

Eldorado Canyon Fixed Hardware Application Form

Name: Mike Schlauch, Naomi Guy, & Eric Vining

Phone: 303-883-9132

Email: mschlauch31@gmail.com

Address:

The Blunt Buttress, 5.11a (Proposing 5 bolts)

Location: The proposed route starts at a good natural gear anchor at the junction of The Sidetrack (5.6, route 73 Levin guide) and I Can't Copeland (5.9, A3+, route 74). This junction is about 100' off the ground, directly above the start of The Redguard Route and The Contest. See page 153 in the Levin guide for a good picture.

To preview the route, it is possible to set up a TR off of the first 2 bolts on The Vaporizer and lower down the route. Bring a small rack for directionals. A yellow alien sized cam is key in the seam above the last bolt.

Route Description:

Approach via The Sidetrack or I Can't Copeland (pitch one goes free at 5.9 R, recommended). You can also climb Anthill Direct for 20 feet and then traverse right past a tree to the gear belay.

From the gear belay, climb easy terrain on The Sidetrack for about 20 feet to a break in the headwall on your left. From there the first bolt would be obvious. Climb up and left onto the blunt buttress and continue straight up for approximately 80 ft to the good ledge at the start of The Vaporizer (5.11b, route 53). Refer to picture & topo. There are 5 proposed bolts protecting the face climbing, followed by gear-protected climbing to the ledge. The gear placements begin after the crux, when the 5th bolt is just below your feet. Near the top of the pitch you can climb left to rejoin I Can't Copeland on 5.8 terrain with good gear or climb right to a 5.8 corner and up to the ledge.

Finish on The Vaporizer or other easier routes from the Sidetrack Junction.

The face climbing is similar to The Vaporizer, maybe a letter grade easier.

Factors For

1. Is the proposed new route independent?

Yes. It shares no climbing with any other existing routes.

2. Is the proposed new route direct?

Yes. Direct line on natural face holds. The finish has some options, but it's pretty obvious where to head to (the ledge below the Vaporizer)

3. Is the proposed new route on good rock?

Yes. The rock quality is generally very good. There is a lot of lichen on the route which will clean up over time.

4. Does the overall quality of the climbing inspire?

Yes. The position is very cool. When combined with the Vaporizer, the climb will provide a fun 5.11 outing for an Eldo climber.

5. Does the proposed new route alter neighboring routes?

No. It is far from the two closest routes. (Anthill Direct, Chromium Shore, The Sidetrack)

6. Is the proposed new route safe?

Yes. However, natural gear placements and related experience are required to keep it safe.

7. Will proposed new route lead to crowding at base?

No. You seldom see anyone in this area.

Factors Against

1. Does the new route overlook natural protection in favor of bolts?

No. There are bolts only where there isn't any natural protection.

Neutral Factors

1. Can the proposed new route be top roped?

Yes, using the first two bolts on The Vaporizer and some directionals.

Discussion (from applicant): I think this route would be a good, well-protected, addition to a seldom-traveled section of the South Buttress of the Redgarden Wall. It is a mixed route, requiring gear placements immediately after the last bolt. The route is far enough off the ground and off the beaten path that bolts should not detract from the experiences of other park users.

The Blunt Buttrass, 5.11a, Shown in RED. Picture from pg 153 Levin guide



