

COLD STOKE

An Ice Climbers Guide across the Colorado Continental Divide

A historical document, current inventory and
active guide to the
Central Colorado ice and mixed climbing areas

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Griz Guides..all killer, no filler!©





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Secret Waterfall WI3 120'

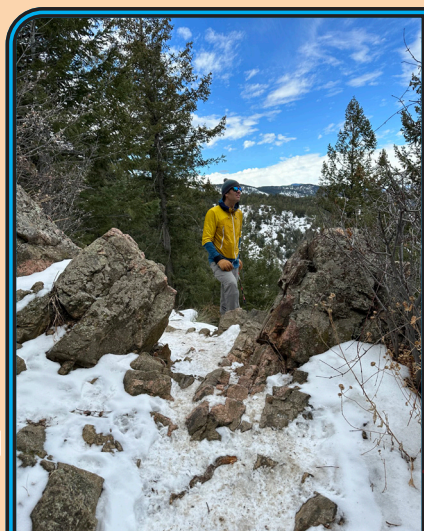


Aspect: North
Elevation: 6,400' **GPS:** 39.73511, -105.25680
ATES: 1-Simple FA: Unknown
Trailhead: The top trailhead is located at the Windy Saddle Park (**GPS:** 39.73684, -105.24546). The bottom trailhead is located at a large pull-out along US-6 at mile 1.9 on the south side of the highway (**GPS:** 39.73868, -105.26008).
Approach: The top-down approach is the most simple and safest as you do not have to cross sketchy ice bridges over Clear Creek. From the Windy Saddle Park Trailhead lot, hike west 0.25mi on the Lookout Mountain Trail to the intersection with the Beaver Brook Trail. Continue traversing on the Beaver Brook Trail approx. 0.25mi to a small rocky point on a ridge (see image below). Descend on the ridge 0.3mi, keeping east (right of a rocky outcrop/cliff). Wrap around below the cliff to the west, to the base of the route (30-45mins). For the bottom approach, find a safe ice bridges area (read page 30!). Cross the creek and hike into the drainage and bushwhack up approximately 0.4mi, keeping right at the first drainage fork and left at the second drainage fork (30-45mins).

Climb: AKA: Windy Saddle Ice Flow. Aptly named, Secret cannot be seen from most places in the surrounding canyon. This route may not be the most challenging ice line in the guide but the setting is beautiful and serene with colorful lichens painting the rock walls.

P1: A slabby lower apron leads to a steeper but stepped short falls and ledge. **P2:** Another shorter slabby flow completes the route. **Descent:** Rappel from the anchors on the right at the brushy ledge or a tree higher up.

Gear: Standard ice rack
Access: Jefferson County Open Space, CCC Park.



Rocky point on the BB trail for the top descent



Secret Waterfall





Three Tiers WI2+ 600'



Aspect: Northwest

Elevation: 10,200' **GPS:** 39.52488, -106.13462

ATES: 3-Complex. FA: Unknown.

Trailhead: Officers Gulch Trailhead. From I-70 take Exit #198 Officers Gulch to the parking area on the east side of I-70. It may not be plowed out but there should be parking.

Approach: From the trailhead, follow the spur road up to a gate at the Rec Path. Turn right (south) on the Rec Path, hiking 0.7mi to the east edge of the gully where you can see the route. Continue hiking up the open slope to the base of the route (45min-1hr.).

Climb: Stage in the flat landing below the ice and climb the fat flow for three fun, easy pitches. A consistent early season former with 3 anchor stations I put in along the way. Check out the highlighted avalanche debris and solo climber at the base of the route in the photo to the right.

Descent: Rap P3 from 2-bolt anchor on the left wall, P2 on a tree on the right and P1 from a 2-bolt anchor on the right.

Gear: Standard ice rack.

