

VERTICAL **TIMES**

THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESS FUND



your climbing future



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**AF SUPPORTS MINING REFORM
CLIMBERS PARADISE FOR SALE
WHO'S BRADY ROBINSON**

THE ACCESS FUND
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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INTRODUCTION |

THE AF PERSPECTIVE



When I started as Executive Director in early September, I quickly realized that the Access Fund exhibits the qualities of a healthy organization: financial stability, an excellent staff, an engaged board, and effective delivery of its mission. By building on our present strength and focusing on several key areas, I believe we can become even more effective at keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment.

The Access Fund is most effective when it operates on both local and national levels. Our grassroots network has grown significantly in the past several years and is critical to our success. We will continue to support and collaborate with existing affiliates while further expanding the network.

On the national policy level, our influence is continuing to grow through our affiliation with the Outdoor Alliance. In addition, we have launched a new campaign to support reforms to the 1872 Mining Laws that impact a variety of climbing areas. We need to be selective about which battles we fight, but we aren't always going to play it safe. We have taken strong stances in the past, and we are ready and able to do it again in the future.

This is a time of expansion for the Access Fund. We have a plan to increase our ability to make land acquisitions when critical access issues arise. We are also working to increase our membership base. These two initiatives

will significantly expand the Access Fund's influence and strengthen the voice of the climbing community.

Now, I have a few favors to ask: Please help expand our membership base by talking to other climbers about the importance of the Access Fund. Encourage them to become a member. We are grateful to count you as one of the 1% of climbers who are members; we need your help with the other 99%.

Please remember to support and engage your local climbing organization. To find a local climbing organization near you, visit our website: www.accessfund.org.

Finally, I'd like to request that you go climbing. The Access Fund staff, board, and many, many volunteers work hard to keep climbing areas open—please get out there and enjoy them!

I'm honored to have the opportunity to work for the climbing community as the Executive Director of the Access Fund. Please don't hesitate to drop me a line and let me know what is going on in your local area and how we're doing as an organization.

Sincerely,

Brady Robinson



"The Red" is known for its amazing climbing and fall foliage. hanging at Left Flank, RRG, KY. | © Dawn Kish

The Access Fund has recently instituted a broad advocacy campaign to support reform efforts to remedy long-standing problems related to the 1872 Mining Law. These reforms are important for climbers because climbing resources are increasingly being mined and many of our climbing environments suffer from abandoned mining tailings and associated trash.

Recently, the Access Fund, along with members of the Outdoor Alliance www.outdooralliance.net, has partnered with the PEW Campaign for Responsible Mining, the National Environmental Trust, the Environmental Working Group, the Colorado Conservation Alliance, and the Western Conservation Fund to push for reforms to US mining laws.

Mining practices have not seen a legislative reform since 1872 even though mining practices have changed dramatically in the last 135 years. Although we all use hardrock metals in our daily lives, the Access Fund feels that the mining industry must play by the same Leave No Trace rules that all human-powered recreational users practice on public lands and minimize its impacts, especially at special places like our national parks. Equally crucial is the need to plan for the long overdue cleanup of our public lands.

A recent report, "Mining Law Threatens Grand Canyon, Other National Treasures," www.ewg.org/sites/mining_google/US2007/index.php, shows an 80 percent increase in uranium, gold, copper, and other mining claims in 12 western states over the past five years, including an explosion of uranium claims that could affect dozens of climbing areas.

"In addition to current mining practices that allow the literal destruction of climbing resources around the West through the use of toxic chemical processing, large-scale dynamite blasting, and massive earth-moving machines," said Access Fund policy director Jason Keith, "the Access Fund has a stake in efforts to rehabilitate the half-million mines across the country that negatively affect the climbing environment at many of our favorite climbing areas like Indian Creek, Utah and Telluride, Colorado. For these reasons, the Access Fund and its Outdoor Alliance allies support reasonable efforts to provide more effective oversight on future mining practices and provide funds to clean-up the over 500,000 abandoned mines that negatively affect recreational experiences across the country."

On August 16 representatives of the Access Fund/ Outdoor Alliance, Environmental Working Group and the Pew Campaign for Responsible Mining held a press conference to discuss findings that show that 10 of the West's national parks, including Yosemite, Arches and Joshua Tree National Parks, are at new and growing risk as mining claims cluster around their boundaries. An MP3 audio file of this conference is available at www.PewMiningReform.org.

