The Avengers Crag

With a short drive from Banff, less than 10 min approach, steep south facing rock, and a pretty river, it is unbelievable that this crag was not developed sooner. I discovered it on an obscure ski tour in the spring. The theme is fun, and who doesn't love superheroes?

Access

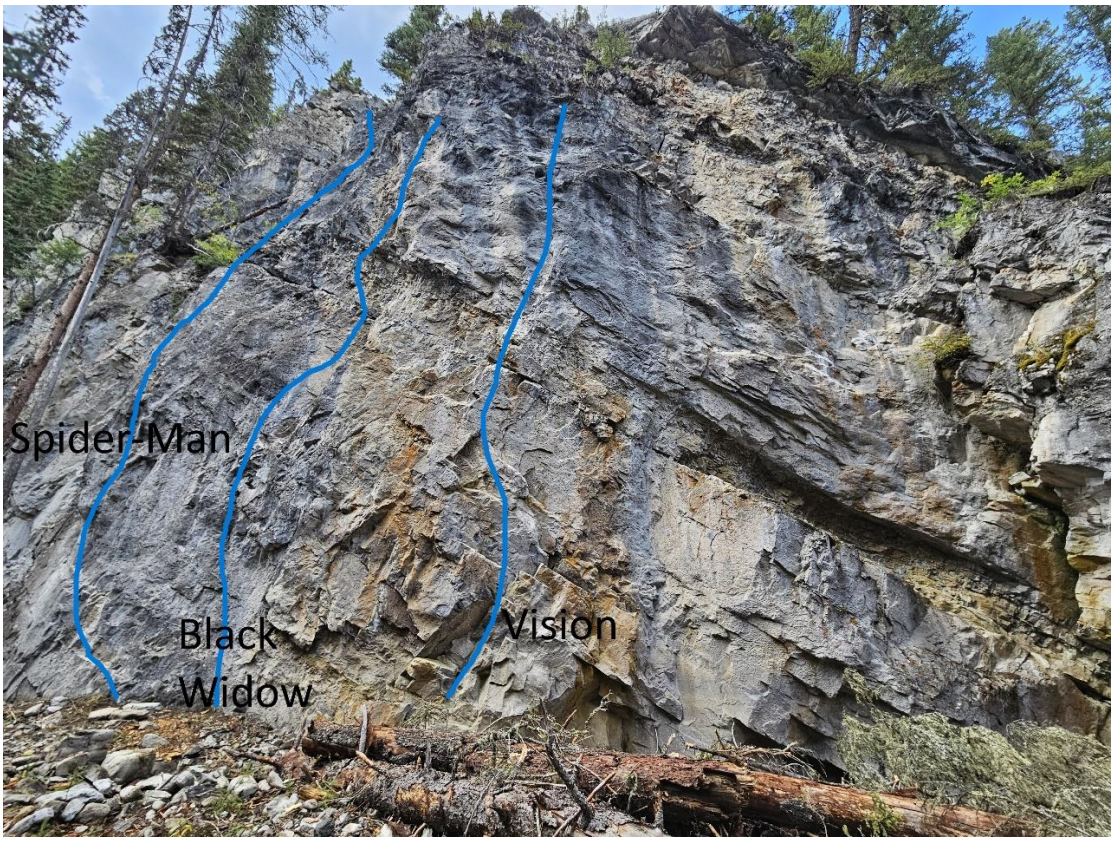
Park at the Bourgeau Lake trailhead (outhouses available). The parking lot is usually packed with cars from hikers during the day so either go early morning or afternoon/evening. Hike 5 minutes up the trail to the first switchback and turn right into the forest. Follow a trail down the hill to the river. Follow the river upstream until the rock wall on the other side becomes visible. A bit further upstream, a huge, wide, mossy tree is easily crossed to reach the other side. There is good cell coverage at the crag.

The **Avengers** wall is the first one after the river crossing. Continue upstream to reach the tall, orange **Age of Ultron.** Hike up switchbacks to reach **Infinity War**. Continue uphill past this to reach the **End Game**. Walls and routes are listed from right to left as you encounter them from the approach.

As with many new Rockies crags, the rock is friable, and despite tremendous cleaning, loose holds may still come off until the climbs have seen more traffic. Especially at Age of Ultron. Climb and belay with this in mind. Climbing is dangerous. Always wear a helmet on and under the climbs.

