

Ghost River, Wild West Wall

The Booty Loader * S-5.12c, 195 m**

Ross Suchy, Simon Meis, and Joshua Lavigne, August 2014

This route is located about 100 m right of the **Kemp Shield** marked by a wind sculpted bonsai type tree near the base. Ross and Simon established this climb over a 2 year period and a total of 9 days, joining forces when their schedules and weather (2013 floods) permitted. This is a fully bolted multi-pitch sport route that should not be missed. The climb was named after a toy Loader Ross' boy Sage had found and was forever known as his "Booty Loader".

Gear: 16 Quick-draws (include 3 long slings), 2 X 60 m ropes. The first ascent party used single rope technique with a tag line for hauling and rappelling.

P1) 5.12a, 40 m, 14 clips. Start up the velcro orange rock. Treat the first half of this pitch as your warm up because the pump will continue building until you clip the anchors. This is a really good pitch but unfortunately it seems to always have a wet spot near the top, it's only 2 holds but be prepared.

P2) 5.12b, 20 m 10 clips. Head left from the belay and over a difficult bulge to gain the overhanging corner (crux), pull through the roof to a stance on a sloping ledge. Easier climbing in a corner leads to the belay.

P3) 5.12a, 35 m, 15 clips. The corner pitch! Beautiful 5.11 climbing in a corner leads to the big roof. Traverse left under the roof on small crimps, hidden holds and underclings. Layback around the left edge of the roof with feet pasted and mind blowing exposure until you hit the mega jug. Belay on the exposed perch. Wild!

P4) 5.12c, 35 m, 15 clips. This is the Booty pitch! When the first ascent team first rapped over this pitch they knew it was going to be mega. From the belay head left on a rising traverse on perfect edges till you reach the crux bulge. Crank through difficult moves and enjoy superb climbing till you reach a corner, Climb this corner till you reach a ledge, clip a bolt (long sling) and move right around a bulge and belay on a nice ledge.

P5) 5.11b, 25 m, 9 clips. This pitch looks innocent enough but don't let your guard down, the first 4 bolts pack a punch. Head a couple meters right of the belay and up the obvious corner, move right around the arête and follow easy terrain up to another belay on a large ledge system.

P6) 5.11c, 25 m, 7 clips. Climb up the ledges to the right and find the line of bolts in the orange rock. This pitch has some fun technical climbing but watch out for the spiky edges. When you reach the next Ledge system move left a short distance to the belay.

P7) 5.11b, 20 m, 6 clips. A nice finish to the route, this pitch climbs the obvious crack that splits the face.

Descent: Rappel the route or walk off and use the **Bonanza Descent Gully**. The top 2 pitches can be rappelled in one go with 2 X 60 m ropes. When rappelling the 3rd pitch (The corner pitch) back-clip a couple bolts under the roof plus watch for one that was added for the descent to help get you back to the anchor at the top of pitch 2. From the top of the 2nd pitch a 60 m rappel will get you on the ground.

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