In coming weeks the Access Fund will be working with the Colorado Conservation Alliance and the Western Conservation Fund to target specific federal representatives, urging them to support current bills in Congress that would reform critical aspects of the 1872 law. See: www.mineralpolicy.org/pubs/HR2262.pdf for text of this proposed legislation; more background info can be found here www.net.org/mining.

Contact Jason Keith at 303-545-6772 x102 or jason@accessfund.org for additional details on how the Access Fund is working to limit destructive mining practices, which negatively impact the climbing environment.

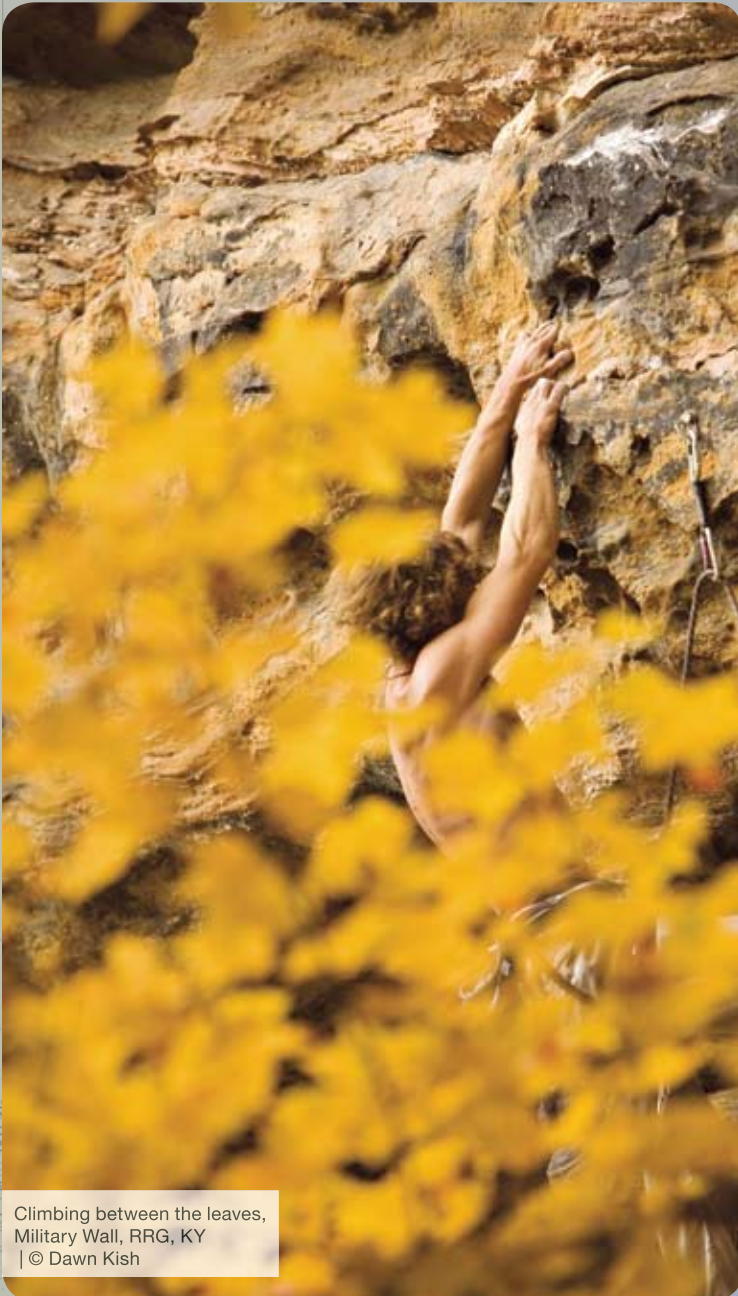


Wilder working out the beta on Infectious 5.12b. RRG, KY | © Dawn Kish



Cave Rock, NV Climbing Ban Upheld by Court

On August 27, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a US Forest Service (USFS) ban on rock climbing at Lake Tahoe’s Cave Rock in Nevada, rejecting arguments by the Access Fund that the ban enacted in early 2005 by the USFS is unconstitutional because it closes public lands for religious purposes.