You will also notice a lot of deadfall in the area. Two trees fell over the access trail while I was developing the crag. Be mindful of your surroundings.

Avengers Right



<u>Vision 5.12+?</u> 13 m, 6 bolts. Prep Shaun King & Andrew Slootweg '26

Open project (let me know if you get it!)

5.10 climbing up the middle of the face leads to a shallow corner. Harness the energy of the Mind Stone to make superhuman moves through gently overhanging rock to twin huecos and then slopers with thin feet.

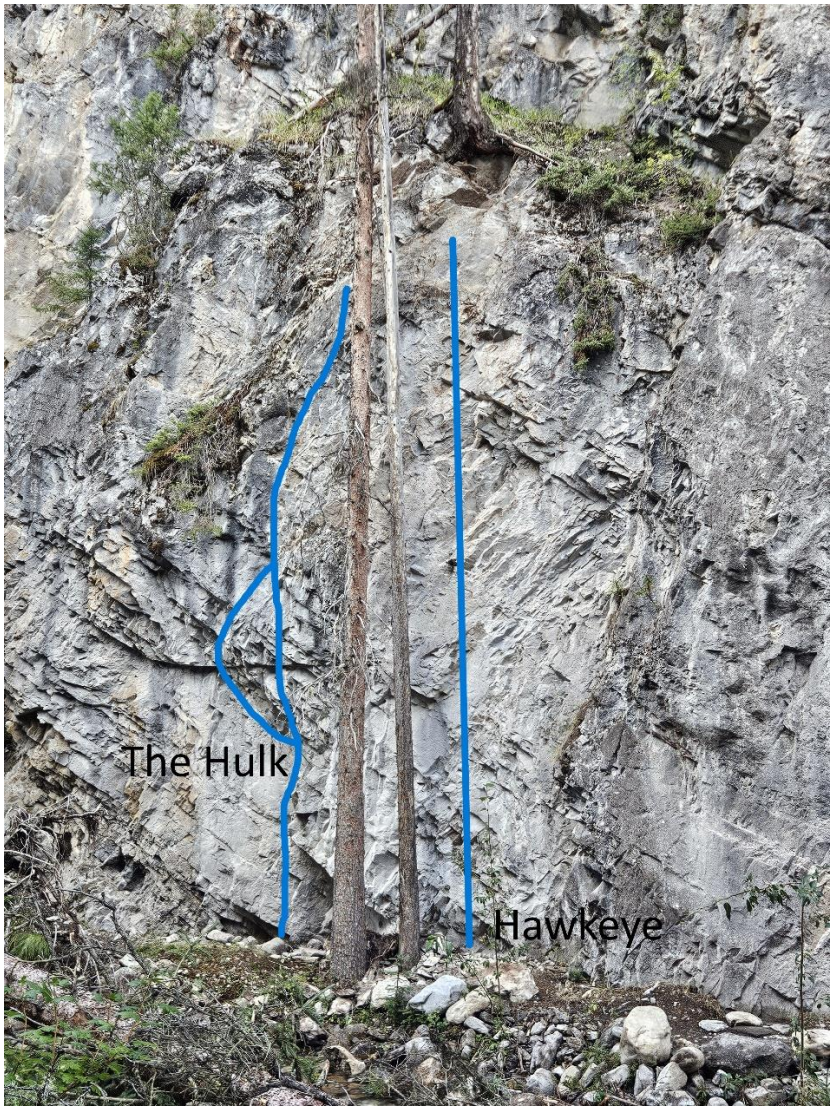
<u>Black Widow 11a/b</u> 14 m, 7 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Easier climbing past good jugs and a right-leaning layback corner lead to an overhang where your martial arts training will get you through deceptive moves to finish.

<u>Spider-Man 5.11a</u> 16 m, 8 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Good edges lead to small jugs on a prow that thins out, providing thoughtful, Spidey movement before easier slab climbing leads right, then back left to the anchor.

Avengers Left (the shorter wall left of a gully)



Hawkeye 5.9 9 m, 5 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Just right of tall trees against the wall, vertical climbing with good jugs leads up straight as Hawkeye's arrow to the left of a bulge and up to the anchor.

