



AAC Publications

Locke Rock, Locked and Loaded

California, Western Sierra

In August, Brandon Thau invited me out to the southeast face of Locke Rock, northeast of Courtright Reservoir, to climb a line he had his eye on. We started climbing to the right of the rarely-done runout classic Best of the West (1,000', 5.11c R) and climbed several sustained pitches of face climbing before I was able to execute some improbable moves and gain a steep splitter.

On the second day, we were joined by Brian Prince, who boosted morale and helped divide the load of difficult leads on improbable-looking terrain. We topped out after seven pitches, five of which included sustained 5.11a-ish climbing on perfect rock—Locked & Loaded (1,100' climbing distance, 5.11a). During this trip, we also climbed and replaced all of the bolts on Best of the West.

— Vitaliy Musiyenko

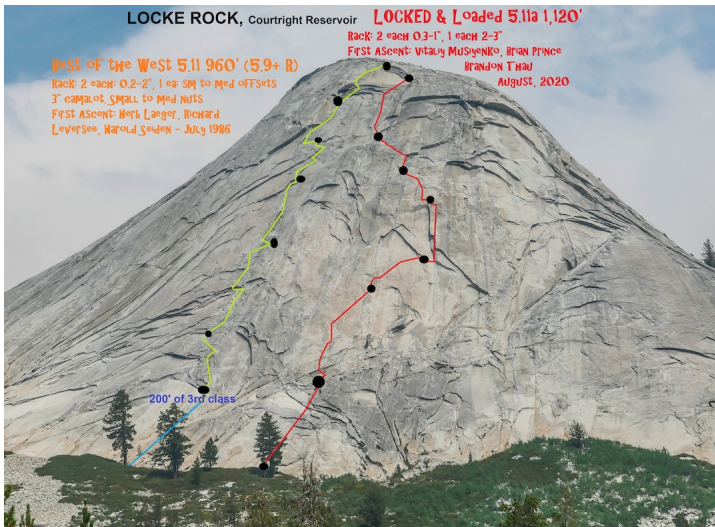
Images



Brandon Thau, Vitaliy Musiyenko and Brian Prince on the summit of Locke Rock after completing the first ascent of Locked & Loaded (1,100' climbing distance, 5.11a).



Brian Prince tackling steep corners during the first ascent of Locked & Loaded (1,100' climbing distance, 5.11a) on Locke Rock in the western Sierra.



Topo for the two major routes on the southeast face of Locke Rock in the western Sierra near Courtright Reservoir—Locked & Loaded (1,100' climbing distance, 5.11a), and Best of the West (1,000', 5.11c R).

Article Details

Author	Vitaliy Musiyenko
Publication	AAJ
Volume	63
Issue	95
Page	
Copyright Date	2021
Article Type	Climbs and expeditions