Climbing between the leaves,
Military Wall, RRG, KY
| © Dawn Kish

The Access Fund does not agree with the court’s justification of this public land closure to climbers while all other users—hikers, picnickers, sightseers, and highway travelers—are permitted to continue using Cave Rock. The Access Fund is carefully reviewing the court’s opinion and considering its options, but has no immediate plans to appeal.

The Access Fund will continue to work with the USFS consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding in effect since March of 2003 between the Access Fund and USFS which lays out a framework of cooperation on climbing management policies at the national, regional, and local level.

“The Cave Rock outcome is fact-specific, situational, and an exception from the norm. This ruling cannot be applied generally to other USFS-managed public lands. We will continue to pursue mutually positive outcomes when dealing with our federal land management agencies,” states Jason Keith, the Access Fund’s Policy Director. “In this situation we weren’t able to find an agreeable solution but we will continue to employ and create strategies that include the interests of climbers in management decisions on our public lands.”

Access Fund Executive Director Brady Robinson points out that “For climbers, this issue underlines the importance of being active participants in maintaining access to our climbing areas regardless of who manages the land. Fortunately, there are more models of success than there are failures when delicate issues arise between land management agencies and climbers. As advocates and stewards we strive to learn from our losses, and are guided by our successes.”

The Access Fund asks all climbers to respect the court’s decision and the USFS’s ban on climbing at Cave Rock.

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Lost Horse Canyon, MT

By Steve Porcella, Bitterroot Climbers Coalition

Lost Horse Crag in the Bitterroot Mountain remains at risk of being mined. This mining proposal has been deadlocked by an even vote of the Ravalli County Commission. Ravalli County Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll is the one abstainer in the currently tied vote (2 vs 2 out of 5 total commissioners) on whether to proceed on the Lost Horse Mining Proposal (slated to start Oct. 2007). As of press time, Driscoll remains undecided while she waits for cost estimate numbers for mining road gravel at the old Lost Horse quarry versus other gravel pits throughout the county. For more background, see www.accessfund.org/display/page/AA/74.

The Bitterroot Climbers Coalition, www.bitterrootclimbers.org, urges climbers to continue writing to Driscoll. Make it known that citizens and visitors to the Bitterroot Valley and Lost Horse Canyon do not want this issue to be determined by the price of gravel, but rather upon the preservation of the unique recreational and outdoor attributes of Lost Horse Canyon. This important deciding vote should not be cast dependant upon if money will be saved for gravel mining but instead on the long term impacts to the Canyon from an active gravel mining operation and how this proposed industrial site will negatively impact all recreational use and interests in the area. Also worth mentioning are the negative health and safety aspects of running such an operation on a narrow dirt road and the loss of property values for local residents.

Take action now!

Write Kathleen Driscoll at the address below. Lost Horse is the best climbing, bouldering, and cragging area in Montana. Operation of this quarry for the next 10 years or more will effectively halt all access to the climbing and destroy a unique recreational area in the heart of the Bitterroot Mountains.

See Joe Josephson's website: www.firstascentpress.com for more information and to order advance copies of the Lost Horse Climbing guide, available in late September.

Write your letters to:

Ravalli County Commissioners Office
215 S. 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

Consider the following points in your letter:

- The climbing resources at Lost Horse are very valuable to climbers locally, regionally, and across the country. This is the best climbing area in the state.
- Re-activation of the quarry will negatively impact the scenic nature of the area, produce noise, disrupt wildlife such as migrating herds, wolverine that migrate through canyon, and peregrine falcons (which nest on the cliff), create a bigger footprint scar in the area (2-3 times bigger and deeper) and basically make the area too dangerous or impossible for climbing.
- The Forest Service proposal does not recognize or consider the unique recreational asset of Lost Horse, nor the hundreds of climbers, land owners, and other users in the area. They do not realize climbers and many other users enjoy Lost Horse every month of the year and grossly underestimate the safety and egress issues (access from an upper observation point).

See www.accessfund.org/pdf/losthorse.pdf to view the Access Fund's opposition letter.



Derek McAlister's climbing shadow at Left Flank, RRG, KY | © Dawn Kish



Climbers Working to Preserve Climbing Access at Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, OK

By Aaron Gibson, WMCC Board Member/AF Regional Coordinator

The Wichita Mountains Climbers Coalition (WMCC) is working to ensure that the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and compatibility review process being conducted by the US Fish and Wildlife Refuge Service will not adversely affect the long-standing tradition of rock climbing in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge (WMWR) of Oklahoma.