The Hulk 5.11d 8 m, 4 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Just left of the tall trees against the wall, a big flake leads into overhanging sidepulls. Hulk through the crux to a cruisy finish. There are two variations at the 2nd bolt, straight up or out left. Likely easier for tall climbers.

Age of Ultron

<u>The Winter Soldier 10b/c</u> 17 m, 6 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Scramble up to a dirt ledge and clip a high bolt from pockets. A big reach leads to a perfect jug. Clip the second bolt and pull through the crux with your cybernetic arm. Edges and side pulls then climb up to the fifth bolt where hollow flakes lead right before climbing up to the anchor.

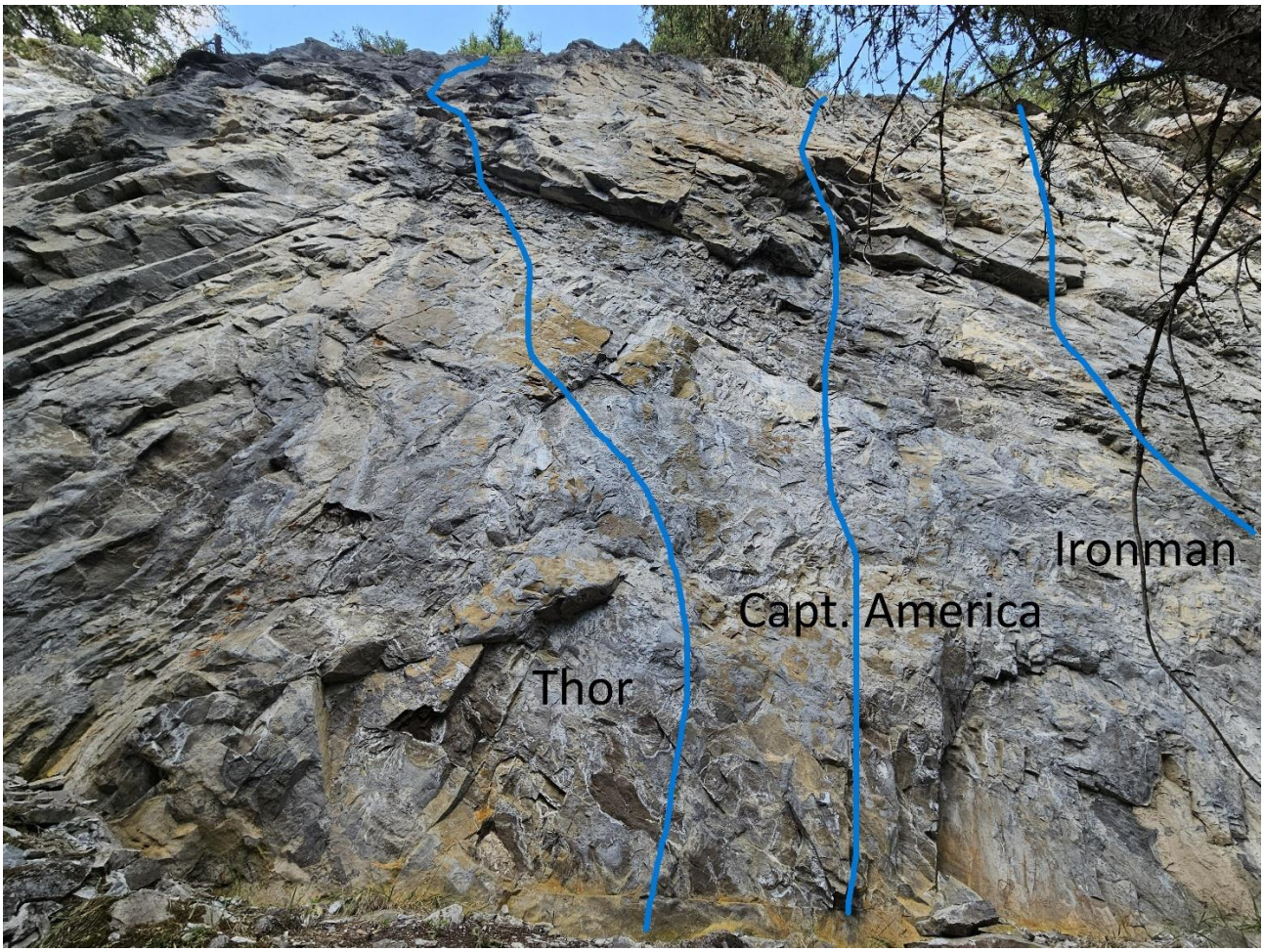
The Wasp 5.9 15 m, 7 bolts. FA Savana King ‘26

Easy flakes lead to thoughtful climbing up the prow with left hand side pulls before flying like The Wasp up to the anchor in a corner.

