

# Eldorado Canyon Fixed Hardware Application Form

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## In Plain Sight, 5.11 (proposing 2 bolts)

Location: This proposed Bastille upper west face route starts at either bolt station at the top of Rain or the first pitch of the West Buttress. See page 56 in the 2020 Levin guide for a good picture.

To preview the route, it is possible to set up a TR off of cams in a solid crack about 18 feet left of the bolt station on top of the big block/flake at the top of the second pitch of the West Buttress/first pitch of Hair City/etc. and lower down the route. The ledge between the bolt station and the cams anchor is 4<sup>th</sup> class.

### Route Description:

Midway between the Rain and West Buttress anchors, follow holds up the huecoed wall to an obvious smoother headwall with a black streak. The headwall is the crux, and the ~5.8 climbing to the crux has at least three gear placements (wires, cams) and possibly four.

### **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 pockets and face holds.

3. Is the proposed new route on good rock?

Yes. The rock quality is generally very good. The oblong, vertical huecos on the route are quite unusual, including a thin fin on the left edge of a right-facing key hueco at the crux. The holds on the crux are free of lichen.

4. Does the overall quality of the climbing inspire?

Yes. The position is classic Eldo: High on the Bastille, quality rock, and easier but committing climbing up to a clearly visible steep face above. Leading the route will require creative gear from "lateral thinking" (looking!) on the easier climbing below the crux -- a smooth, steep headwall with the finishing hold being a finger-jam mini-jug. 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 a good distance from the two closest routes (Rain and Shine on the left, and the West Buttress on the right)

6. Is the proposed new route safe?

Yes. However, natural gear placements and related experience are required to keep it safe. The two bolts will be placed slightly left of the crux holds so that the leader's left leg does NOT end up behind the rope.

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

No. To start the route, either of the two bolt stations 100 feet above the ground can be used. It should provide a nice option for climbers who have done Rain or the West Buttress.

### **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 cams in a solid crack about 10 feet above the crux headwall. Access this solid crack by rappelling from the top of the Bastille, or traversing about 18 feet left from the bolt station at top of the West Buttress/first pitch of Hair City/etc.

### **Discussion (from applicant):**

I think this route would be a good addition to the west face of the Bastille. The route climbs the largest expanse of unclimbed rock in the photo on p. 56 of Levin's 2020 guide. It is a mixed route, requiring gear placements up to the bolts. The route is for the expert Eldo leader, and its two bolts should not detract from the experiences of other park users or climbers on other routes.

In Plain Sight, proposed new route. Levin 2020 guide, p. 56



In Plain Sight

5

Rain and Shine

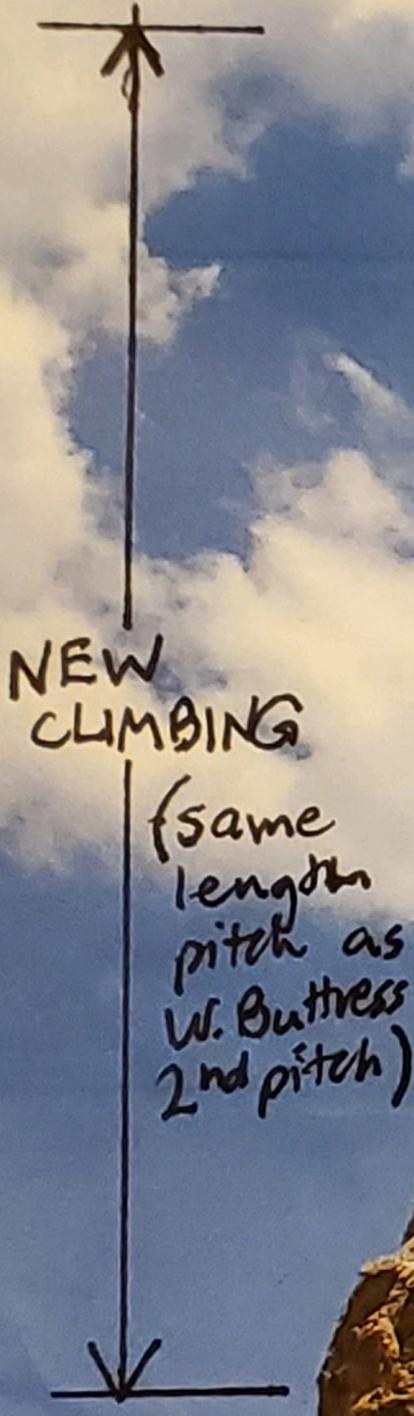
120'