Board members of the WMCC have met with the WMWR Refuge manager and Refuge personnel on several occasions to discuss the upcoming review.

Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) and Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) both issued written responses to the National Director of the USFWS, Dale Hall, clearly stating their concerns about the compatibility review and their support for continuation of rock climbing in the Refuge.

The Wichitas, as they are commonly known, offer a unique wilderness climbing experience that is unmatched by any other area in the Midwest. Climbers went through a similar struggle in the early '90s and, upon organizing, were successful in protecting the tradition of climbing in the Refuge. Since that time the WMCC has maintained a healthy working relationship with the Refuge personnel in managing climbing activities.

The CCP process is expected to begin sometime this year and the WMCC anticipates being a key partner. For more information see <http://wichitamountains.org/> or email aaron@fusionfortyseven.com.



Derek McAlister on Sport for Brains 5.11d, RRG, KY
| © Dawn Kish



Climbers Paradise for Sale, Farley, MA

By Jeff Squire, President, Western Mass Climbers Coalition

How would you like to have over a hundred high quality climbs and boulder problems just out your backdoor? The Western Massachusetts Climbers' Coalition (WMCC) is hard at work selling a house and two acres of land near the base of Farley Ledge in Erving, MA.

The property for sale was part of a larger purchase that has allowed the WMCC to restrict development at the base of the crag and to resolve the historically troublesome access issues to this area's excellent climbing and hiking opportunities. The Access Fund supplied guidance and inspiration via an Acquisition Summit workshop and came through with a significant grant. Additional funding was provided by The Appalachian Mountain Club and local climbers.

Farley Ledge is often billed as the best crag between the Gunks and Rumney. It is home to five-star trad climbing, sport climbing, ice climbing, bouldering, top roping and even multi-pitch climbing. Also, the nationally recognized Metacomet-Monadnock Trail runs near the cliff base. Located only 15 minutes from Greenfield, 30 minutes from the college towns of Amherst & Northampton and 1.5 hours from downtown Boston, Farley is a primary rock climbing destination in southern New England.

The house is a well cared for and maintained 1,650 sq. ft. Cape built in 1976. It has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, attached porch and 1 car garage. For more information visit: www.westernmass.craigslist.org/rfs/380901940.html or www.westernmacc.com. Better yet come to Farley and check out the house and the climbing.

Access Fund Helps Protect Climbing at New Hampshire's Owl's Head Cliff

By Tom Richardson, Durham, NH

Thanks in part to a grant from the Access Fund, Owl's Head cliff and about 360 acres which surround it on Route 25 was sold last week to The Trust for Public Land (TPL), in hopes it will soon become part of the 780,000-acre White Mountain National Forest.

The dramatic cliff is a popular attraction for rock climbers and hikers. It is only one-half mile from the Appalachian Trail. The property is bounded on three sides by the White Mountain National Forest and has more than 6,000 feet of frontage along Oliverian Brook.

Before TPL and the Access Fund stepped in, this property faced potential development for vacation homes.

For more information see www.unionleader.com/pda-article.aspx?articleId=ecfaa95e-dadb-492d-941c-c8f2ecb6f0aa or email josh.kelly@tpl.org.



Jen Vennon with the clip, RRG, KY | © Dawn Kish



THE ALL ACCESS TOUR

Starting in late October, Access Fund Ambassadors Matt Segal and Micah Dash will be heading east from Colorado to present the 2007 All Access Tour sponsored by the Access Fund, LaSportiva, Rest Stop, PMI, Mountain Khakis and Mountain Hardwear with additional support from Clif Bar and Princeton Tech.

The multimedia presentation encompasses Matt's and Micah's amazing climbing experiences and is a must-see show.

The purpose of this tour is to encourage people to follow their passions. Matt and Micah understand that the pursuit of their passions wouldn't be possible without an organization like the Access Fund to advocate for climbers and access. To help strengthen climbers' voices, the duo will be donating a portion of the proceeds from the tour to the Access Fund as well as holding Access Fund membership drives along the way.

Don't miss the 2007 All Access Tour!

