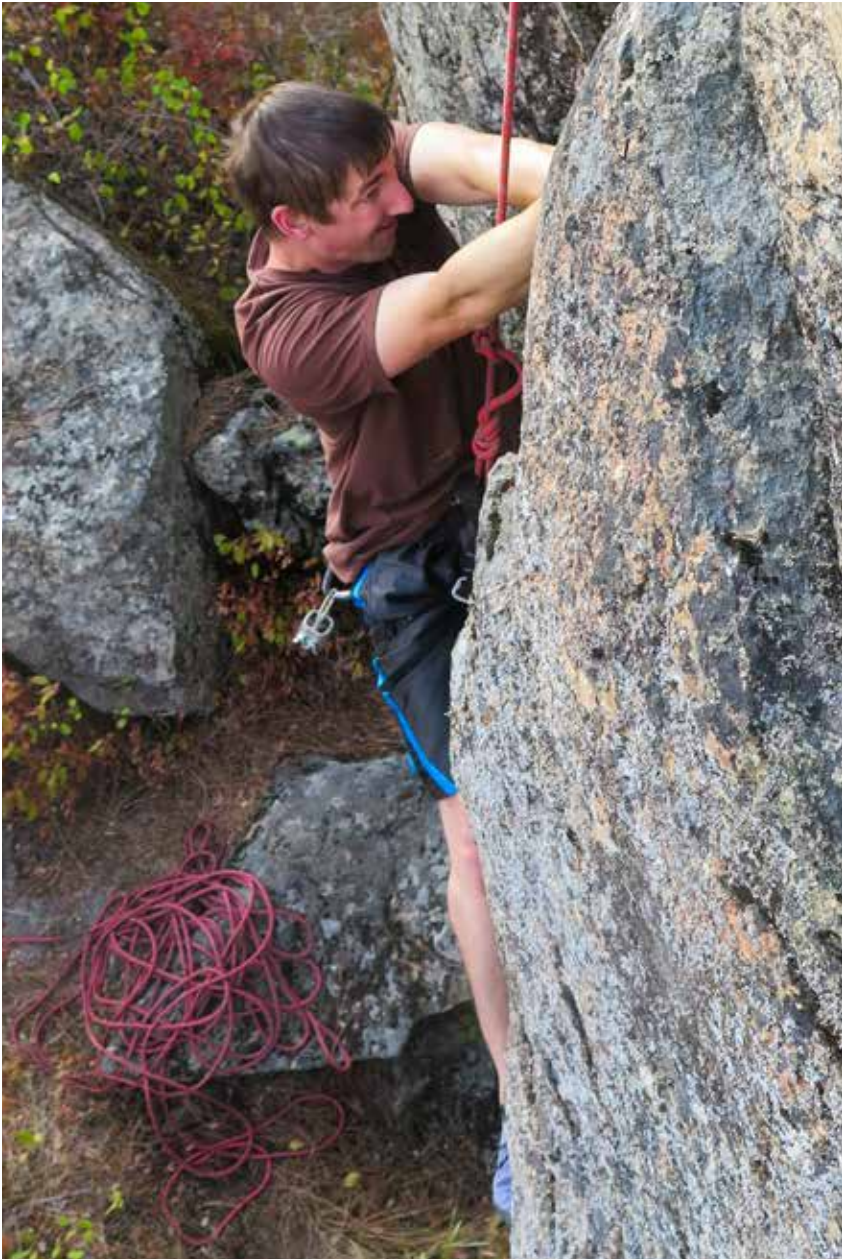
Horizontal roof split by a thin crack. Route that has been used as aid practice in the past. The line is free of pitons and awaits a free ascent. Think boulder pads and spotter, not climbing rope.

FA: Aid ascent unknown.

No free ascent...yet



Author dreaming of the ability to even establish in the crack



Chad Nuxoll sinking quality jams at Big Surf. (2018)

A final note inspired by bolts.

I have long since lost count of the number of bolts that I have replaced at Laclede. The effort is one of passion and only possible due to the efforts of previous generations of climbers. We can choose to place value in the places we spend time. As climbers we can show the value in our climbing community through the way we interact within the community and at the crag.

It is a gift to be able to climb at this crag. If you value that ability, make it a little better each trip. Pick up some trash, bring a brush with you to dust off a hold or two, trim back the trail, or volunteer at a trail day. As a result you will find more value in this place, and future generations will appreciate how you left it.