Ant-Man 10c 22 m, 10 bolts. FA Shaun King ‘26

Climb flakes to orange rock and continue up and left to a good ledge before pulling through a tricky roof. Go left to sidepulls at the 5th bolt through the hard-to-read crux. Easier climbing then leads to a big ledge where you can enjoy Ant-Man's view when he's big. Steep jugs to finish.

Infinity War



Ironman 5.11a/b 15 m, 7 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

At the start of a right trending rock ramp, climb right facing flakes past two bolts to the obvious roof. Make a big move to jugs using high powered booster jets and onto a good ledge for a no-hands rest. Steep climbing past three more bolts lead to the anchor.

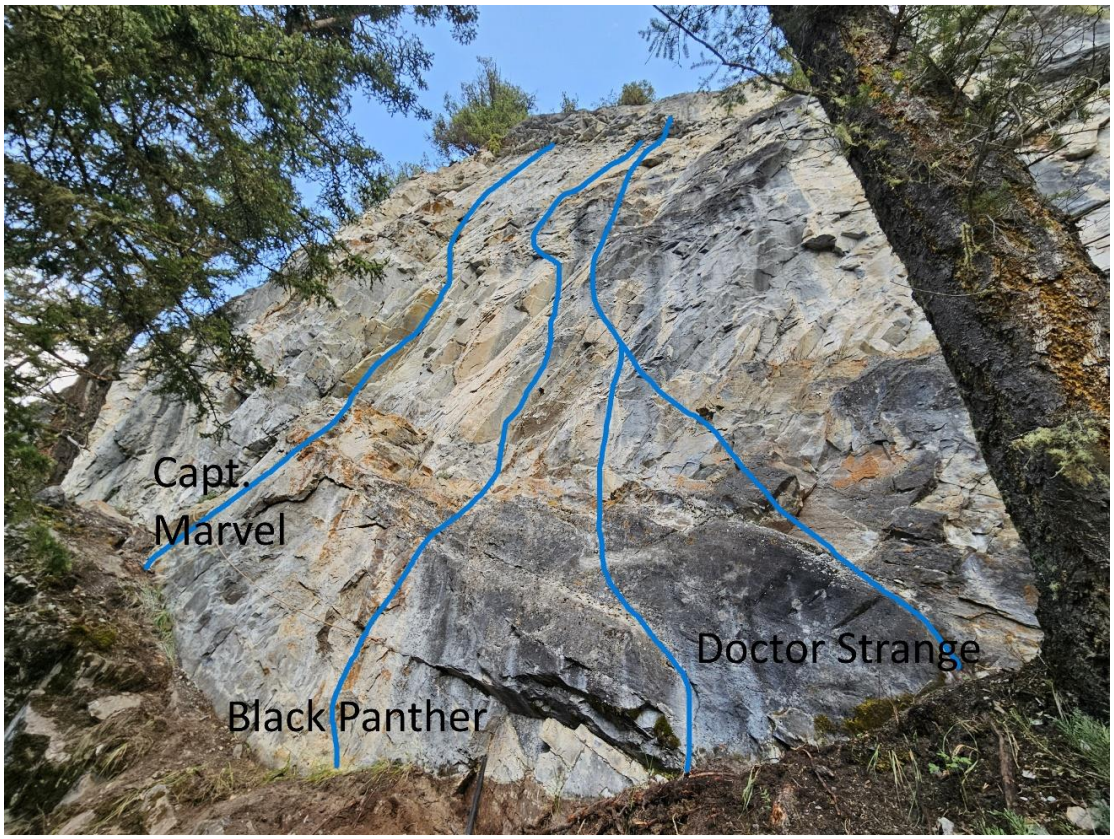
Captain America 5.11a 15 m, 9 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Climb straight up a sequency face, past some small huecos to make some powerful moves through the roof using Super-Soldier Serum. Thoughtful climbing on the steep rock above gains the anchor.