Chimney WI4 M4 200'



Elevation: 10,200' **GPS:** 39.52472, -106.13548

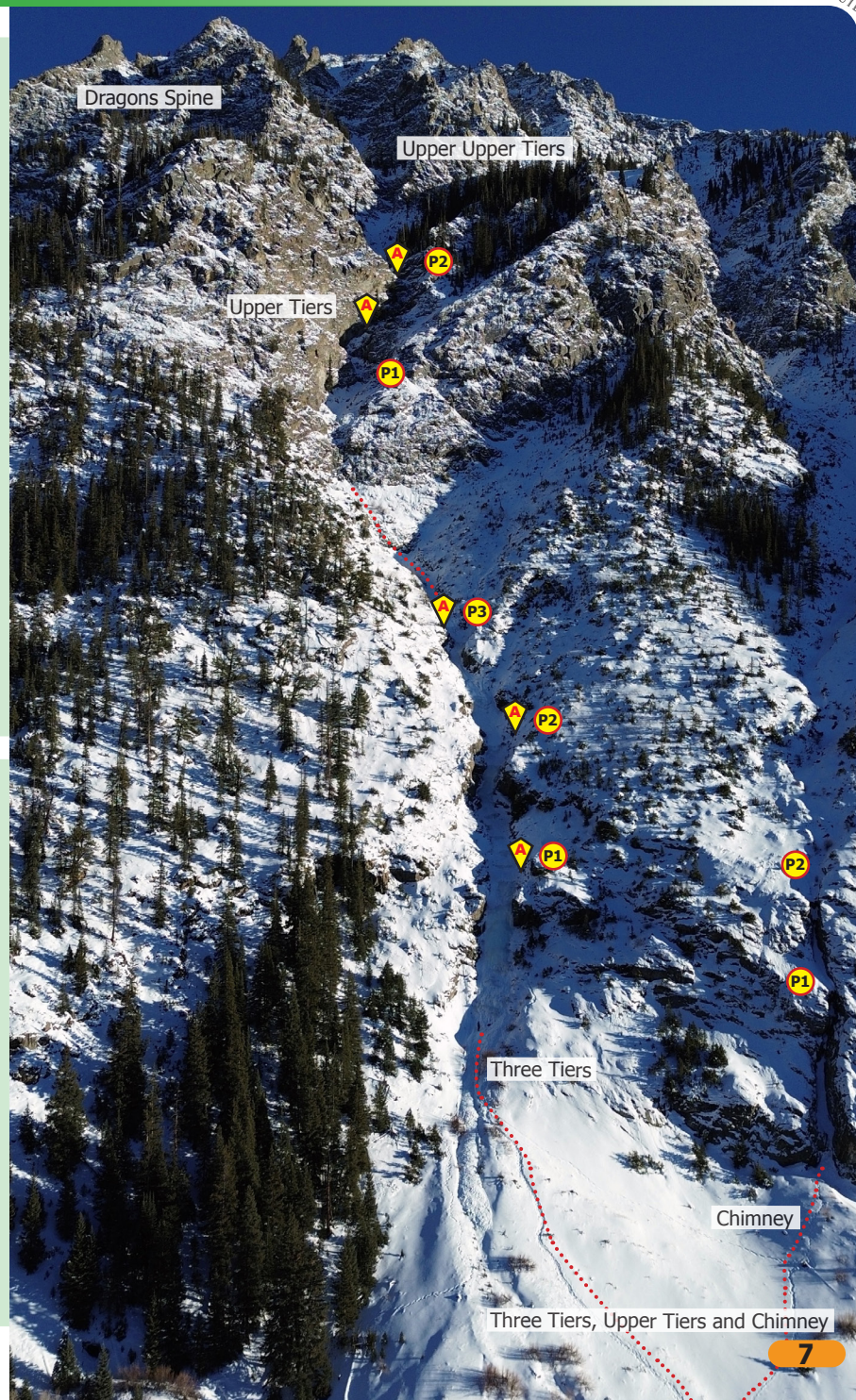
ATES: 3-Complex. FA: Unknown.

Approach: Same as **Three Tiers**. Walk right of **Three Tiers** gully to obvious chimney.

Climb: Easy to get to and a great route that forms consistently with nice ice, clean rock and decent protection. You can run the whole route in a single pitch but some chose to break it up as the cruxes are rope-dragging/pinching chock stones. **P1:** Stem your way up into the chimney to an opening and an upper snow stance. **P2:** Finish up a short constriction to the snow gully and shrubs.

Descent: Move climbers left and either descend into the **Three Tiers** gully or link small spruce trees being careful not to get cliffed-out, double ropes helpful! Exposed!

Gear: Stubbies/short screws, BD cams to #3, thin pins.



