



AAC Publications

Fatal Fall — Unfinished Knot

Wyoming, Washakie County, Ten Sleep Canyon

Ten Sleep Canyon has established itself as a destination sport climbing area in North America. It was the scene of a fatality in June 2025. Photo: Martin Kraft

On June 26, Jonathan Paul Schleicher (32) of Leawood, Kansas, fell 60 feet while rock climbing in Ten Sleep Canyon. He was attempting to redpoint Give Up the Funk (5.13a) at the Funky Town crag and took a fatal ground fall due to an unfinished knot.

Friends and fellow climbers who were present attempted to render aid. Responding agencies included Ten Sleep Ambulance and Ten Sleep Fire Department. The Washakie County Sheriff's Office is investigating; no additional details about the route or the nature of the fall have been released.

ANALYSIS

Ten Sleep Canyon is one of the premier limestone sport climbing destinations in North America. Climbers should verify the integrity of their tie-in before leaving the ground. Partner checks should become a habit. (Sources: Washakie County Sheriff's Office and the Editors.)

Images



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