10/25 University of TN, Knoxville, TN

10/29 Escalade Climbing Gym, Kennesaw, GA

11/2 HP 40, Triple Crown, Steele, AL

11/3 Miguel's, Red River Gorge, KY

11/15 University of PA, Philadelphia, PA

11/30 Stone Fort, Triple Crown, Chattanooga, TN

12/6 St. Louis, MO

12/10 Kansas City, MO

The Quik-n-Durty: What in tarnation is an LCO?

LCO, Local Climbing Organization, is another fancy little acronym for a group of local climbers who get together to solve access issues on a local level. We like acronyms here at the AF.

LCOs exist all over the nation. Most are affiliates of the Access Fund but some aren't. Some are large groups, some are small groups. Some were created to solve one issue at one crag while others, like the Southeastern Climbers Coalition, are long standing groups started to further climbing access in an interstate region.

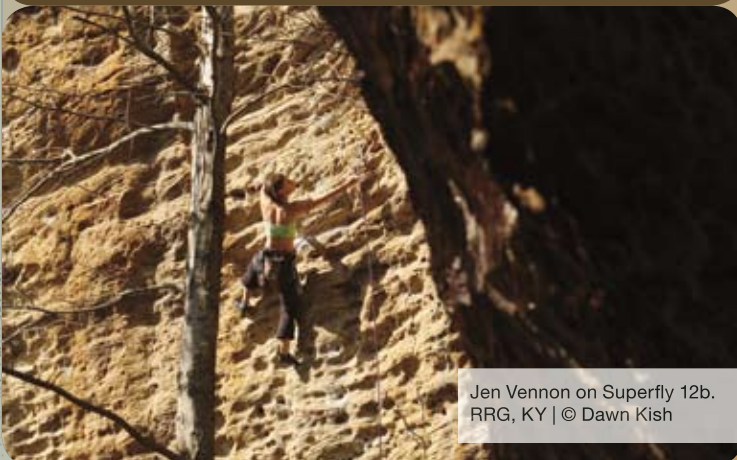
LCOs bring local climbing communities together, respond to access issues if they arise, and make sure that climbers are at the table when decisions that effect climbers and climbing resources are made. Most host Adopt-a-Crags, fund-raisers, slideshows, or whatever it takes to have a strong local climbing community. This is hugely important when faced with an access issue or crisis that requires a quick response.

LCOs often go through phases of activity. Sometimes they are very active and engaged in issues that have a big impact and at other times, calmer times, an LCO may be more like a social club. Generally groups meet once a month at a regular location for food, uh... drinks, and a discussion about climbing issues at their favorite places.

LCOs are usually the most effective resource for solving local climbing issues for two reasons; locals know which people to talk to (which levers to pull and which dials to turn much better than anyone else) and with a strong LCO in place you speak as a community, with a common voice, working towards a common goal.

So, what's up with your LCO? Are you involved?
www.accessfund.org/partners/affiliates.php

Don't have an LCO in your area? Get one together. Talk to Charlie at the Access Fund, charlie@accessfund.org, 303-54506772 x105.



Jen Vennon on Superfly 12b.
RRG, KY | © Dawn Kish

Register your event now!

There is still time to sign up to organize an Adopt-a-Crag or join a scheduled Adopt-a-Crag event in your area.

Adopt-a-Crag is the climbing community's number one resource for conserving those places we love to play at and visit. With over 130 events nationally and thousands of volunteers involved there is no better way to get out there and help maintain positive relationships with land managers, get dirty, and see your favorite crag from a new perspective.

Help us reach our goal of 130 events and register your Adopt-a-Crag event today. Invite the local community out to celebrate your crag!

A very special thank you to our sponsors.
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To register an event or find one in your area visit: www.accessfund.org/adopt

Contact Charlie Boas at 303-545-6772 x105, charlie@accessfund.org for more information.



Adopt-a-Crag Event Calendar

Find an event to attend near you!