Thor 5.11b 15 m, 7 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Stick clip the first bolt and then start just right of it, trending left to burly moves through the roof. Harness the power of the gods to grab the head of Thor's hammer above the roof for some respite before trending left again to easier climbing up a right trending seam.

End Game



Doctor Strange 5.10b 22 m, 9 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Belay at the tree on the right and clip the low directional bolt, or belay below and climb straight up to the second bolt. Climb past two more bolts and launch up into an interesting crux where mastery of the mystic arts will get you through. Big holds then lead to a no-hands ledge and a short crux before climbing to the roof. Use a good undercling to clip the anchor.

Black Panther 5.10a 20 m, 10 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

Stick clip the first bolt and start left at the fixed line. Climb up into a right leaning corner that turns into slab. Use Wakanda Vibranium to traverse a cool handrail before pulling through and up to the big ledge. Easier climbing gains the anchor. Beautiful, varied movement on this route!

Captain Marvel 5.11a 20 m, 10 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

From high on the rock ramp, belay at a bolt that anchors the fixed line and stick clip the first bolt. Follow a right trending hand flake to the big ledge. Climb past three bolts through the crux to lunge for a good edge out left using Captain Marvel's superhuman strength and speed. Continue through on good jugs to the final headwall where a second crux leads to the anchor.

Quicksilver 5.10b (unfinished) 20 m, 11 bolts. FA Shaun King '26

From the flat belay at the top of the rock ramp, stick clip (recommended) the first bolt and head up the right facing corner. Pull through juggy overhangs with Quicksilver's speed, reflexes and agility, clipping six more bolts before arriving at a good ledge. Easier climbing leads to a final overhang before the anchor.

Thanks to: Dave Cooke and Fabio Lacentra who helped with trailbuilding. My daughter Savana who spent days trailbuilding and creating her very first climb. Brent Peters who became my go to man for equipment and supplies. My partner Tanya, for her patience and support while I was obsessively developing this crag.

Special thanks to Andrew Slootweg who worked a 13.5 hour day but did the work of three people, for making the place look so nice!

Original Avengers (Phase 1)

- **Iron Man (Tony Stark):** *Iron Man* (2008)

- **The Hulk (Bruce Banner):** *The Incredible Hulk* (2008)
- **Black Widow (Natasha Romanoff):** *Iron Man 2* (2010)
- **Thor:** *Thor* (2011)
- **Hawkeye (Clint Barton):** *Thor* (2011) *(uncredited cameo)* / *The Avengers* (2012)
- **Captain America (Steve Rogers):** *Captain America: The First Avenger* (2011)

Expanding the Roster (Phases 2 & 3)

- **War Machine (James Rhodes):** *Iron Man* (2008) *(as Rhodes)* / *Iron Man 2* (2010) *(first suits up)*
- **Bucky Barnes / The Winter Soldier:** *Captain America: The First Avenger* (2011)
- **Falcon (Sam Wilson):** *Captain America: The Winter Soldier* (2014)
- **Guardians of the Galaxy (Star-Lord, Gamora, Drax, Rocket, Groot):** *Guardians of the Galaxy* (2014)
- **Scarlet Witch (Wanda) & Quicksilver (Pietro):** *Captain America: The Winter Soldier* (2014) *(mid-credits)* / *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015)
- **Vision:** *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015)
- **Ant-Man (Scott Lang):** *Ant-Man* (2015)
- **Spider-Man (Peter Parker):** *Captain America: Civil War* (2016)
- **Black Panther (T'Challa):** *Captain America: Civil War* (2016)
- **Doctor Strange (Stephen Strange):** *Doctor Strange* (2016)
- **Mantis:** *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2* (2017)
- **Valkyrie:** *Thor: Ragnarok* (2017)
- **The Wasp (Hope van Dyne):** *Ant-Man* (2015) *(as Hope)* / *Ant-Man and the Wasp* (2018) *(suited up)*
- **Captain Marvel (Carol Danvers):** *Captain Marvel* (2019)

Post-Infinity Saga Additions (Phase 4+)

- **Shang-Chi:** *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings* (2021)
- **The Eternals (Gilgamesh, Ikaris, Sersi, Thenar, etc.):** *Eternals* (2021)

- **Ms. Marvel (Kamala Khan):** Introduced in television (*Ms. Marvel*, 2022), theatrical debut in *The Marvels* (2023).