



## AAC Publications

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### **Panther Peak, Ailurophobia**

California, Sierra, Kings Canyon and Sequoia

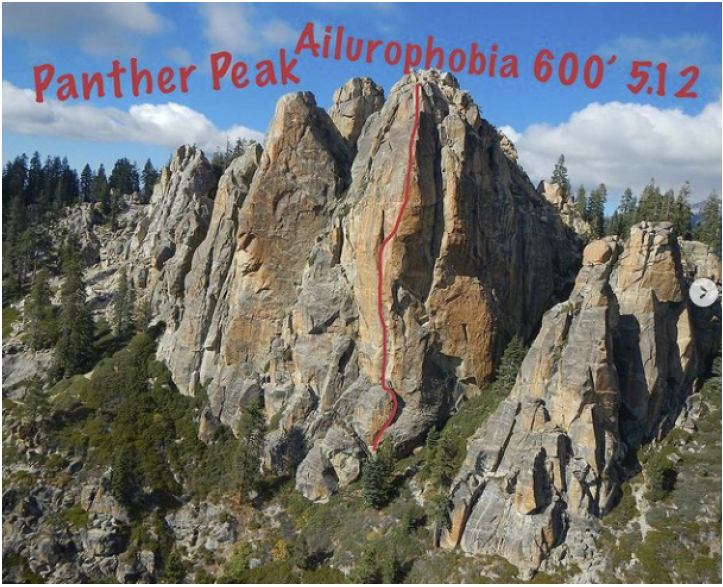
**A few years ago, various climbers completed several routes on the two south-facing buttresses of Panther Peak (AAJ 2016), accessed via the Wolverton trailhead.** Daniel Jeffcoach, Alaina Robertson, and I attempted another new line on the east buttress, but this effort ended when a foothold broke and I ripped a large piece of flesh falling from an overhanging fist crack.

I returned in 2021 to complete the route with Daniel, then returned again to redpoint it with Pete Cutler. Ailuriphobia (the fear of cats) can be climbed as an enjoyable 5.11 C1/A0 or 5.12. The first 5.12 pitch follows a steep, variable crack that goes from wide to fingers, and the second 5.12 crux can be pulled through on bolts if needed. The rest of the route is a mix of clean cracks and steep, bolt-protected face climbing. Descend by rappelling the route with a single 70m rope or by walking off the summit.

– Vitaliy Musiyenko

**Liquid Gravity on Panther Peak:** Also in 2021, Shaun Reed and Brandon Thau completed Liquid Gravity (5 pitches, 5.11d), a bolt-protected face climb right of Ailuriphobia on the east buttress.

## Images



The line of Ailurophobia on Panther Peak.

## Article Details

Author	Vitaliy Musiyenko
Publication	AAJ
Volume	64
Issue	96
Page	131
Copyright Date	2022
Article Type	Climbs and expeditions