



AAC Publications

Red Dragon Wall, Green Couch

Little Switzerland

After enduring the fury of a 10-day Alaskan storm, we were rewarded with one six-hour period of sunshine during which we established a new four-pitch route on a small, unclimbed wall in Little Switzerland. Green Couch (III 5.10a) was a fun and high-quality consolation prize after getting completely skunked on our main objective, a traverse of the Dragon's Spine, a long, unclimbed ridgeline. [The Dragon's Spine lies a few miles down glacier (northwest) from the Trolls and other formations.] We named the cliff the Red Dragon Wall because of its red-varnished face; it is located just southeast of the Dragon's Spine, right where the Pika Glacier meets the granite. The climb consists of mostly splitter hand and finger cracks up to 5.9, with a 5.10a move through a small roof. There is an additional pitch through very moderate terrain to top out and walk off the wall. Overall, the rock and climbing are very high quality.

Zach Clanton

Images



The Dragon's Spine formation, which rises up from the Pika Glacier in Little Switzerland.



Climbing splitter cracks on the Red Dragon Wall.



Looking up a clean corner on the Red Dragon Wall.

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