100'

West Buttress

70

Proposed: 2 bolts



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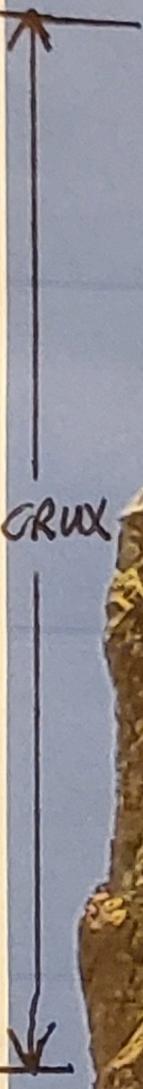
RAIN anchor



Gear  
belay →

X = Proposed new bolts (2)  
⊙ Gear (nuts, cams)

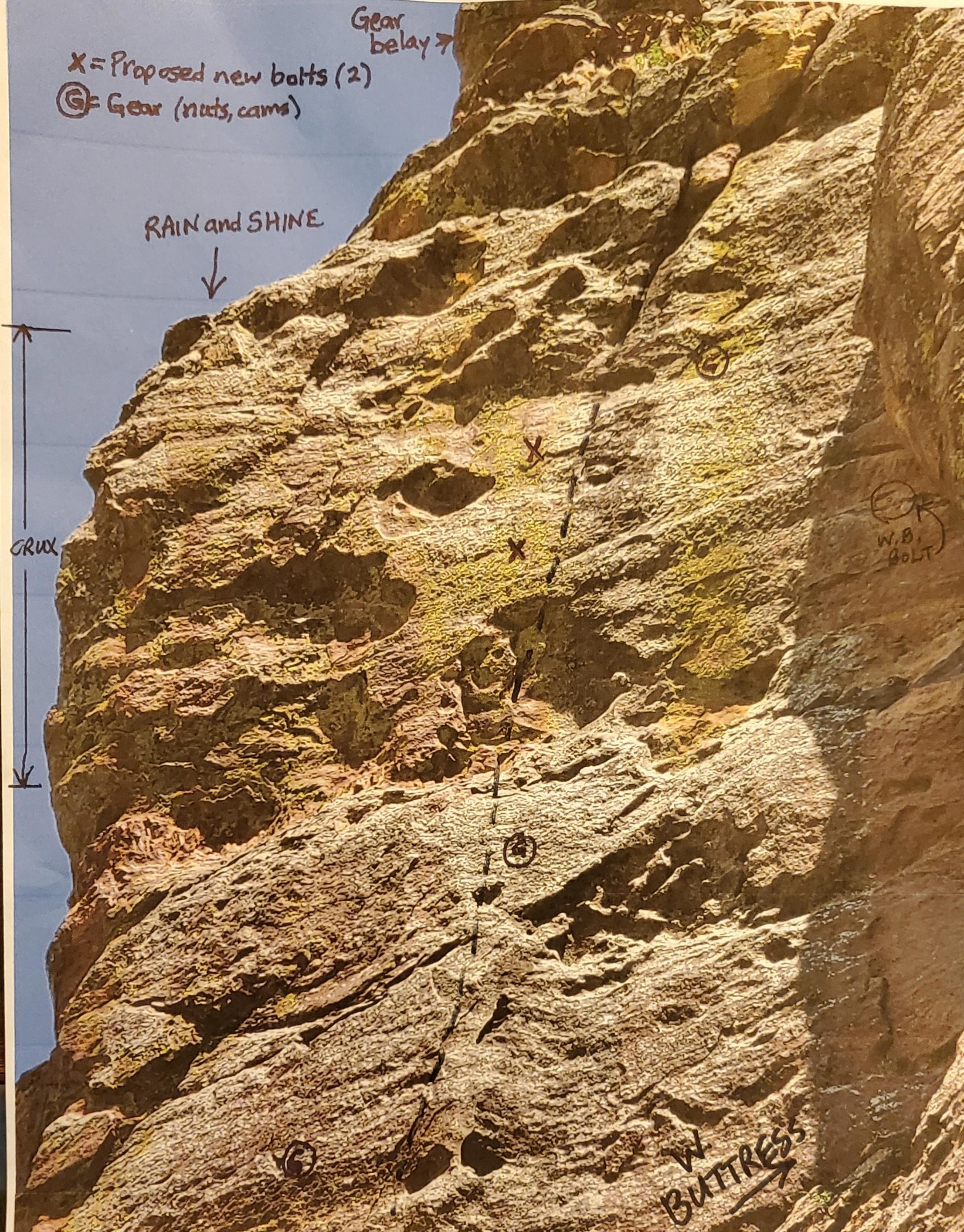