Satan's Spear WI5/5+ 120'



Climb: This pure ice route has difficulty forming despite being farmed from the water on the **Rigid Designator**. Some additional help from local climbers may bring this route into a more consistent and safer shape. The massive curtain that forms, holds so much weight that it frequently fails at the roof line. If the skinny pillar forms, it cannot sustain the weight and the curtain collapses. This poses a serious risk to all below especially unsuspecting climbers belaying on the left side of the **Rigid Designator**.

Descent: Tree anchor.

Gear: Ice screws.

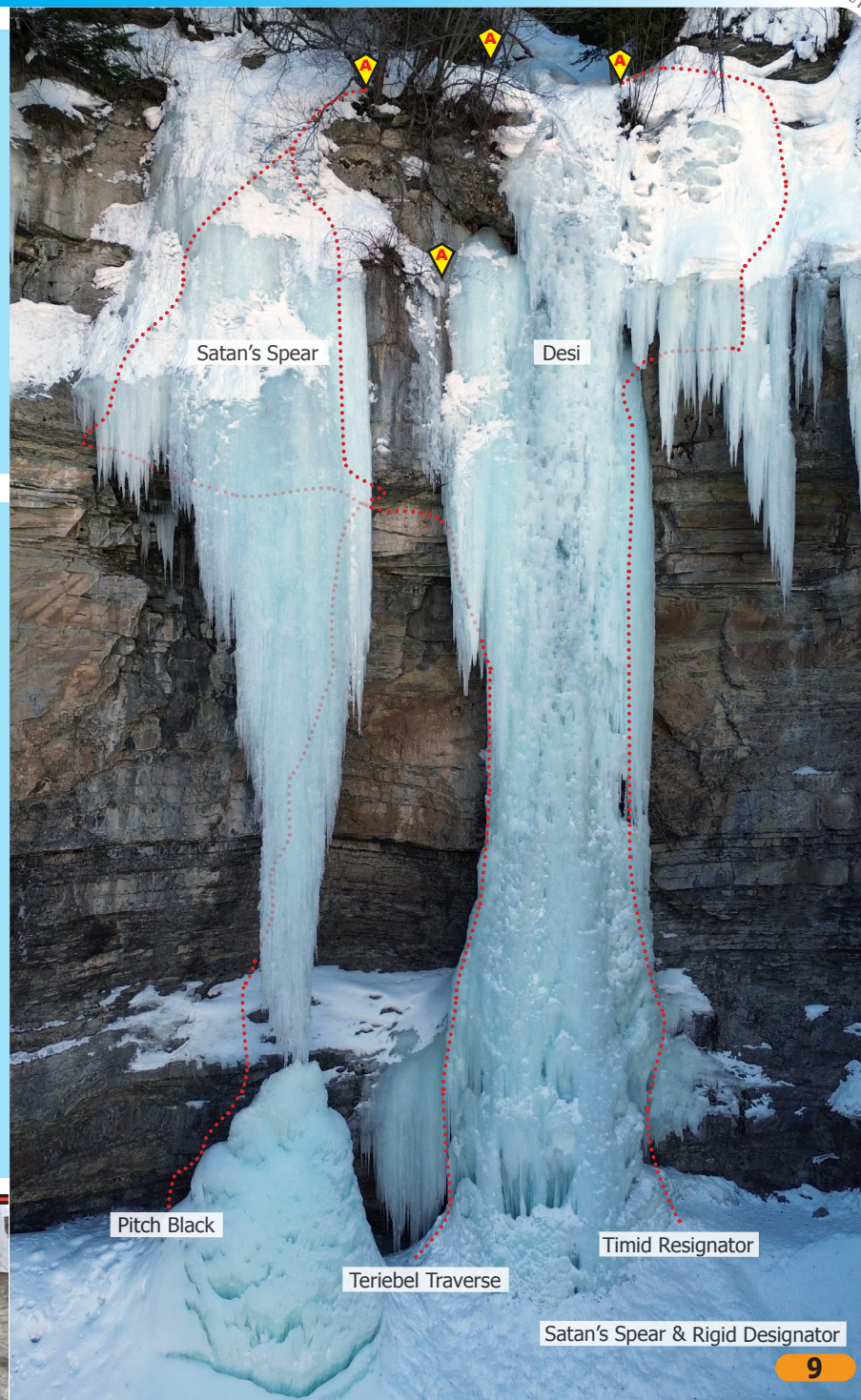
Rigid Designator WI4+/5 120'



Climb: AKA: Desi or Dez. So much has been said about the "Desi" and it truly is an iconic ice route, not only in Vail but in the U.S. First attempted by Brad Johnson, then ascended by Bob Culp in 1974, this route can vary from WI5+ on the first ascent of the year to a WI4 peg board by mid season. The huge cauliflower/petals on the base cone of the route can be the crux. Dancing around these overhanging features can be dicey with ledge-fall potential. The second crux for some is having the gas to get up the vertical section. It is short but sustained leading to a sloping finish. The far left and right sides offer more challenging and typically untouched lines for advanced climbers. The center gut of the route develops a pegged-out 'donkey trail' that can be fun to climb in wool gloves and micro-spikes.