10/20 Little Cottonwood Canyon, UT. SLCA Little Cottonwood Canyon Crag Day, and Adopt-a-Crag event hosted by the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance and the National Forest Service. Jonathan Knight, jknight@juno.com

10/20 Stoney Point, CA. The Stoney Point Clean-Up, an Adopt-a-Crag event hosted by REI Northridge and CLAW. 8am-12pm, Adam Reyes, adreyes@rei.com

10/27 Las Vegas, NV. Make a Difference Day, Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area an Adopt-a-Crag event hosted by Friends of Red Rocks Canyon, REI Henderson, NV, the Public Lands Institute, and the Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council. Amy Ansari, amyvmiller@hotmail.com

10/27 Riverside Quarry, CA. The Riverside Quarry Clean Up hosted by a local event organizer., Louie Anderson, socalbolter@cox.net

11/10 Pilot Mountain State Park, NC. The UNCG Outdoor Adventures Adopt-a-Crag event hosted by UNCG Outdoor Adventures and REI Greensboro. 9am- 3pm, Josh Pozner, yoshi0544@gmail.com

11/10 near Jasper, TN. The Castle Rock Trail Day hosted by the Southeastern Climbers Coalition. Brad Mcleod, mbmcleod@mindspring.com
(See a complete list of events at: www.accessfund.org/events/aac.php)



Whitney Boland on Ultraperm, 5.13d. RRG, KY
| © Dawn Kish

Face to Face with Brady Robinson, the Access Fund's New Executive Director

STAFF: *Where did you come from, what's your background?*

ROBINSON: For the past four years, I was the Director of Operations for North Carolina Outward Bound in Asheville, North Carolina. I began working there as a climbing instructor and later started and grew Outward Bound's mountaineering program in Patagonia.

I grew up in Minnesota, which is where I taught myself how to climb. My first lead was Jasper's Dihedral at Blue Mounds State Park in Minnesota. My friend and I had a half rack of nuts and hexes and both of Royal Robins's Rockcraft books, so we were good to go...I had no idea where climbing would lead me, I just knew I loved it!

Now it is 19 years later and I've climbed all over the country and have been on about a dozen international trips. I had some good luck in Patagonia and some great adventures in Pakistan and Nepal. I've spent my life climbing and feel very fortunate for all the great people I've met and experiences I've had.

STAFF: *So, describe yourself in five words or less.*
Driven, focused, compassionate, climber, daddy

ROBINSON: *Is the AF staff now going to be called the Brady Bunch?*

I sure hope not.

STAFF: *Why did you want to come to work for the Access Fund?*

ROBINSON: I'm a lifelong climber with a successful track record in management and leadership. When the Executive Director position came open, I saw an opportunity to use my skills and experience to serve the climbing community and work in a fulfilling environment. I feel like I've been preparing for this job my whole career. I know the Access Fund's work is critically important—I've been a member since 1995. I feel very fortunate and honored to have the opportunity to work for the climbing community in this way.

STAFF: *Why do you think it is important to be a member of the AF?*

ROBINSON: Climbing in the United States without being an Access Fund member is like listening to National Public Radio your whole life without ever contributing to an NPR station—you're riding on the coattails of others.

STAFF: *How's that office looking, last time I looked you were still moving in.*

ROBINSON: I can see my floor now, which is an improvement.



| © Dawn Kish

JOE KINDER » ACCESS FUND MEMBER

BE A MEMBER » WWW.ACCESSFUND.ORG

"IT'S ALL ABOUT WORKING TOGETHER AS CLIMBERS
TO KEEP CLIMBING AREAS OPEN. WE HAVE TO PUT
SOMETHING INTO IT TO GET SOMETHING OUT OF IT.
JOINING THE ACCESS FUND IS STEP ONE.
THEN YOU CAN SEND."



Make Climbing Safer and Get a \$25 Gift Certificate from Mountain Gear

As climbers we err on the side of caution when it comes to our ropes, pampering and retiring them when we begin to feel uneasy, yet we belay, fall, rappel, lower and jug on our harnesses believing that these workhorses will last practically forever. But will they? No one really knows.

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Check out www.mountaingear.com/harness.

Dawn Kish received her first camera when she was 17. It was an old Nikkormat from a great photographer friend. It has helped inspire over 10 years of shooting adventure-travel and sports photography. From snowboarding to fly fishing, "if it is outside, I probably photographed it" Kish replies. Her life is full of outdoor activities such as snowboarding, climbing, and mountain biking. Somehow she also finds time to river guide for the U.S.G.S. in the Grand Canyon.

