

Royal Flush 5.10a on Five Card Draw in the Emancipation Area at Mt. Rushmore

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Royal Flush is a Rushmore classic that was impossible to access due to the new restricted area boundaries at Mt. Rushmore. The route and formation themselves are within the legal boundary, but the traditional approach to the start of the route crossed into the restricted area. We installed an approach pitch and a set of anchors at the belay so climbers can climb up to and access the route without crossing into the restricted area. The approach pitch starts just to the right of the landmark "chockstone cave" at the base of Five Card Draw and climbs up to the belay ledge passing 4 bolts and some clean gear. Please make sure to rappel back down one of the routes on this formation, rather than hike off the back into the restricted area, when you climb Royal Flush.

Hardware on the Route:

Fixe Triplex Bolt (x4)

Petzl Coeur Hanger (x4)

Anchor:

Fixe Triplex Bolt (x2)

Petzl Coeur hanger

Fixe Top Hanger

8mm Stainless Chain (5 links...4 on route plus 1 for cutting)

8mm Stainless Quick Links (x3)

(The first bolt on the anchor was over torqued and we ended up having to remove it and replace it with a different bolt...Rich please add 1 Fixe Triplex Bolt to the supplies used inventory)