RAIN and SHINE  
↓

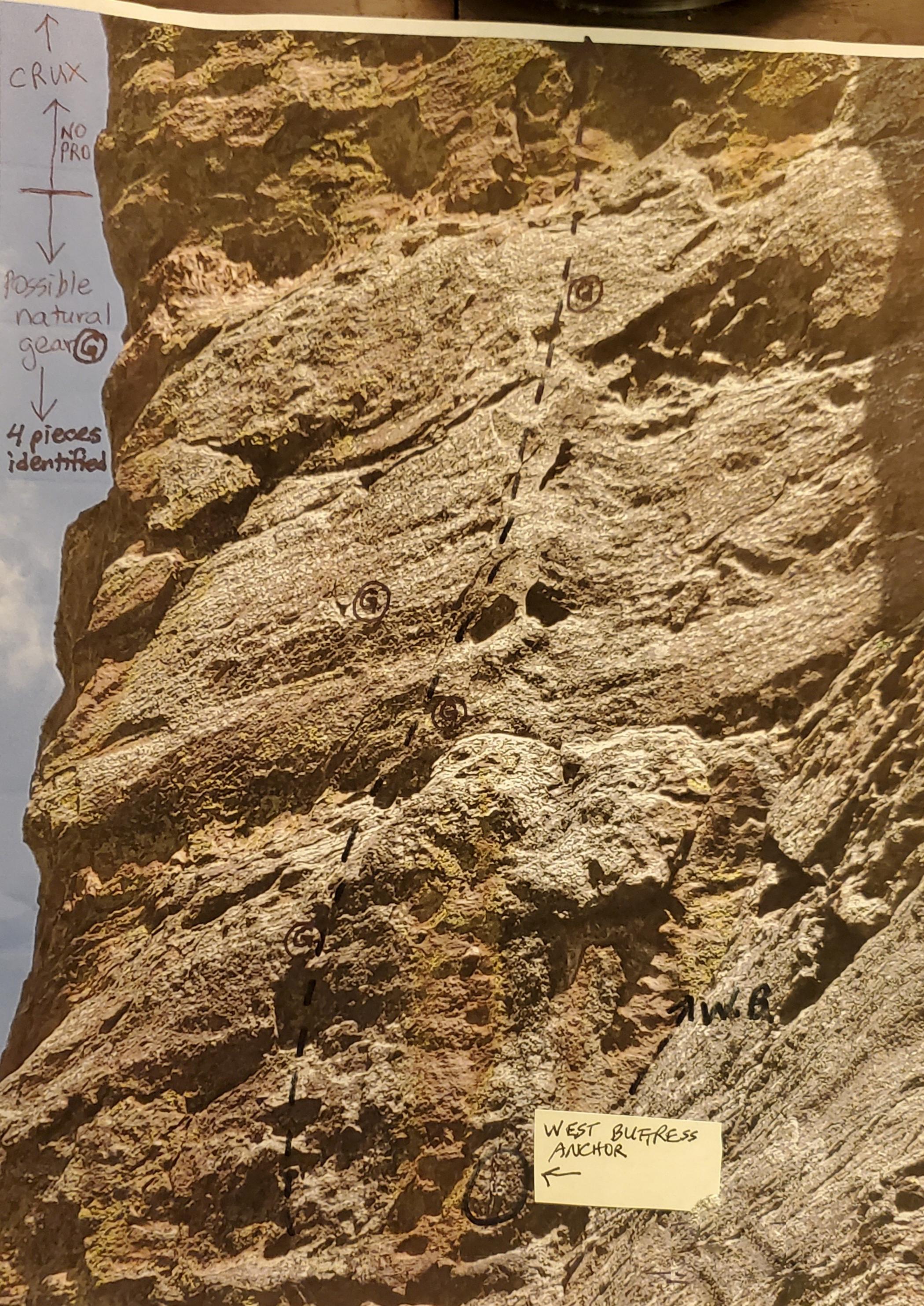


CRUX

W.B.  
BOLT

W  
BUTTRESS  
→





↑  
CRUX

↑  
NO  
PRO



possible  
natural  
gear (G)

↓  
4 pieces  
identified



(G)

(G)

(G)

W.B.

WEST BUFFRESS  
ANCHOR  
←