Kish was inspired to travel at a young age from the National Geographic Magazines her mother would subscribe to. She just returned from a European climbing road trip covering over 20 crags and 5,000 miles in 2 months. For Kish, it's all about the people, their emotions and the honor of the photographic moment. Direct and honest, the playful self-taught photographer has a way of bringing out the genuine and expressive in the people she works with. "They give me so much, that I get charged up," says Kish. "That is why I keep traveling and taking photos."

Clients include: National Geographic Adventure, Rock and Ice, Bike Mag, Sports Illustrated, Patagonia, Prana and Teva.

Last year she was in the Red River Gorge for 2 months climbing, photographing, eating Miguel's pizza and living out of her van. You can find more of these images in the new Red River Gorge guide book by Wolverine and on <http://dawnkish.blogspot.com> or www.dawnkishphotography.com.



Whitney Boland on Ultra-perm, 5.13d. RRG, KY
| © Dawn Kish



Self-portrait
| © Dawn Kish



It's in the Bag... or at Least *It* Should Be

The Access Fund has been talking for a while about human waste containment systems and encouraging climbers to use these poop bags when in the wilderness.

With a successful distribution pilot program in Indian Creek, land managers are taking notice that climbers are proactive about their impacts.



The Access Fund maintains that human waste containment bags should be in every climber's pack or pad. There's no reason to dig a scat hole and stink the place up. Poop bags keep our crags clean and land managers happy.

It may be difficult to get yourself to actually go out and buy a human waste containment system so here's an incentive to get your crap together: 25% off from Access Fund Corporate Partner RESTOP.

Logon to: www.accessfund.org/membershop You'll need your membership number to login to the memberSHOP and then click on the RESTOP logo.

HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

Let us know – email us at addresschange@accessfund.org

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Julbo — 2005
JustRopes.com — 2004
Mountain Tools — 1991
Mountaineers Books — 1992
NEice.com — 2005
Nicos — 1997
Pacific Edge Climbing Gym — 1995
PMI — 1991
Real Cheap Sports — 2003
Rock and Snow, Inc. — 2003
Schwartz Communications, Inc. — 2003
Sickle Climbing — 2001
Stone Age Climbing — 1997
Tom K. Michael, D.D.S., P.S. — 2000
Travel Country Outdoors — 2002
Untraditional Marketing — 2007
Vasque — 2001

MEDIA PARTNERS

Alpinist — 2003
Andrew Burr Photography — 2006
Andrew Kornylak Photography — 2006
Andrew Querner Photography — 2006
ASANA PackWorks — 2005
Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine — 1997
Brian Solano BS Productions — 2007
Camp4.com — 2002
Corey Rich Photography — 2002
CragCam Productions — 2006

Dan Bailey Photography — 2002
Dawn Kish Photography — 2007
DrTopo.com — 2003
Emilie Lee — 2006
Eric Draper — 2007
GetBeta.com — 2004
Gripped: The Climbing Magazine — 2004
Griz Guides — 2006
Harrison Shull Photography — 2006
Integrity 7 Productions — 2004
Keith Ladzinski — 2006
Lenticular Pictures — 2005
Michael Clark Photography — 2004
Mike Tea Illustration and Design — 2006
N'East Magazine — 2006
Nathan Welton Photography — 2005
Ousley Creative — 2001
Patitucci Photo — 2003
Pixel Print Graphics — 2007
Rockclimbing.com — 2006
Second Chance Films — 2004
Sender Films — 2005
Sharpend Publishing — 2004
She Sends — 2004
Simon Carter: Onsite Photography — 2007
SNEWS — 2002
Stark Contrast Photography — 2005
summitjournal.com — 2006
Thoos — 2006
Verde PR & Consulting — 2003



If it wasn't for REI a lot of things wouldn't be possible around the Access Fund. REI has been there for the climbing community since the beginning and steps up to the challenge year after year.

REI is the Title Sponsor of Adopt-a-Crag and helped get this important stewardship program off the ground way back in the beginning. Additionally, REI provides grants to local climbing organizations around the country and helped to raise the money necessary for the Carolina Climbers Coalition's purchase of Laurel Knob in 2006.

REI provides nearly \$2 million in support of the outdoors and outdoor recreation including their Diamond Plus support of the Access Fund.

REI clearly shows that support is how success is accomplished.

Thanks REI!