Descent: Two tree anchors are available on the left and right. There is also a 2-bolt anchor on the left wall, under the final shallow roof, that can sometimes be covered in ice.

Gear: Ice screws. FA: B. Culp and Paul Lessig 1974



Desi damage

Satan's Spear & Rigid Designator



Route list by area and grade

Clear Creek Canyon

□Big Easy,	WI2- 200'
□Coors Lite,	WI2/3 300'
□Mickeys Big Mouth,	WI2/3 300'
□Secret Waterfall,	WI3 120'
□Elk Creek Cascade	WI2/3 1,000'
□The Ticket	WI2/3 100'
□Silverplume Falls	WI3 120'
□Pinkerton Gulch	WI3 280'
□Bridal Veil Falls	WI3 80'
□Lower Georgetown	WI3+ /4 80'
□Upper Georgetown	W3+/5 80'
□Mutton Chops	WI4 M7 60'
□Sheepcicle	WI4/5 M8 75'
□Superfreak	WI5 M9 75'
□Moonshine	D5 60'
□Highwayman	D5 65'
□Farm Aid	D6+ 65'
□Maharaja	D7 70'

Mt. Warren, Spalding, Blue Sky

□Double Dragon Left	M2 600'
□Telepherique	M2 250'
□Snave	WI2- M2 550'
□Snave Direct	WI2+ M2 550'
□Greasy Gomer	WI3- 60'
□North Face Crag Left	WI3 M2+ 200'
□North Face Crag Right	WI3 M3 200'
□Double Dragon Right	WI3 M3 600'
□North Face Crag Center	WI3 M4 200'
□Snorkmaiden's Surprise	WI3 M4 900'
□The Road	WI3 M4 900'
□Iration	WI3+ M4 800'
□Concrete Shoes	WI4- M4+ 900'
□Mt. Evans Micro Goulette	WI4 M3 900'
□The Road Less Warren	WI4/5 M5 110'
□Third Arrow	WI4 M5 600'
□Monochrome	WI4 M5 600'
□Tikes Trike	WI4 M5 5.10 A3 250'
□Black & White	WI4+ M5+ 550'
□Lazy is as lazy does	M5 350'
□The Ghost	WI6 M10R 165'
□Silhouette	WI6+ M9R 450'
□Shooting Star	WI7 M9R 250'

Ten Mile Canyon

□Bike Mikes	WI2 700'
□Lil' Mikes	WI2 700'
□Frisco Funcicle	WI2+ 100'
□Three Tiers	WI2+ 600'
□Tres Amigos	WI3 M6 5.8 575'
□The Shroud	WI3/4 90'
□Ice Hose	WI3 130'
□Chalk Creek Falls	WI3 50'
□Whitecicle	WI3+ 30'
□Tony's Nightmare	WI3+ 600'
□Compounded Fractures	WI3 M6+ 80'
□Right of Round the Corner	WI4 M4 80'
□Chimney	WI4 M4 200'
□Upper Tiers	WI4 M4 1,500'
□The Plumb	WI4 M6R 80'
□Lessons on Masochism	WI4+ M4R 250'
□Round the Corner	WI5 450'
□Ice in Paradise	WI5 80'
□Fish out of water	WI5 M6 70'
□Red Mountain Monster	WI5M6R 400'
□Warm Up	D4R 90'
□Crown of Thorns	D4+ 50'
□Itchy	D5 45'
□Scratchy	D5 45'
□Steminator	D6+ 90'
□Holy Grail	D7 50'
□Alpine Classic	D7 90'
□Heavy Shackles	D7 90'
□Deep Throat Simulator	D7 90'
□Ultimate test of skill	D7+R 90'
□Stud Muffintop	D7+R 90'
□Pinfest	D8 90'
□The Linkup	D9RX 90'