ACCESS FUND RECEIVES 4 STAR RATING

The Access Fund has achieved Charity Navigator's (the country's premier charity evaluator) highest rating of 4 stars. Less than a quarter of the country's charity organizations have received this highest rating.

This "exceptional" designation indicates that the Access Fund outperforms the majority of non profits in America with respect to fiscal responsibility. We put your money to work, doing what you want it to do: keep climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment.

Members—thanks for your continued support!

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card number

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exp. date

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2. CALL 1.888.8MEMBER
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PO Box 17010 Boulder, CO 80308

REFERRED BY:

The Access Fund occasionally lends its mailing list to organizations involved in issues you may also find of interest. If you DO NOT wish to have your name exchanged, please check here.

The Access Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Local Climbing Organizations and Affiliates

A local climbing organization (LCO) is an organization, association, or access committee working primarily or exclusively to keep climbing areas open, conserve the climbing environment, and promote responsible climbing. LCOs are the liaison between the climbing community and their local land managers and land owners. Affiliates (*) are LCOs who have joined the Access Fund Affiliate Program. If you are an LCO listed below and not an Access Fund Affiliate, please contact Charlie Boas, Grassroots Coordinator, at 303-545-6772 x105 or charlie@accessfund.org

Alabama

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Arkansas

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Arizona

Arizona Mountaineering Club*
Friends of Queen Creek*
Northern Arizona Climbers Coalition*
Prescott Climbers Coalition*

California

Allied Climbers of San Diego*
Cragmont Climbing Club
Eastern Sierra Climbers Coalition*
Friends of Joshua Tree*
Friends of Pinnacles
Friends of Williamson Rock*
San Diego Alliance of Climbers*
Southern Sierra Climbers Association*
Yosemite Climbing Association*

Colorado

Access Colorado*
Action Committee for Eldorado*
Colorado Springs Climbers Alliance*
Flatirons Climbing Council*
Roaring Fork Climbers Coalition*

Connecticut

Ragged Mountain Foundation*

Georgia

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Iowa

Eastern Iowa Climbers Coalition*

Idaho

Boise Climbers Alliance*
Kootenai Climbers*

Illinois

Illinois Climbers Association*

Kentucky

Red River Gorge Climbers Coalition*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Massachusetts

Appalachian Mountain Club
Boston Chapter*
Western Massachusetts Climbers Coalition*

Michigan

Grand Ledges Climbers Coalition

Minnesota

Minnesota Climbers Association*

Missouri

Climbers Alliance of Mid-Missouri*
Kansas City Climbing Club*

Montana

Southwest Montana Climbers Coalition

North Carolina

Boone Climbers Coalition*
Carolina Climbers Coalition*
Pisgah Climbers Association*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

New Hampshire

Rumney Climbers Association*

New Jersey

Access NJ*

New Mexico

CRAG-New Mexico*

Nevada

Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council*

New York

Adirondack Mountaineering Coalition*
Gunks Climbers Coalition*

Ohio

Ohio Climbers Association*

Oklahoma

Chandler Park Climbers Coalition*
Wichita Mountains Climbers Coalition*

Oregon

AAC - Oregon Section, Access Committee*
Mazamas
Smith Rock Group*

Pennsylvania

Climbing Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania*
Lancaster Climbing Club - Access Project*
Pennsylvania Alliance of Climbers*

South Carolina

Carolina Climbers Coalition*
Pisgah Climbers Association*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

South Dakota

Black Hills Climbers Coalition*

Tennessee

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Texas

Central Texas Mountaineers*
Climbers of Hueco Tanks*
Concho Valley Climbers Association*
Texas Mountaineers

Utah

Friends of Indian Creek*
Moab Area Climbers' Alliance
Salt Lake Climbers Alliance*

Virginia

Friends of Great Falls Coalition*
Shenandoah National Park Climbers Alliance

Vermont

CRAG-VT*
Northeastern Vermont Climber's Alliance

Washington

Washington Climbers Coalition*

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Outdoor Access*

West Virginia

Coopers Rock Regional Climbing Coalition*
New River Alliance of Climbers*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Canada

Climbers Access Society of British Columbia*

» to contact your local LCO or to view a LCO website go to: www.accessfund.org/partners/affiliates.php

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Olivia Hsu on Table of Colors, 5.13a.
RRG, KY | © Dawn Kish



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